The Capital April/May 2021 April/May 2021

The Official Publication of Capital District Kiwanis I www.capitaldistrictkiwanis.org





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COVER: Members of the Kiwanis Club of Middlesex purchased supplies and assembled bags of care package items for Middlesex Department of Social Services.



Before coronavirus, women from Abbie M. Johnson Temple no. 718 of Newburg, Maryland surprised the **Aktion Club at Spring Dell Center**, sponsored by the **Kiwanis Club of Waldorf**, by delivering 166 onesies to their collection. The women, mostly retired nurses, read about our Kiwanis project and wanted to contribute. In total, 325 onesies were collected and delivered to Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC. It pays to advertise Kiwanis—this is a tangible example of community response in Charles County, Maryland.

2020-21 LEADERSHIP INFORMATION

GOVERNOR

Dennis Baugh Harrisonburg, VA

GOVERNOR-ELECT

Elana Gardner Eastern Branch, DC

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Jeffrey Wolff Tysons, VA

IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR

David Lurie Tysons, VA

TRUSTEE - CHESAPEAKE BAY

Josh Hiscock Ellicott City, MD

TRUSTEE - HEART OF VIRGINIA

Bill Watson Richmond, VA

TRUSTEE - MASON DIXON

Renee Mackey Hagerstown, MD

TRUSTEE - NATIONAL CAPITAL

Tim Gillette Tysons, VA

TRUSTEE - SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA

Ron McCallum Middlesex, VA

TRUSTEE - SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

John Montgomery Roanoke, VA

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Jennifer Wolff editor@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org

The Capital Kiwanian is published bi-monthly by the Capital District of Kiwanis International.

All correspondence relating to editorial content, distribution, or advertising should be sent via e-mail to Editor Jennifer Wolff at editor@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org.

The information in this magazine is for illustrative and discussion purposes only. It is intended to provide general information about the subject matter covered.

Governor's Message Dennis Baugh, 2020-21 GOVERNOR



2020-2021

Spread The Word

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Save the Date!

DISTRICT CONVENTION

August 20-22, 2021 Hotel Roanoke | Roanoke, VA For many of us, we are still "locked down." Some feel comfortable meeting in person, but many are still doing virtual meetings or a hybrid version. Some are also meeting in-person but are in a large enough facility where they can be in several rooms that are joining but separated and still meeting the governmental requirements. Clubs are being creative. One size does not fit all.

Communities and our members are getting the COVID-19 vaccine. But in many places, we still have a way to go. Masks are still required or highly recommended by CDC standards. Kiwanis is modifying some of their suggestions on how to meet, but the bottom line is – **BE SAFE**. And I will add – **THINK OF OTHERS AS WELL**. If a member does not want to attend a meeting or function in person, don't be disrespectful. At the same time, I encourage clubs to continue to provide service in a safe manner.

By all accounts, we had a successful Midyear Conference which was held virtually on March 6. At times, we had 170 attendees on Zoom! I could not be prouder of the work the committee put in securing speakers, planning the agenda, thinking of soliciting door prizes and the developing the theme. Thank you: Krista Latchaw, Elana Gardner, James Shackleford, Ron McCallum, and Jeffrey Wolff. And all the LTGs that provided the gift cards for door prizes and the Middlesex High School for coordinating the Friday night Bingo session. Through volunteer donations, we were able to send \$2,544 to the Kiwanis Children's Fund for The Eliminate Project in the name of the Middlesex Key Club.



I had the privilege of virtually attending the Capital District CKI DCON March 13-14. It was a great event and culminated with the election of TaNiya Bellamy from Virginia State University as their new Governor. Congratulations TaNiya.

On March 19-20, the Capital District Key Club held their DCON, also virtually. I counted over 200 young Kiwanians listening at various times to fantastic speakers and workshops. Macy Lindblom from West Potomac High School was elected their 2021-22 Governor. Congratulations Macy.

I am excited to have been a part in the opening of our third new club in the Capital District on March 23, 2021. It is the Kiwanis Club of The Jackson River Area in Alleghany County, VA. They a starting with 17 new members. Give them a hearty welcome.

The clubs in the Capital District are still providing service to our communities during COIVD, both virtually and in person. They are holding virtual, in-person and hybrid meetings. It is also understandable why some are still reluctant to do so, and that is acceptable. But I urge those clubs to talk with their Lieutenant Governors and others to see how they can re-energize their club.

You will find great articles in this edition of The Capital Kiwanian from committee chairpersons and clubs. Take advantage of new information you will read, as hopefully it can be applied to you and your club.

Remember, continue to SPREAD THE WORD.

Wenns Bay

GOVERNOR-ELECT CANDIDATES

In accordance with Section 7, Subsection B, Item c., Sub-Item i. of the District Policy Statements, this will serve as the District-wide announcement of the candidacy of all persons whose submissions are complete:

February 19: The Kiwanis Club of Tysons, VA along with all of the clubs in Division 2 have nominated PLG Jennifer R. Wolff for the office of 2021-2022 Governor-Elect. Jennifer meets the requirement for the position listed in Article III, Section 2 and has filed the necessary paperwork with both Capital District and Kiwanis



International. You can download her Kiwanis resume <u>here</u>. Jennifer's Facebook campaign page can be found <u>here</u>.



SUBMIT ARTICLES for THE CAPITAL KIWANIAN

Deadlines:

June/July: May 25
August/September: July 25

Submit online or email jen@wolff.net



Our Firm Foundation

News from the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation



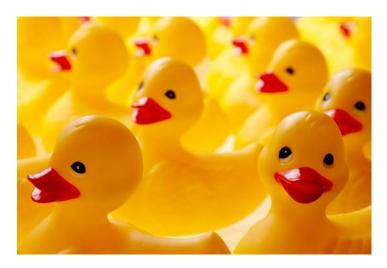
A NEW AND IMPROVED DUCKY DERBY!

Help us make a splash of cash for pediatric trauma! It is time again for the Ducky Derby! Ducky Derby Chairperson Charles Marks, has set a goal of raising \$11,500 this year. We did it last year and we can do it again!

This is the largest fundraiser for the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation (CDKF) and all raffle proceeds are used to support nine pediatric trauma centers in/around the Capital District. Since 1982, the Foundation has donated over \$766,530 to the following pediatric centers and trauma hospitals:

- Children' National Medical Center Washington, DC
- Johns Hopkins Children's Center Baltimore, MD
- University of Virginia Health Center Charlottesville, VA
- Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters Norfolk, VA
- Children's Medical Center, VCU Richmond, VA
- Carilion Clinic Children's Hospital Roanoke, VA
- Christiana Care Pediatric Trauma Unit Wilmington, DE
- Niswonger Children's Hospital Johnson City, TN
- Children's Inn at the National Institute of Health (NIH) Bethesda, MD

Cash prizes of \$750, \$500, and \$250, as well as various gift cards, will be awarded. The drawing will take place at the conclusion of the House of Delegates on Saturday, August 21, 2021 at the Capital District Kiwanis Convention. You do not need to be present to win, but you do need to have a ticket in the drum!



NEW THIS YEAR! The Foundation is offering an opportunity for all individuals to purchase Ducky Derby tickets and pay online through the District's website. Individuals will be able to pay with a credit card and the Foundation will complete your tickets for you. If you would like to use the online payment option to purchase Ducky Derby tickets, please access: https://k03.site.kiwanis.org/ducky-derby-raffle/Tickets can also be downloaded and printed at home by accessing: https://tinyurl.com/2021DuckyDerby

If you elect to download and print your tickets, please do not send cash. All checks should be made payable to "CDKF" or "Capital District Kiwanis Foundation." We ask that all monies (check or money orders only) with the completed Ducky Derby tickets be mailed no later than August 9, 2021 to: Charles Marks, 502 Barley Drive, Wyoming, DE 19934

After August 9th, please bring your completed tickets and money to District Convention in order to ensure that your tickets are received.

Please consider helping the Foundation make a splash of cash for pediatric trauma! You will be helping children in need of critical treatment, as 100% of the proceeds raised through Ducky Derby ticket sales are donated to the centers.



Ducky Derby 2021

Help us make a splash of cash for pediatric trauma!

All proceeds raised through the Ducky Derby sales supports the nine pediatric trauma centers supported by the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation.

DRAWING DATE: Saturday, August 21, 2021

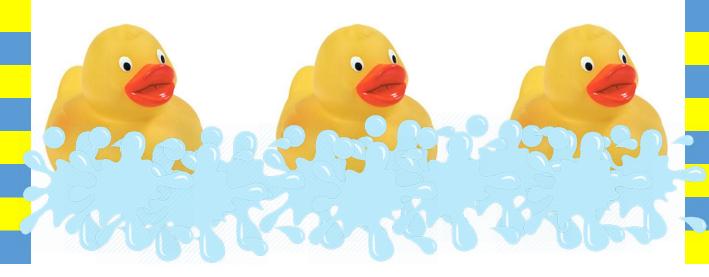
(Need not be present to win)

Cash Prizes: \$750, \$500, \$250 and various \$50 gift cards to a variety of retail stores and restaurants.

Donation: \$5.00 per ticket or 3 for \$10.00

Checks can be made payable to: CDKF (Capital District Kiwanis Foundation)

The Ducky Derby is sponsored by the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation and is used to support nine pediatric trauma centers serving families who live in the Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. areas.



Around Capital

LET'S EACH CAST OUR OWN MAGIC

Greetings Kiwanis Family,

Like many of you during the pandemic, I have been reading to a child. One of the stories was Briar Rose (Sleeping Beauty). The queen, wanting the very best for her daughter, decided to ask the 13 fairies of the realm to serve as her daughter's godmother's. In the course of planning, they realized they only had 12 gold plates. On the list of many things to do were the tasks of sending the invitations and having a 13th gold plate custom made for the banquet. The day of the celebration came and the 13th fairy having never received her invitation arrived. She was quickly seated and while her peers dined on gold plates, she dined on ordinary china. Twice offended, well you know what happened next...That got me thinking, what happens when an oversight on the part of a member, an officer or the district transpires? How many blessings have we missed out on? Every Kiwanian has a special gift to impart to our district and when the time comes to share your gift, there may not be someone to offer a solution if you withhold it. When we each cast our MAGIC we improve the world for children.

Yours in service and love, Elana Gardner, Governor-Elect



BY JOYCE MONTGOMERY, DISTRICT CONVENTION CHAIRPERSON

Your Kiwanis Capital District Convention committee has been meeting for several months planning what we are confident will be an exciting and educational convention (DCON) August 20-22 in Roanoke, Virginia.

The theme for this year's DCON is "Spread the Word," in keeping with Governor Dennis Baugh's focus for 2020-21. We are also keeping in mind Gov. Baugh's example of trying some different things, interweaving traditions with an innovative approach. The historic Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center is scheduled to once again host the convention – which we remain optimistic will be held in-person. Should COVID restrictions require the convention to be held via zoom or to offer a hybrid version (where attendees are given the

option of attending either in-person or via their computers), we will build on the success of our very successful Midyear Conference in March, where approximately 250 Capital District Kiwanians participated via zoom.

Confirmed speakers for this year's DCON include Past Kiwanis International President (2016-17) Jane Erickson, former Roanoke City Manager Chris Morrill, and popular Roanoke Times columnist Dan Casey. Capital District Governor-Elect Elana Gardner and Educational Chair Krista Latchaw are putting together an educational track that will be based upon our very successful "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere" series, a schedule of helpful seminars that intermix useful Kiwanis International programs and trends with fun.

We have planned a number of social activities – including a Friday night dessert, tours of local attractions and the opportunity to participate in a hands-on work project Friday afternoon at the Roanoke Club's centennial project, a state-of-the-art playground. Activities for family members are being taken into account as well.

As the largest city in the Capital District west of Richmond, Roanoke has served as a popular convention site for Kiwanians since the district's inception more than 100 years ago. The convention committee recognizes its responsibility to uphold this tradition and looks forward to serving as host.

Watch this space in the coming months as more details materialize.



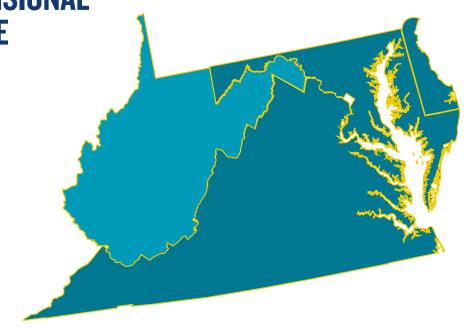
WEST VIRGINIA PROVISIONAL DISTRICT TO JOIN THE CAPITAL DISTRICT

BY GOVERNOR DENNIS BAUGH

Over the past several years, Kiwanis International has been struggling with the decline in membership in the West Virginia Kiwanis District. In October 2019, they were given the designation of "Provisional District." This designation does not allow them to hold International Office, to seat delegates at ICON, and changes their presiding officers title from a Governor to a District Chair.

Their Governor (technically Chair) Eric Fithyan, and myself have been discussing the future possibilities since we met for Governor's Training in November 2019. His approach was to set a plan in motion to get them back on track and see where his numbers were in January 2021. As a result of Eric's evaluation and the impact Covid has had, he requested a call with Kiwanis International President Art Riley; West Virginia Trustee Counselor KI Vice President Bert West; KI Staff Jeff Oatess, and myself. After the call, it was decided that we would proceed with taking steps to consolidate.

On March 16, 2021, the West Virginia Kiwanis District Board voted to request that the KI Board of Trustees allow them to consolidate with the Capital District. As a result, on March 18, 2021, the Capital District Board approved their request.



What Does This Mean?

The request now goes before the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees which meets April 22-25, 2021 for consideration. Once approval is given, Kiwanis International policy states:

Prior to any proposed change becoming effective, not less than ninety (90) days' notice shall be given to the affected federations, districts, and clubs. Within the next thirty (30) days after such notice, a federation, district, or club may submit a written statement of support or protest and/or may request that a hearing be held before the Board of Trustees during its meeting at the next annual International convention.

Because there will not be an International Convention this year, the legal opinion is that the Board can hold a hearing, if requested, any time after 30 days. Because of these requirements, it has been requested that the consolidation be effective October 1, 2021.

A Transition Team has been formed. It consists of the Executive Committees of both Districts. For Capital that is Dennis Baugh, Governor; Elana Gardner, Governor-Elect; David Lurie, Immediate Past Governor; and Jeffrey Wolff, Secretary-Treasurer. We are in discussions and many items are on the table to be considered. If you have any concerns, questions, thoughts, please feel free to pass them on to any of us. Stay tuned.



BY PG JEFFREY WOLFF, DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER

The 2021 Kiwanis International Convention will look quite a bit different this year, in fact, it won't be an International Convention at all. Kiwanis is calling it the 2021 Education and Leadership Conference or "ELC in SLC" (Salt Lake City) from June 24-26. Even the location is a bit of a misnomer as it will take place both in-person and online.

Registration will stay open through mid-May, but there is no early bird nor late registration fee. The fee structure is actually the simplest it has ever been:

- To watch the International Council online, there is no cost
- To watch the Keynote Sessions and some educational sessions, there is a \$39 fee (Each Kiwanian gets their own link which can only be used for one stream. Sharing the link will not work with the vendor they are using.)
- To attend in person, the all-inclusive registration fee is \$295.00 which includes two dinners.

The schedule fits the normal pattern of ICON with typical arrival by most attendees on Wednesday, but no formal events planned. Wednesday night is traditionally reserved for Governor Class Dinners organized by each Past International President. This year, if you are part of the Kiwanis Amplify program, you will receive a special invitation to your Capstone Project for Wednesday, June 23rd both online and in-person.

Thursday, June 24th will have an opening session with Captain Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger (online or in-person), with lunch on your own and then 4 afternoon sessions to choose from. The Club Membership and Club Improvement Summits will be viewable virtually or in-person, while the Post-Pandemic Community Service and Fundraising Efforts workshops will be in-person only. An afternoon general session with Rachel Giannini will be offered for both before an opening night party will take place with music and dancing for the in-person crowd only.



Friday, June 25th will have a morning session by Kevin Carroll (both), lunch on your own, an afternoon Service Project and Fundraising Learning workshop (in-person only), the Power of Play Keynote (both). If we have enough in-person attendees, there will be a Capital District Dinner this evening.

Saturday, June 26th will be the Kiwanis International Council Meeting (where the election of officers will take place, which is viewable by all). Running at the same time will be the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Summit in the morning as well as the Signature Project Recognition in the afternoon (both) followed by a Kiwanis BBQ with country music for the in-person attendees to close out the conference.

There are no assigned district hotels and attendees can choose from one of 3 hotels on-site, Hilton City Center \$169/night, Radisson \$159/night, and Marriott \$169/night. There will be no exhibits at the conference and registration materials will be physically mailed to all attendees in advance of the conference to avoid pickup lines in SLC.

All in-person attendees will be required to wear facemasks and social distance at the event as well as providing either proof of a negative COVID-19 test no more than 72 hours before departure or proof of complete vaccination (at least two weeks after 2nd Pfizer/Moderna shot or after single J&J shot).

We hope you will join us either in-person in SLC or online for this unique opportunity!

EDUCATION NEWS

BY KRISTA LATCHAW AND DON DUDEY, DISTRICT LEADERSHIP EDUCATION COMMITTEE

It's 5 O'clock Somewhere Series

The Education Team team is sponsoring monthly discussions where club members can grab a drink and listen to guest speakers talk about a variety of relevant topics. Sessions are held on the last Thursday of the month (except when holidays get in the way). All sessions are recorded and posted on the <u>Capital District YouTube Channel</u>

April 2021 Topic: What Are the Kids Doing Now?!

Thursday, April 29th, 7 - 8pm

Session Information: We are working on pulling together a panel of SLP Administrators (Key Club, Builder's Club, K-Kids, CKI) about growing SLP clubs and how our Kiwanis clubs can better support them.

Zoom Link | Password: 265034

Email Krista Latchaw if you would like to present a topic klatchaw@hcg.com



Club Leadership Education (CLE) Update

As you are deciding on your new officers, Kiwanis International and the Education Coordinators are working on the 2021 schedule for CLE Education sessions. This year, representatives from Kiwanis International will be holding VIRT UAL trainings in July and August – dates are to be determined. The District will also hold a general session with Q&A for each level. More to come, but we wanted you all to have the most up-to-date information.

2021 TEENAGER OF THE YEAR

BY JUDY PANTELIDES, DISTRICT TEENAGER OF THE YEAR CHAIRPERSON

The 2020-2021 Teenager of the Year process is in its final month! Thanks to all of the clubs and Lt. Governors who have solicited student applications and chosen their club and division winners. We had 61 completed applications with 25 club winners across the Capital District. The division winners, due to me by April 1st, will be judged in April to select the overall district winner. I am sure it will be a difficult job to select just one winner from the many outstanding student applicants. It is wonderful to see the number of youth who are doing such great work in our communities and to honor them through the ToY award. Please be sure to send notification letters to your non-winners as well as your winners. Suggested letters were sent earlier to all Lt. Governors. Be sure to publicize it with your local news and social media outlets. A survey will be coming out asking your thoughts on this year's experience and we hope you will take the time to complete it so that we can improve the process for next year. The name of the district winner will be sent to Governor Dennis by May 1st. Thanks again for the tremendous support of clubs and Kiwanians!



JUST IN TIME – VIRTUAL KEY LEADER IS HERE

BY MISSY ZIMMERMAN, KEY LEADER DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

The Clever Capital Key Leader Advocates have had enough. If we can't bring the students to a Key Leader Event, we will bring it to them!

WHEN: May 14th from 7pm – 10pm and May 15th from 9am – 5pm (1-hour lunch break)

WHERE: Zoom, of course! The link will be provided to Participants.

WHAT: A Key Leader group event tailored for the virtual environment. Student Participants will focus on the Principles of Key Leader in a fast paced, interactive and safe environment.

WHY: Because finding your inner Leader is important!

HOW: Go to the <u>Capital District page</u> for Key Leader to get information and to register. Here are the details:

- All students ages 14 to 18 are eligible to attend. The
 cost is \$10, payable in advance and will include a t-shirt,
 a downloadable Student Guide in PDF format and the
 opportunity to meet and learn with other students
 from all around our District.
- Students can register until May 10th, or until 90 Student Participants have registered, whichever comes first.
- Students will be asked to plan on attending the entire event as the Key Leader program is structured to provide a learning experience that builds towards a big picture. Exceptions can be made if coordinated in advance.
- Adult volunteers are also needed (sorry, no t-shirt).
 Adult volunteers will attend at no cost but must commit
 to the entire event. You will be assigned to a small
 group (called a "Neighborhood" at Key Leader) for the
 duration to observe and support the students in your
 assigned Neighborhood. We are looking for 2 adults
 for every Neighborhood.

Lots of information is provided along with the registration form on our District website. It also includes what information students will need to gather to complete their registration and descriptions of what they can expect to experience during the weekend.



CALLING ALL KIWANIANS: Help us recruit students for this event! Here are some suggestions:

- · Reach out to your Key Clubs and their Faculty Advisors.
- Put information in your church bulletins and neighborhood newsletters.
- Announce reminders at your club meetings.
- Talk to family members and friends who have students ages 14 - 18 about this wonderful opportunity for selfdevelopment and enrichment.
- Visit the Kiwanis International Key Leader Home Page to learn more about the program.
- Visit the Capital District Key Leader page to learn more about this Event yourself!

My sincere thanks to those who are on the Capital Virtual Key Leader Team. They are hard at work developing the best possible program and experience for our future Leaders. Kudos to our Presenters: Matt Brent, Tara Brent, Jenn Hiscock, Katie Pajewski, Mic Platt and Avanti Yamamoto, our Coach Dr. Josh Hiscock, our Technical Wizard Jeffrey Wolff and our Leadership Cheerleaders Governor Dennis Baugh and Trustee John Montgomery. I am grateful to be among such creative and dedicated company.

EDUCATE YOUR MEMBERS ON KIWANIS YOUTH PROTECTION

BY JOSH HISCOCK, DISTRICT YOUTH PROTECTION MANAGER

Every year, Kiwanis clubs are required to educate their members about the Kiwanis Youth Protection Policies & Procedures. Why does this requirement exist?

Kiwanis International cares about the youth we serve in our communities and in our Service Leadership Program (SLP) clubs. It is our job as leaders to protect the children and teens we work with and to ensure that we are following best practices that prevent harmful situations from arising.

The Youth Protection Policies offer expectations on working with youth inside and outside of a school setting, at overnight events, and during off-site field trips and conventions. The guidelines provide best practices on how Kiwanis members should interact with youth on social media. There are even instructions on how to report suspected sexual or physical abuse that club members may become aware of. Kiwanians are the first line of defense in keeping our youth safe. Knowing the Youth Protection Guidelines and understanding them is essential.

While only Kiwanis Advisors must undergo required criminal background checks, EVERY club member is expected to participate in the annual Youth Protection Policies education requirement. What are some ways your club can complete this?

- Distribute a copy of the current Youth Protection Policies & Procedures to each club member in hard copy at a meeting, as well as electronically.
- Conduct a program at a club meeting where a club officer reviews the Youth Protection Policies and answers questions from club members. You can even share an informational presentation created by Kiwanis International's Youth Protection team that goes into greater detail about each part of the policies.
- Invite your Lt. Governor, Trustee, or the Capital District Youth Protection Manager to a virtual club meeting or event to educate members on the Youth Protection Policies and best practices in working with youth.
- Invite your SLP club faculty advisors and other school administrators to join you during the educational session. It is important that they understand the commitment Kiwanis has to youth protection, and sharing the expectations of our members with them opens important lines of communication.

Club secretaries must indicate that all club members have participated in Youth Protection Policies training by checking the box on the Secretary Dashboard in the Kiwanis Connect reporting system. The requirement resets each October 01, so please ensure that your club's status is updated and correct on the Dashboard.



How are we doing for 2020-2021? Here is an update on our progress by division.

Division	Number of Clubs	Number of Clubs Completing Annual Member Education Requirement	Percent Complete
1	9	8	89%
2	11	10	91%
3	6	3	50%
4	6	3	50%
5	11	8	73%
6	9	5	56%
7	5	3	60%
8	5	2	40%
9	7	6	86%
10	7	7	100%
11	5	3	60%
12	10	9	90%
13	9	6	67%
14	11	1	9%
15	9	4	44%
16	8	8	100%
17	12	10	83%
	140	96	68%

If your club has not already fulfilled this obligation for the current administrative year, please make this a priority. We want to achieve 100% club compliance by June!

For more information or to ask a question, please contact the District Youth Protection Manager Josh Hiscock at hiscockj@gmail.com.

ENGAGING MEMBERS (NEAR AND FAR) THROUGH SERVICE

BY KATIE BROWNFIEL, PRESIDENT, CAPITAL LEGACY E-CLUB

How do you engage in meaningful service when you are a virtual club? This is the question that has driven my decision making as the Charter President of the Capital Legacy Kiwanis e-Club. The concept for the club, as was pitched by Jen Wolff, was to connect CKI alumni from the Capital District in a virtual space that would flexibly allow them to remain a part of the Kiwanis family.

Having recently graduated from William & Mary and having recently finished my term as the CKI club's Kiwanis Family Vice President, I was aching for an opportunity to engage in fellowship and service again. I missed acting as a mentor in Builders Club and folding too many chairs to count at Shrimp Feast with my board members and picking up trash with the K-Kids. I missed the warm hospitality of Kiwanis lunch meetings and the memorable conversations that were born out of shared experiences. Would a virtual setting be able to emulate these experiences or comparably provide opportunities to engage in service?

Our members are spread across the country, and, in some cases, across the world. Even without the restrictions of COVID, it would be logistically impossible to meet in groups larger than a handful. Some of our members have been out of CKI for a couple of decades and have families of their own. Some of our members, like me, are freshly out of college and are haunted by a little too much time on their hands. The needs in all of our communities are enormous, but they are, of course, diverse. What could our club offer that any other service organization could not? What would drive our members to not only join but to keep

coming back? How could we keep them engaged when they would not be working alongside their peers?

Ithought back to my favorite Builders Club meeting. It was the first time I had met the assembled group of students, and it was my priority to make them feel like leaders. I asked them to list what problems existed first in their school, then their community, and then the world. I then asked students to look at the big picture. How did the needs of these various communities connect under larger categories of service?

We quickly discovered that the students identified the greatest need to help animals, the environment, and the bullied. Having narrowed their focus, the students were then able to create lists of service projects for each category that were uniquely meaningful to them.

I took a similar approach to our Kiwanis club. On a Google Form, I asked each member to rank their top three service passions. If they had a particular connection to a category, I asked them to share their story. The data quickly showed that our service needs largely overlapped together in predictable ways. Of course, youth

mentorship was a major unifying point. Food insecurity and mental health were also, unsurprisingly, popular choices. By looking at the rankings and actively listening to our members' stories, we were able to create a specific service theme for each month.

February was based upon spreading kindness and March was centered on food insecurity. April is focused on the environment, and May will be focused on supporting our military. Our overarching desire is to support our youth, and our long-term goal is to engage in mentorship with a Key Club. As a group of young professionals, we are particularly excited about providing career mentorship to high school and college students.

Given our members' various locations and time commitments, we knew that flexibility was of the utmost importance. Our Service Director, Rina Meyer, has done a phenomenal job of organizing service choice boards. She has carefully researched national service opportunities that can be done virtually or inperson, one time or as a continuing commitment. We encourage our

Feed!	Create!	Gather!	Advocate!
Lasagna Love (lasagnalove.org) Pairs you with a family in your community who needs a little love delivered in the form of lasagna	Easy, healthy recipes Reach out to your local food bank and find out what's going in their boxes this week. Brainstorm your healthiest, easiest recipes to share!	National Gleaning Project (nationalgleaningproject.org) Get outside and help harvest food for those who need it most	Why Hunger Hotline (whyhunger.org/get-involved/vi lunteer/) Answer calls (from home) to direct people to food resources in their communities
Volunteer locally Check out <u>volunteermatch.org</u> or <u>feedingamerica.org</u> to find an organization close to you that needs your help!	National Data Collection Project/COVID-19 Food Assistance Project (hungervolunteer.volunteerhub.com) Help build a crowd-sourced national database of resources to help those with food insecurity find resources	Fill a bag (check out Feeding America for the best location to drop it off!) Going grocery shopping? Bring an extra bag with you and fill it with items to deliver to your local food bank. This is a good way to get your kids involved as well!	No Kid Hungry (nokidhungry.org/ways-you-car- help/speak-kids) - Simple online ways to advocate for child feeding programs, such as school meals and SNAP



members to connect with their local Kiwanis communities, and, because of Zoom, to engage in Kiwanis activities that would have been logistically challenging last year. The unifying monthly service theme helps us to feel connected, and our members' active participation in the brainstorming process helps them to feel invested in the chosen projects. We are currently working to schedule monthly speakers that align with our service themes to create a more human connection to our service work.

So far, I have had the opportunity to write pen pal letters to members of Family Autism Network, to coordinate a mentorship program for our young professionals and neurodiverse young adults, and to create a meal for a local family through a one-time partnership with Lasagna Love. I look forward to actively working in a classroom full of students as a mentor again, but until that day arrives, I can fully say that this innovative approach to service has left me inspired and fulfilled.

DISTRICT HISTORY: MIDYEAR UPDATE

BY JOHN FOX, DISTRICT HISTORIAN

The spotlight is the "Site Page"

http://history.capitaldistrictkiwanis.org/site.html

Clubs and Kiwanians are the backbone of this Kiwanis District.

Under the Clubs heading:

All 430 (+) Clubs are listed alphabetically

Birthdays of current clubs provide organization and charter dates and age

Clubs in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and District of Columbia

Clubs listed by Key Number (K00009 to K20415)

Sponsors (who sponsored YOUR club) or your club genealogy

Under Kiwanians heading:

People lists individual Kiwanians by their last name who have served the District.

Club Secretaries who have served their clubs for 5 or more years currently and retired.

District Chairpersons, Editors of the Bulletin/Builder/Capital Kiwanian, Foundation Board members, Governors, Historians, Leadership, Secretaries and Trustees.

By Divisions – prior to and after 2013 identifies District officers, Lt. Governors.

Trivia:

Kiwanis International lists the first 50 "Longest-Serving Kiwanis Clubs"

https://www.kiwanis.org/about/history/the-first-50-kiwanis-clubs find the 49th club.

Within our History site you can view all clubs organized from 1915 to 1917 http://history.capitaldistrictkiwanis.org/kiclubs/kc1517.html

The 49th club is our 1st District club. However, Washington's Key number K00127 is higher than Baltimore City's K00009. Do you know why?



BY CHRISTINE JOHNSON, LT. GOVERNOR, DIVISION 5

Clubs in the Delmarva Division (Division 5) of the Capital District are spread 150 miles apart, and span three states. Despite distance, the clubs have come together for a common goal: to drastically increase Kiwanis exposure and reimagine new opportunities for fund-raising and attracting new members.

The Kiwanis Club of Pocomoke, Maryland took over an existing car show at the city's bi-annual festival. Using this show as an opportunity to display the extent of Kiwanis in the Delmarva region and learn more about running shows themselves, nine of the ten clubs in the division assisted in running the show.

Members from the Accomack, Bridgeville, Chincoteague, Delmar, Dover, Georgetown, Greater Millsboro, Ocean Pines and Pocomoke clubs divided the tasks of parking, registration, judging, membership recruitment, 50/50 and running the Spectator's Choice tables. The result was a fully packed venue and a successfully run show.

Spectators were greeted by Kiwanis members wearing varieties of club shirts, banners from each of the clubs



on display and trophies that vibrantly display the Kiwanis logo. The event was organized and emceed by Lt Governor Christine Johnson. District Governor, Dennis Baugh awarded the Kiwanis District Governor's Choice Award. Immediate Past District Governor, David Lurie awarded the Veteran Choice Award and Past Lt Governor, Robin Marks presented the Lt Governor's Choice Award. Also assisting were Foundation Director Charles Marks and past Trustee Jack Hassman.

Participants have viewed the event online over 3,400 times and are on social media talking about Kiwanis.

They are looking forward to future Kiwanis car shows in their area. We are currently planning four more shows in our division...so far. Stay tuned.



KIWANIS SERVICE – "THEN AND NOW"

BY DAVE ROTHBERG, SERVICE COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Are we over the hump? Not sure if anyone really knows. However, this is very true: the Kiwanis Clubs that have survived and thrived during the pandemic are the ones that have thought "outside the box" and looked for new and inventive ways to approach each challenge.

How well has your club adapted during the pandemic? Are you still using old thinking to solve your club's issues? Here's a way to re-evaluate your Service projects.

 THEN: only members of your club participate in your service projects.

NOW: service projects are open to community members, thus creating opportunities for potential members to join your club. Invite club partners, parents, members of nearby Service Leadership Programs, local business owners and parent/teacher groups to join your service projects online and in person. KI "partners" can be found here: Kiwanis. org/partners

 THEN: COVID-19 restrictions have made it impossible to get your new members immediately engaged in service projects.

NOW: Not all service projects require meeting in person. You can engage new members with service projects they can do safely from their homes, such as sending cards of encouragement to nearby assisted living center residents or frontline workers at local hospitals. Check out these ideas: <u>Kiwanis.org/recipes</u>

3. THEN: without in-person events and with Divisions and the District cancelling events, your members may not see a value in staying active or remaining part of Kiwanis.

NOW: Kids Need Kiwanis, now more than ever. Our Kiwanis mission is to serve the children of the world, no matter what is happening in the world. Our Capital District is changing the format of current and upcoming events from in-person to virtual or hybrid events. Our Midyear Conference, Key Leader Program and District Education are examples. Have you seen our Kiwanis District YouTube channel? Access it here: http://bit.ly/KiwanisYouTube

1. THEN: Kiwanis is a service organization. If we can no longer do service, what is the point of being a club?

NOW: We all can do service, safely, if we plan ahead. Here is an example ... an annual three-hour cleanup program with a lot of members all together can be spread out across a couple of days or weekends with fewer people each day, or assign start and end times for each person so volunteers are spread out and can remain at safe distance ... members could do a "porch pick-up" for supplies think "outside the box".

Here a few other thoughts: make sure your club is "relevant"... to your members and to your community. Use the Kiwanis International "Achieving Club Excellence" tool to do assessments: Kiwanis.org/acetools

Do service during meetings: quick, easy projects offering rewarding opportunities to your members, like signing holiday cards for military families or get-well cards for hospital patients.

If you missed our District Midyear Conference, an excellent panel of Kiwanians from different sized clubs discussed how they have successfully adapted during the pandemic. A recording of the workshop can be found on our District website: http://bit.ly/KiwanisMidYear

Need more help with service? Feel free to contact me here: http://bit.ly/KiwanisSupport.



ZOOM YOUR WAY TO INCREASED INTER-CLUBS

BY LT. GOVERNOR MARY BETH MURPHY, DIVISION 12

With the recent restrictions placed on gatherings and restaurants, it has been difficult for many Kiwanis Clubs to hold in-person inter-clubs, but why not consider holding them via Zoom if you haven't already?

Inter-clubs present a wonderful opportunity for club members from one club to share ideas and fellowship with members of other clubs. Those ideas include service projects, fundraisers, club operations, meeting structure, and how to handle challenges. With COVID in the forefront, each club is dealing with plenty of challenges and may have developed creative solutions that could be of great benefit to other clubs.

The first criteria to satisfy the requirements of an inter-club is that two or more Kiwanis clubs are involved and one club must act as the host club. This can include K-Kids, Builders Clubs, Key Clubs, CKI, Aktion Clubs and regular Kiwanis clubs. Inter-clubs are defined somewhat differently depending on the size of the Kiwanis club. For clubs with twenty or less members, only two members are required to meet the definition of an inter-club. For clubs with twenty-one to thirty members, a minimum of three members must attend to make an inter-club. And for clubs with a membership of over thirty, there must be four members attendance to satisfy the requirements for an inter-club. So, if any of the above attend a meeting of a host club and they meet the minimum member requirement in attendance, they have an inter-club. In some instances, it is also possible to have a double inter-club if twice as many members are in attendance.



With many clubs meeting via Zoom these days, or having a Zoom option available, attending another club's meeting provides an easy way to increase your inter-club participation. Some clubs have developed creative ways to hold their service projects and fundraisers via Zoom as well.

One fantastic way to hold an interclub is by having your club members attend the monthly "5 O'Clock Somewhere" educational series online. Each month, there is a different topic and it is a great way to educate members about various issues going on in Kiwanis. Some of the topics have included Youth Protection, COVID-19 Insurance Changes and Teenager of the Year Award.

Another idea for inter-clubs is your Division Council Meetings. Most clubs have the President and President Elect in attendance. Why not invite the Secretary, Treasurer, Inter-Club and Membership Chairpersons? These are great opportunities for the leadership of each club to hear what is going on at the division level and to learn from other clubs around them.

There are several district-wide opportunities for inter-clubs as well, such as club leadership training sessions, regional conferences and the District Convention opening session and luncheon meeting. Most of these are available online as well as in person.

If your club would like to be the host club for an inter-club, invite other clubs to join when your club has an interesting speaker lined up for your meeting, or when you are holding an online bingo fundraiser or hosting an online wine and cheese tasting. The possibilities are endless for fun between Kiwanis clubs.

Kiwanis is all about working together to improve the lives of children in our communities and to share ideas with one another. I hope you will consider setting a goal to increase your club's inter-club participation this year and help with Governor Dennis' motto to "spread the word" about what our clubs are accomplishing.

Above: The Kiwanis Club of Tysons hosts an interclub with the Capital Legacy eClub. The clubs made dog toys for animal shelters.



HELP STOP DISEASE IN ITS TRACKS

BY PG JOHN TYNER II, DISTRICT ADVOCATE, THE ELIMINATE PROJECT

Did you know that immunization against various diseases remains one of the most successful and cost-effective public health interventions? Since 1980, UNICEF has helped quadruple immunization rates for children worldwide, saving as many as 3 million young lives every year. That's more than five lives saved every minute of every day. As a direct result of immunization, the world is closer than ever to eradicating polio, with only two remaining polioendemic countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Now, by our participation through the Kiwanis Children's Fund, all but 12 countries have eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus, a centuries-old disease that is almost always fatal in newborns. Despite progress by UNICEF and partners like Kiwanis however, millions of children globally continue to miss out on lifesaving vaccines. To make matters worse, beginning in 2020, the COVID-19 crisis disrupted routine immunization services for millions of children in dozens of countries.

Conflict, displacement and poverty keep some of the most vulnerable children from getting the vaccines that can protect them from diseases such as tetanus. Fear of vaccines can prevent families from getting the help they need. Even when vaccines are available, the reluctance or refusal to vaccinate affects coverage, opening the door to new outbreaks. Utilizing our donations, UNICEF deploys community mobilizers to educate and reassure families, and debunk myths and misinformation.

Since 1999, UNICEF and its partners have immunized more than 154 million women in 53 countries, having helped eliminate the disease in 47 countries. But maternal and neonatal tetanus remains a public health threat in 12 others. The women and newborns most at risk live in areas scarred by poverty, poor medical infrastructure or humanitarian crises.

A terrible reality is reflected in one of these countries: Yemen. More than four years of armed conflict have made life extremely difficult — particularly for mothers and children — in what was already the poorest country in the Middle East. Every two hours, a mother and six newborns die because of complications during pregnancy or birth.

Arwein Ahmed, 26, lives in the Malia district in Aden, Yemen, in a neighborhood filled with shanty homes made of cardboard, plastic sheets and other scavenged materials. Despite her impoverished circumstances, Arwein's 4-month-old son, Abdulrahman, is healthy and happy — a fact she attributes to the timely tetanus immunizations she received at a UNICEF-supported health care center during her pregnancy.

UNICEF is conducting a Communication for Development campaign in Yemen to raise awareness about tetanus among adolescent girls and expectant mothers. The work is mainly carried out by locally recruited volunteers and community mobilizers.

Please remember that UNICEF provides vaccines to nearly half of the world's children, saving an estimated 2 to 3 million kids from life-threatening diseases each year. With your help, UNICEF can protect every child from vaccine-preventable illnesses so they can survive and thrive.

Capital District has done extremely well in our support for The Eliminate Project through our \$3 million pledge. As we look forward to our eventual recovery from the COIVD-19 pandemic, please continue to donate in support of UNICEF's work to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus in those remaining 12 countries around the world. Thank you!!



DOES YOUR CLUB HAVE SMART MEMBERSHIP GOALS?

BY CAREN SCHUMACHER, CAPITAL DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

If your club has membership goals, they are likely part of a Strategic Plan, or an I-Plan. A few years back, Kiwanis International (KI) promoted the development of an I-Plan, a five-year action plan for club growth and success.

Membership and Engagement were addressed in the Inspiration section of the document. KI's membership goal, to build, retain and support a growing Kiwanis membership network, was adopted into the I-plan of many clubs. Subsequently, individual clubs added their own specific membership retention and recruitment goals.

While your club may have defined goals for membership, are they SMART goals? SMART (all caps) goals are focused and help define exactly what the intended result looks like and how it will be measured. SMART goals turn desired achievements into an action plan for success. SMART goals are defined as:



S - SPECIFIC

Who, what, when, where and why! Who is involved? What do you want to accomplish? Where will this be done? Why are you doing it? Is the goal concise and descriptive? Is it linked to one activity, thought or idea?



Measurable

M - MEASURABLE

A goal should be something you can track and measure progress forward. How will success be measured? Are there metrics you can apply?



A – ATTAINABLE

Is the goal reasonable enough to be accomplished and how? There should be clear tasks or actions you can take to make progress towards a goal. Make sure the goal is not out of reach or below standard performance.



R - RESULTS-ORIENTED/RELEVANT

Is the goal worthwhile and does it meet your needs? Is each goal consistent with other goals you have established and fits with your immediate and long-term plans? Does the goal move the organization forward?





Time Based Your objective should include a time limit. "I will complete this by month/day/year." Setting a time limit establishes a sense of urgency and will help you to have better time management in reaching your goal.

Following are two examples of UnSMART and SMART goals – one membership recruitment and one membership retention:

RECRUITMENT GOAL

UnSMART

Increase the number of members in our Kiwanis club.

SMART

To build more hands for service, the Kiwanis Club of Anywhere, led by their Membership Committee, will increase the number of current members by 10% by September 30, 2021 through targeting community leaders, holding an open house, placing ads in local publications and incentivizing current members to bring in new members.

RETENTION GOAL

UnSMART

Plan more social events for club members.

SMART:

To build stronger relationships between club members, prior to the start of the 2021-2022 Kiwanis year, the Kiwanis Club of Anywhere, led by their Membership Committee, will develop and implement a calendar of quarterly social events that bring members and their family together outside of regular meetings, such as a holiday party, a summer picnic, and a trip to a sporting event or theater.

May is Kiwanis Membership Month. It is the perfect time to ramp up your recruitment and retention efforts. As a matter of fact, (see back cover) the Capital District will be recognizing clubs who recruit the most members during May. It is also a great time to check with your club's leadership to make sure your club has a Strategic Plan that includes membership goals that are being implemented. If your club does not have a plan with well-defined membership goals, or the goals you have are not SMART, it is time to roll up your sleeves and chart your course for the remaining months of this Kiwanis year. If you have questions or need help, email me at carenkiwanis@aol.com.

Goals that are not SMART, are goals that will likely not be reached. Author and motivational speaker, Zig Zigler, said "A goal properly set is a goal half reached." Think about that. Plan your work and work your plan and the results will be rewarding.



CAPITAL DISTRICT 2020-21 AWARDS FOR CLUBS AND CLUB MEMBERS

HELLO FELLOW KIWANIANS!

This is the second part of our series about the Capital District 2020-21 Awards Program. In our last issue, we talked about the distinguished club and member awards. In this issue we will discuss our membership growth awards and interclubs.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH AWARDS

Membership is the life blood of our organization and it so critical for clubs to grow, especially as we get closer to being able to resume more in-person activities. Last year's District Board approved new membership awards for clubs, but the implementation was delayed with the onset of COVID-19. Beginning this year, we have three recognition awards for club growth:

- 1. Club Membership Growth all clubs chartered prior to October 1, 2020 that have a net increase of five (5) or more members as of September 30, 2021 will receive a banner patch.
- 2. Grow to 20 all clubs chartered prior to October 1, 2020 with a membership below twenty (20) members and whose membership increases to 20 or more members as of September 30, 2021 will receive a banner patch.
- 3. Net Growth Award the clubs with the highest net growth in their group will be recognized by the district with a banner ribbon. The clubs in the district will be divided into five groups based on size so that clubs of similar size will only be competing for this award together. The five groups are:
 - Gold Division 101 members or more
 - Silver Division 71 to 100 members
 - Orange Division 46 to 70 members
 - Blue Division 31 to 45 members
 - · White Division 30 members or less

Now applying for these awards is easy – just recruit new members and have your Club Secretary report them no later than September 30, 2021 on the Secretary Dashboard. Once the club membership numbers are final in October, we will be able to calculate the winners and recognize the clubs at our 2022 Midyear Conference.

INTERCLUB AWARD

Our last award is my personal favorite – interclubs. What is an interclub you ask? Quite simply an interclub is a meeting or activity staged by two or more Kiwanis family clubs including K-Kids, Builders Club, Key Club, Circle K Club, Kiwanis, and Aktion Club. The definition of an inter-club is more than attending another Kiwanis club meeting but includes projects, activities, and social events of another K-Family club. This allows for more opportunities for fellowship, education and encourages greater interaction between Kiwanis clubs and our Service Leadership Programs.

Inter-clubbing is a means of supporting Kiwanis' fifth Object, which is, "To provide through this club, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service." A wider scope of Kiwanis involvement can be achieved by arranging visits between clubs in the same town, division, and district, as well as inter-district get-togethers. Only one inter-club credit can be counted for an event. The primary coordinator of the event is considered the host club and its participation in the event does not count as an inter-club for its members. Visiting clubs are encouraged to invite the host club to make a return visit so that everyone can participate.

So what constitutes an interclub - it depends on the club's size. Kiwanis International defines that visiting clubs with 20 or fewer members need a minimum of two (2) members in attendance to get credit for participating in an interclub. Clubs with 21-30 members need three (3) members, and clubs with 31 or more members need at least four (4) members in attendance.

There are so many ways to interclub including division council meetings, service leadership program activities, district conferences and international convention to name just a few. The expanded definition of an interclub minimizes the monotonous routine of simply going to another meeting. It allows clubs to interact socially, and participate in community fundraisers, service projects and social programs. And yes, you can even have a virtual interclub! The Leesburg Kiwanis club recently had nine members attend the Tysons Kiwanis club's meeting which was held over Zoom. So yes, you can even interclub from your couch!

Our district contest encourages clubs to reach beyond just your local clubs and participate in division, district, and International events as well. Each interclub completed by a club and its members will be scored based on our interclub matrix. Clubs will compete based on the club size required for accomplishing an interclub mentioned above. Each group winner and the next 2 highest clubs will be recognized.

How does my club participate? Clubs need to send their interclub information to me monthly at dpalurie@verizon. net. Please include the date, the club you visited and the name of your club members who participated for each interclub completed. Club submissions will be accepted

through October 31, 2021 for interclubs completed during the 2020-21 administrative year.

All the information about the awards are also on our District Website under the recognition section. Our hope is that we will have many clubs and members to recognize at the 2022 Midyear Conference when we will present these awards. If you have any questions, please just let me know.

Yours in Kiwanis Service and Fellowship, David Lurie Immediate Past Governor

HONORING OUR HEROES IN BLUE

Each year, the **Kiwanis Club of Alexandria** recognizes an outstanding City of Alexandria Police Officer(s) who has impacted the youth of the community through specific actions that are in keeping with the basic objectives of Kiwanis. The Kiwanis Club of Alexandria established this award during the late 1990s and has continued to recognize an officer that has been nominated and chosen by the department based on valor, honor, persistence, and merit.

This past year, the club was excited to present the 2020 Police Officer of the Year Award to Detective Alma Zepeda. It has been 11 years since the club awarded this honor to a woman and we could not be prouder to have presented this to Detective Zepeda who is thought of so highly not only within the department but within our community.

Detective Zepeda is recognized for her dedication, initiative, and influence to provide a positive environment for youth in our community. She has diligently taken the extra step to advocate for youth special victims to provide a positive future. She has built bridges that link the youth, their families, and the community. As a direct result of her tenacity and persistent efforts, she has achieved a noteworthy reputation amongst her peers and the community to guide special victims to resolve familial situations resulting in positive outcomes. Her efforts have contributed a positive interface between the community and families that reflects great credit on herself, the Alexandria City Police Department, and our community.

A quote from her peers in her nomination, "Det. Zepeda acted as a strong advocate for this youth, speaking up for her in a time when the youth felt that her voice was not being heard. This is one of the many instances in which Det. Zepeda has worked to support and serve youth in the community. She has regularly gone out of her way to refer



youth and families to appropriate referral sources, ensure that they followed up with services and even assisted in transporting families to mental health appointments. With her professionalism and kind nature, Det. Zepeda has a gift of building trust with youth and their families; passionately bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community."

The award was presented virtually on Thursday, January 14th with both members of the Kiwanis Club of Alexandria and staff from the Alexandria Police Department including Police Chief Michael Brown present.

To learn more, visit www.alexandriakiwanis.org or contact Kaitlyn Blume, President, at kiwanisalexandria@gmail.com.

Capital Record



CURING the Children of the World

Longtime Virginia Beach Kiwanis Club member Tom Thatcher is one proud poppa. And he should be. When his daughter **Elizabeth** was very young she witnessed her cousin Justin Thatcher lose a courageous battle with childhood leukemia. At the time, Elizabeth vowed she would find a cure for this dreaded disease.



True to her word, she graduated from Vanderbilt with her PhD in Molecular Biology Oncology and Neuroscience in 2010. By 2018 she was hired by Pfizer. As Field Medical Director she traveled the country assisting in the development of new treatment algorithms for blood cancers. The 40 year old was recently promoted to Global Medical Director and is a rising star at Pfizer. A life dedicated to finding cures for cancer.

Honors

Kiwanis Club of Chester had the honor on Monday, February 22, 2021 of presenting two of their members with Legion of Honor 35 year pins. Rick Dodson (I) and Gary Burleigh (r) are still very active members of our club and Dr. Joseph Hillier, District Governor. who sponsored Gary Burleigh presented him with his pin.



Partnerships are Relationships

In November, 2020, Debi and Glenn Helseth, co-owners of Carrot Tree Kitchens decided that they would run a fundraiser in memory of their friend Ross Payne. Ross Payne was a 42 year member of the Colonial Capital Kiwanis Club. He was Past President, and had a superior relationship with Carrot Tree. They thought the best way to honor Ross was to donate the proceeds of the sale of Ross' favorite dessert, bread pudding. When the campaign ended, they matched the proceeds, and presented a check for \$1830 to the Kiwanis club. Glenn and Debi have committed continued support and can't wait for things to open up so they can follow through on their promise.

Happy Anniversary

April

Charlottesville, VA	.1922
Elkton, MD	.1932
Ellicott City, MD	.1940
Wythe County, VA	.1948
Mount Airy, MD	.1949
Williamsburg, VA	.1958
Churchland, VA	.1974
Greater Landover, MD	.1979
Montgomery Village, MD	.2003
Strasburg, VA	.2010
Forest, VA	.2018

May	
Washington, DC	1917
Alexandria, VA	1921
Harrisonburg, VA	1922
Seaford, DE	1923
Suffolk, VA	1947
Christiansburg, VA	1949
Rockville, MD	1950
Crofton, MD	1976
Old Point Comfort, VA	1981
Shenandoah, VAlley, VA	1981
Bull Run, VA	1985
Clinch River, VA	1988
Mitchellville, MD	1995
Old Town, VA	2006
Canton-Fells Point, MD	2019
Danville, VA	1921
Frederick, MD	1922
City Center Newport News, VA	2009





Staying Flexible

In times of COVID-19, **Kiwanis Club of Roanoke** (top) held their installation of officers outside adjacent to the new Kiwanis playground. Speakers had to compete with the excitement and joy coming from the playground!

Due to COVID-19, the **Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg**'s was required to shut down their weekly meetings through April 2020, at which time, meetings resumed at the picnic shelter at Kiwanis Park where social distancing could be practiced and masks were required. LTG Bob Lewit installed the club's first female president, **Kelley Olson** (bottom), along with the club's officers during their outdoor annual meeting.

More Honors!

The **Kiwanis Club of Denbigh** (Division 13) recently honored three of its members with Legion of Honor pins and Certificates. These were presented at their annual Christmas/Installation Dinner held at Al Fresco Restaurant on December 9th. Pictured below is Roger Diehl (It was ugly sweater night but the pre-lit coat counted.) Division 13 Foundation Director presenting **William Morrison** with his 50th Year Award and **John McMillan** with his 30th Year Award.





A 30th Year Award was also presented to **Moose Spencer** who was absent from the dinner.

Club Receives Award

The Howard County Board of Education will recognize the Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City with its prestigious Friends of Education Award during their 4 p.m. moard meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2021. The meeting may be viewed live on Comcast channel 95 or Verizon channel 42 or web streamed.

The Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City has been passionate in its support for Howard County students since the club was chartered in 1940. Members of the club provide extensive support students through multiple commitments, including sponsorship of Key Clubs at Atholton, Centennial, Glenelg, Marriotts Ridge, Mt. Hebron and River Hill high schools, through which hundreds of student participants contribute many hours of service to the community each year. Additionally, the Kiwanis Club sponsors the Backpacks for Break service initiative with Cradlerock Elementary School and Lake Elkhorn Middle School, as well as a Terrific Kids recognition program at Bryant Woods Elementary School.

In Memoriam



Fred Hodnett (left) and Nelson Vaughn Kiwanis Club of Ashland

Congratulations to the Kiwanis Club of Bethesda who was recently recognized as a Platinum Club for their contribution and support to the Kiwanis International Childrens Fund. A Platinum Club Patch was received to add to their club banner.

Service Showcase



Division 1

In November 2020, the **Kiwanis Club of Washington, D.C.** supported the annual "Slice of Life" fundraiser to benefit Food & Friends. Food & Friends provides healthy meals to adults and children in the DC metro area who are battling HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other life-threatening illnesses. Six club members participated as pie sellers/fundraisers for the "Slice of Life" event. Gourmet pies were sold and available the Tuesday before Thanskgiving for pickup at sites in the DC area; donors could also donate a pie to a client or donate money. In total, 87 pies were sold and \$3,092 raised! The club has been supporting Food & Friends for several years with their events, meal packing, and food delivery and were thrilled to contribute again this year.

Division 2

When COVID-19 nixed the Kiwanis Club of Leesburg's long-running Halloween parade and tradition of passing out lots of candy, they quickly made alternate arrangements. Retooling the parade was one thing, but what to do for all the children who would miss receiving candy? Looking for an alternative way to hand out candy to children, the club hit on a novel idea—distribute candy at the Ampersand Pantry Project's free lunch effort. A local nonprofit, the Ampersand Pantry Project, sprang up in the spring of 2020 to provide free lunches to everyone who wanted one-now serving 250+ daily. Ampersand's fundraising barely could afford to buy the food, diapers, and flowers it distributed--candy was a luxury it could not afford. Leesburg Kiwanians packed 400 sandwich bags with Halloween candy and passed it out through the pantry instead of at the parade. Seeing the smiling faces of children and adults getting some sweet Halloween treats was heart-warming and made the effort worthwhile.



The relationship wouldn't end there. As a major Halloween candy distributor to the children of Leesburg and surrounding communities, they thought, "What could we do next?" With Christmas coming, why not hand out candy canes then? Wouldn't children appreciate that too? So their members distributed 500 before and on Christmas during the pantry's free lunch program. Now committed to helping make children smile with candy treats during the year, the club decided to keep up this sweet relationship at the project's daily free lunch program on other special occasions too. They handed out over 750 Hershey's chocolate hearts and kisses for Valentine's Day over 3 days. They are planning on candy eggs at Easter. They are looking forward to bringing a little joy and happiness to children in Leesburg—putting smiles on their faces with candy on special occasions!

Division 3

The **Kiwanis Club of Waldorf** in Division 3 has performed a Club Signature Project for several years to provide food for needy young children and their families. LifeStyles of Maryland Foundation purchased and delivered food for needy children and families in Charles County, Maryland, with \$2,500 donated by the Kiwanis club that included a grant of \$1,000 from the Capital District Kiwanis Foundation. The funding was used for lunches for low income families and school children, as well as homeless families, which filled a need not being met otherwise. Because of the Kiwanis club's support, LifeStyles has been able to provide the following since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic:

- The community cabanas that provide anytime meal items for adults and children have provided more than 115,000 meals at its 10 sites throughout the county
- They are continually providing 1350 meals per week; meals are provided on a first-come, first-served basis
- Cabana sites are providing "anytime" meals every Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays from 11am – 3pm to lessen potential exposure

- Persons are provided two meals per person to cover the following day
- Sites are coordinated with Public Schools to lessen duplication, however they also provide meals to adults and non-school aged children
- Partnered with local churches and community agencies to provide anytime meals at diverse locations throughout the county, in partnership with End Hunger Charles County
- Distribute bags of groceries to 25 households in Nanjemoy each week

Division 4

The **Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City** filled 150 backpacks with food for local children to eat during Howard County, MD's five-day Spring Break as part of its signature Backpacks for Breaks service initiative. Students from the group Hawks Fight Hunger and members of the Key Club at River Hill High School recently collected over 1,400 individual food items to contribute to our effort. The club is grateful for their generosity and desire to eliminate food insecurity for children in our community.



Division 5

Who knew what Christmas 2020 would be like? Regardless, Santa was not kept down by COVID-19. He needed help, so the **Kiwanis Club of Greater Ocean Pines- Ocean City** again did their annual Toy Drive. Besides club member donations, the Kiwanis club collected unwrapped donations from the public. Every Wednesday in November, Kiwanis members held their toy drive in the parking lot of the Ocean Pines Community Center.



Division 6

Under the fundraising coordination of treasurer Betty Olmstead, and through the generosity of our **Wilmington Kiwanis Club** members, matching funds from the Kiwanis Club of Wilmington Foundation, and community members, they were able to supply 114 new winter coats in partnership with Operation Warm. The coats were given to needy children who use the services of The Salvation Army in Wilmington DE.



Division 7

December 19th at Noon across the world, American veterans were honored by volunteers placing wreaths from Wreaths across American on their graves. **Frederick Kiwanis** assisted the cemetery association of St Paul's Lutheran Church of Utica in obtaining and placing wreaths on veterans graves in their cemetery. Despite the low temperatures, a good number of volunteers turned out to honor our local heroes.



Division 8

Doug Butler and Barry Swears, members of the **Kiwanis Club of Winchester** completed the first in a series of Bird "homes" in the Kiwanis Area of Jim Barnett City Park, Winchester, VA. The Bird Homes are designed to attract Blue Birds, Tree Swallows, Nuthatch, Titmouse and Chickadee birds and feature a removable front section so the houses can be cleaned each year. The three Kiwanis clubs, Winchester, Blue Ridge and Old Town members will be working on this project together.

The club also posted memorial listings of the Kiwanis member donors, in the Kiwanis Shelters in Jim Barnett City Park, Winchester, VA. of a Kwanzan Flowering Cherry Tree for a \$150.00 donation to the club's Community Service Project. Fifteen of the trees were planted as a result of an invitation by the Club's Park Improvement Committee for members to participate in the project.



Division 9

What is it that **Charlottesville Kiwanians** can do right now for the kids of Charlottesville? This question came from a teacher at Buford Middle School who observed that many Buford students lacked the necessary supplies to help to them be successful in their studies. Teacher Elaine Sites brought this question in November 2020 to her mother, Kiwanian Martha Sites, who raised it with her colleagues on the board of the Kiwanis Club of Charlottesville Foundation.

Division 9 Lt. Governor Eric Lamb learned of the need and got involved. He coordinates the "Kiwanis/Walmart 360 Project", which on a weekly basis distributes on average two pallets of a variety of overstock and returned items (such as clothing, small electronics, toys, household items of all types, and more) from Walmart as "gifts-in-kind" to more than a dozen local community organizations. He noted the overstock included school supplies such as pencils and notebooks that were on the list of needs for the Buford students. As a result, school supplies valued at more than \$1,500 were donated to the Buford project. The Foundation also acted to make a cash donation of \$2,050. With this combined donation of cash and gift-in-kind, Kiwanis filled an important gap for a planned two-round distribution of school supply kits to the parents of Buford's 575 students, the first taking place in December and the second in late January. In the story on Central Virginia's NBC29-TV covering the January distribution event, the reporter highlighted the strong collaboration that has been developed between the non-profit Kiwanis Club of Charlottesville Foundation and the local Walmart for yearround gifts-in-kind to community organizations.



Thank you SO MUCH Kiwanis Club of Charlottesville for the generous donation of Cozy Comfort Backpacks! Youth coming into care appreciate them so much!" That's how the staff of People Places in Charlottesville expressed their feelings on Facebook. Kiwanis Cozy Comforts is a gift of love and support for children and families in transitional and/ or difficult situations. The goal is to show these families and children they are warm, safe, and cared for and to inspire them to have fun together as well. Cozy Comforts Project Director, Past Lt Governor Barb Ritter, explained that our Cozy Comforts project gives a backpack with a handmade fleece blanket, books, personal care items, and toys and games to children entering foster care. These treasures will be kept on hand, ready to be given to children immediately as they enter the foster care system in the coming months. In the past three years, their club has presented more than 200 backpack kits to 6 local agencies working with children in transitional and/or difficult situations. Each Cozy Comforts Backpack Kit is valued at approximately \$50.



For many years, the **Kiwanis Club of Harrisonburg** has supported the Pediatric Unit at the Sentara Medical Center in Harrisonburg. They recently presented a check for \$1,500 to the RMH Foundation as their yearly donation. Accepting for RMH is Janet Wendelken, Senior Development Officer, and making the presentation is Dennis Baugh, club member and District Governor.

On February 2, 2021, members and spouses from the **Kiwanis Club of Harrisonburg** and the Harrisonburg High School Key Club provided approximately 19 volunteer hours helping the staff of the Explore More Discovery Museum make and package 100 fun-filled "Love to Play" Valentine's Day kits. The goal is to get these in the hands of children that may not have the access otherwise through programs in the community serving children. The Kiwanis Club and Explore More are working on a grant to provide other fun-filled kits throughout the year.



In April 2020, Michael Roman, President, Kiwanis Club of **Staunton** was approached by the mother of one of one the students in his Sunday School class. She asked him if he knew of anyone (or an organization) who might be interested in picking up from her employer, Martin's Foods, on a weekly basis, merchandise that is discontinued, approaching their stale date or no longer stocked; this merchandise had to be redistributed to 'people in need' or otherwise thrown away - it may not be re-sold. Well, of course he knew of such an organization: The Kiwanis Club of Staunton! The rest is history! Partnering with Martin's, over the six months beteen April - Oct 2020, the club has distributed approximately 6.0 tons of food, with an estimated value of \$40,000. Every Wednesday morning several members drive to where they pick up anywhere from 10 to 20 boxes of food stuff; these are non-perishable items that are

packaged, canned, bottled, etc. They transport them to their 'sorting headquarters' (the concession stand at their sponsored Little League baseball field) where they are joined by more of their fellow Kiwanians. The merchandise is valued (priced) and sorted by potential recipients. In the meantime, they call the various organizations and let them know what they have received and ascertain what they may (or may not) need. The final step in this process is delivering the food – usually to two or three separate locations.

In making the weekly distributions, the club has supported the following organizations: Blue Ridge Area Food Bank (Feeding America), Boys & Girls Club, Frontier Culture Museum Foundation, People Places (Foster Care), SACRA (Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association), Salvation Army (Staunton), SPCA, Valley Mission, Valley Children's Advocacy Center, and more.



Division 10

You don't think the **Colonial Heights Kiwanis Club** has been sitting idle through this pandemic, do you? No way! Up until the most recent statewide orders, the club continued to meet at Dante's restaurant on the Boulevard in Colonial Heights. Their dedication to the children is not any less than in previous years. While many other clubs have had to suspend their in-person meetings, Dante's made sure that their meeting room met all regulations put in place as the orders changed throughout 2020. Just look at what the club accomplished:

- Christmas Family / Christmas Mother donation
- Massey Cancer Center donation
- Special Olympics donation
- Food Pantry donation
- Davis Advocacy Center donation
- HOBY sponsorship
- 4 x's a year street cleanup
- Heroes and Helpers program with our schools @Target,
 30 kids were impacted
- Backpack Blessings
- Lakeview Learning A-Z on-line reading program sponsorship
- Six (6) CHHS Scholarships fully funded



Division 11

Located in Glen Allen, VA, the Kiwanis Club of Tuckahoe is currently small (10 members), but huge in its continuing and ongoing service in the community. Led by president Bland Weaver, they continue to support Feed More, a nonprofit organization that serves thousands of people that are experiencing basic food challenges. With a service area that stretches across 34 counties and cities, Feed More's comprehensive programs and network of nearly 300 agencies helps ensure communities have access to healthy meals year round. The staff is professional and accommodating, and the volunteer program is very well organized. The facility is spacious, clean and conducive to meeting special concerns with COVID-19. Since October 2020, Tuckahoe Kiwanis has provided 4-10 volunteers several times a month to help select and pack food and grocery items for needy families, and they plan to continue this service project indefinitely. The time passes quickly, and they all have a good time. In addition, the club continues to support three SLP's: Mills Godwin H.S., Deep Run H.S. and J.R. Tucker H.S.

Division 12

Members of the **Kiwanis Club of Middlesex County** purchased supplies and assembled care package items for clients of Middlesex Department of Social Services. Care package items include notepads, pens, stamps and envelopes, coloring books, colored pencils and crayons, word puzzles, hats and gloves, and notes of encouragement that express support for neighbors in need. Social Services Director Rebecca Morgan expressed her appreciation, "Many thanks for the wonderful care packages for our clients – our staff are very excited to start distributing!" Showing off bags recently containing the items are, from left, Social Services' Julisa Carter, Kiwanian Bob Winslow, Social Services' Amanda Hammond and Kiwanians Joyce Allan and Nancy Fisk (president).



The Kiwanis Club of Poquoson Foundation has partnered with local restaurants in a project working to help feed the community. In 2020, the Foundation raised over \$3,360 in cash contributions and collected gift cards totaling \$4,390 through the generosity of participating restaurants. Foundation and club members deliver these gift cards to local charitable organizations to be distributed to families in need during the pandemic. Members presented a bag of gift cards worth \$1,165 to the Victory YMCA's Bright Beginnings program. These gift cards will be distributed to children along with backpacks provided by the YMCA Bright Beginnings Program. Bright Beginnings is a community outreach program partnering with local schools and organizations to identify and provide children in need with school supplies and new clothes needed to start the school year with confidence. The Foundation's mission is to provide support for the most pressing needs in the greater Hampton Roads area with a primary focus on young people. Its story plus opportunities to donate can be found at http://www.poguosonkiwanis.org.

Division 14

The Division's clubs certainly are not staying still during COVID times!

- **Suffolk** Worked with the Salvation Army to help children with Education, Warmth and Hunger and gave books, blankets and food during the holidays.
- **Lynnhaven** In lieu of holiday parties this year, the club gave \$700 to the Samaritan House and \$750 to the Ability Center.
- Virginia Beach Served 12 families during Thanksgiving and Christmas to fulfill their shopping lists and provide food for the holidays.
- Town Center Held their annual Beach House Raffle to fund their charity budget and continue to give to the many charities that they support every year.
- Portsmouth Raised over \$1000 and 1300 pounds of food to donate to the Oasis Social Ministry for Kiwanis One Day.

- Great Bridge Delivered 75 poinsettia plants to Rena B Wright Primary School for each employee during the holidays.
- Chesapeake Helped "Fill the Transit" toy drive and donated toys for children of all ages to a local neighborhood in Chesapeake.



"We were asked to support Angel Tree, which a number of local groups do, including the Toano Club. We covered both days. I got an early shift on the first day when they didn't quite have their act together. We made some on the fly adjustments to smooth out their process. The 2nd day the sky let loose. There was a clogged rain gutter right above the door to outside which is where every delivery had to go. Niagara Falls in Williamsburg. The teams that worked that day took pictures. 43 degrees. Drowned rats might have had it better. Even If they'll never admit it, those guys LOVED having their photos shown at the club meeting the following Wednesday!"

- Chuck Owlett, President, Kiwanis Club of Colonial Capital

Division 16

Each Thursday, just prior to each Club meeting, **Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg** members meet at the Head Start building and pack 57 backpacks for the Head Start children. The school's meals program provides food for them during the weekdays and the Kiwanis Backpack Program provides food during the weekend. In support of this program, members procure, inventory, store the food and pack the bags. Normally, the backpack program is dormant during the summer but this year it was extended thru the summer months as the need for food was greater because of family hardship caused by the virus.

In spite of COVID-19, the Kiwanis Club of Christiansburg also provided Christmas for 51 children during its Annual Children's Christmas event. This year, rather than having the children gather for a pizza party and Santa delivering their gifts; their parents or guardians drove up to a designated area in the Christiansburg Recreation Center's parking lot were Kiwanis members handed them a bag of toys, a bag of clothing and a box of food for each child. The process began with the local schools providing the Kiwanis club the names of children in need. They, also, obtained and provided the club a list of the clothing needed and the toys desired. Once the names were received, each Kiwanian took a name and bought clothes for the child they selected. On the Saturday before the event, a group of Kiwanis members went on a club funded 7:00 a.m. shopping spree at Walmart and purchased toys for the children. Afterwards, the toys were taken to the Belmont Christian Church where they were wrapped and bagged by their youth group. Once wrapped, the toys were delivered to the Christiansburg Recreation Center for distribution to their parents as they drove through the Recreation Center parking lot. The members buying clothes and the club providing toys and food, spent in excess of \$10,000 total this year. Even though all of the 2020 major fundraisers were cancelled due to the pandemic, the club, through donations and some savings from the prior year was able to fund this long-running event.



How A Playground Spurs CommUNITY!

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke changed the dynamic and created synergy in an impoverished neighborhood – through PLAY! Finally completed with the help and commitment of community leaders, churches, volunteers, dedicated Kiwanians and hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations, the Roanoke Kiwanis Centennial Playground stands as a testament to a goal of neighborhood revitalization and creating a healthy outlet for children and their families, while the club celebrated its 100th Anniversary.

As an extension of the benefits to the children and the neighborhood, the club wanted the playground to become an actual tool for spurring ongoing service and education, community strengthening and inclusion. In a conversation with a local business owner, project leaders conceived the idea of involving local companies, who would monitor the playground for one month of the year on a rotating basis. The Adopt-A-Playground Project was born. In partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, each business will be responsible for monitoring the playground for signs of vandalism and maintenance needs, as well as cleaning up trash (surprising little of this due to two large trash receptacles and perhaps the sense of pride the local neighbors possess for THEIR playground.) In addition, these playground pals will conduct a one-time service or learning experience during their designated month for the children living in the area. The program is proving to be very popular. All of the months through August already have local business sponsors and planned activities.

The first month of January was hosted by a very successful business owner, Allyson Davoll, who owns the Inspired to Enhance Salon. She opted to have a coat drive for children and adults in the neighborhood. Allyson garnered additional local businesses (the First Impressions Salon and She's International) to help collect coats, gloves, socks, scarves, and hats. Members of the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, Allyson and her father, and the Shiloh Baptist Church men's group donated hundreds of dollars. The monies purchased more than 250 coats, dozens of socks, a tabletop of gloves, in addition to the items contributed by club members and friends and others who Allyson inspired to get involved. Volunteering together the staff of Inspired to Enhance organized a "Flash" thrift store experience in a large room at a project partner's site: Goodwill Industries of the Valleys (adjacent to the playground). Perfectly timed just before the 7-inch snowfall on January 31st, the coat give-a-way was open to the public on Saturday, January 30th offering racks and racks of girls' and boys' coats, men's and women's coats of all sizes and tables covered with other items of outerwear. Not to mention the five huge bins full of clothing donated by the local celebrity Sean John, another successful local self-made person with strong connections to this neighborhood.

As the neighborhood arrived to pick out their warm clothing, they were screened for COVID-19, masks were worn, social distancing honored. Most heartwarming was the chatter about the playground, as comments such as: "These Kiwanis Club volunteers are THE people who built our playground!" were overheard. The smiles, the gratitude, the neighborhood pride all underscored the "why" for their Kiwanis club's service projects!

As the day ended, it was evident they had more donations than we could give away in one day. A steady stream of families from all walks of life had found what they needed (a family from Sierra Leone, another from Nigeria, who had relocated to Roanoke, elderly and handicapped individuals whose neighbors helped them get the items that would keep them warm this winter). A call to a local church (Forest Park Baptist) brought the church bus to the Goodwill doors and at least 100 coats plus boxes and boxes of clothing were loaded on their way to this church, well known for its outreach to the neighborhood, that surrounds the playground. Large bins and more boxes were loaded onto trucks and cars to be delivered to the nearby housing project for the elderly, Melrose Towers. The first month of playground-spurred outreach was a great success! Look what lies ahead:

February: Black History Month activities organized by: Councilwoman and Kiwanian Stephanie Moon

Reynolds (Each week of February featured successful Black business leaders to speak to 20-30 youngsters, again in the Goodwill Industries' large Community Room adjacent to the Kiwanis Centennial Playground)

March: Math Madness Month led by Sheila Umberger, the Director of Roanoke Public Libraries (and Kiwanis club member), working with a Math teacher to sponsor some math enrichment

April: A "Boys to Men" program sponsored by Angela Williams of TAP (Total Action for Progress)

May: "A Fun Day at the Playground" planned by Kiwanian Joe Gaither and his church Men's Group: free food, games, activities, drinks and a chance to gather at the playground site

June: Diane Speaks, owner of She's International Boutique – activities TBA

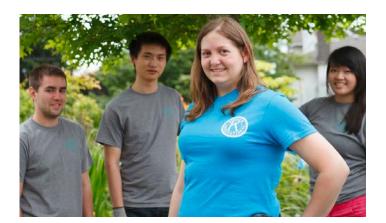
July: A Class on Healthy Foods will be taught by Shaqueena Snydor, Owner of a local Vegan cafe

August: Pastor Tephanie Williams of The Gathering Place across the street from the playground

One of the highlights in the upcoming summer will be the Capital District Convention in Roanoke – when there will be a service activity planned at the playground – spreading mulch, cleaning up, testing out the equipment (bringing out the kid in all of us!) so that ALL may be active and healthier together!

Eye on KI

News from Kiwanis International



What's New With Our Programs

Even during a global pandemic, members in our student programs have developed their leadership skills and helped others in a time of need. Here are a few of their latest projects:

- Global Leadership Certification. This free pilot program allows Key Club and CKI members to take courses and earn certification in civic responsibility, strategic leadership and applying their personal passions to volunteering for causes.
- Virtual meeting kits. Since September, we've released 10 virtual meeting kits with agendas and activities for K-Kids, Builders Club and Key Club members to use — regardless of whether they're meeting in person or virtually. Topics range from anti-bullying to hunger insecurity to mental health awareness. Watch last week's <u>Lunch with a Leader</u> to learn more.
- Networking opportunities. To prepare CKI members for the workforce, CKI hosted a virtual Kiwanis family networking event with Kiwanians and CKI alumni in various industries.
- Clean water projects. Key Club has teamed up with partner Thirst Project to raise money all February long to end the global water crisis. CKI has set a challenge of raising US\$40,000 this year for its WASH project (water, sanitation and hygiene) in collaboration with UNICEF.



Celebrate Key Club Seniors

So far, 2021 has required us to celebrate some big things in small and thoughtful ways. Many of our traditions have been modified, but social distance does not keep us disconnected as a community.

Students are learning to cope and thrive in new and different ways than ever before. Their leadership skills and spirit of service have shown us all how resilient they can be despite unprecedented challenges. This year will be a special graduation for a very special class of students. How will you celebrate the Key Club Class of 2021 this year?

Key Club graduating seniors deserve to be recognized for what they have accomplished. The Kiwanis Family Store offers many graduation items to help celebrate these exceptional students.

Our new Key Club graduation yard signs acknowledge the accomplishments of seniors as they look to the future. Available in singles or value-priced packs, they are the perfect way to recognize members and celebrate the graduation season.

Graduation bundles of recognition items give each student treasured mementos of their high school years. Congratulate your Key Club seniors with these full packages of commemorative goods this season!

Shop the Kiwanis Family Store.



MT. AIRY FAMILY IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN AFRICA WITH THE HELP OF KIWANIS

BY BILL BUTTS, MT. AIRY KIWANIS CLUB

The Smith Family resides just outside of Mount Airy, MD. Slightly over ten (10) years ago, while on a safari vacation, family members discovered the natural beauty of Tanzania, the charm of the small Maasai villages in the area and the significant needs of the schools and children in those villages. Without hesitation, the family decided to get involved, and offered to help, beginning with Matim Primary School in the very poor Maasai community of Lemanyata Valley.

The result has included the formation of a non-profit, A is For Africa (AIFA), a growing support base for AIFA (including the Mt. Airy Kiwanis Club for the past 9 years) and has resulted in significant improvement in Matim PS' infrastructure and operational capability.

On numerous visits to Lemanyata Valley over the years, the Smith family has consistently experienced a loving community wanting simply what all of us want for our children: an opportunity for a better life through education.

Reality Check:

- The Smiths also found that most of the classrooms in Matim PS were having to operate in very challenging conditions without adequate infrastructure, e.g., 100+ students per classroom without any textbooks, paper or pens. In response, AIFA has rehabilitated most of Matim's classrooms with new floors and paint, built a library and a computer lab, as well as pay the salaries of kindergarten staff, buy school supplies and provide other needed materials.
- Maasai students come to school without the ability to speak Swahili, the national tongue and language of public education in Tanzania. These children speak Maa, their tribal dialect. Therefore, the first major step was to build a kindergarten where none existed before in order that the children would learn Swahili and be better prepared to attend and learn in first grade.
- Generally, Maasai families eat only one meal per day, often a thick ground corn porridge called

- ugali, with greens from their personal gardens. The teachers told the Smiths that the children could not learn as they are hungry. So AIFA committed to offering a hot, enriched porridge lunch, starting with 90 kindergarteners in 2012. In 2013, the lunch service expanded to the entire school of 960 students, and today, in early 2021 the AIFA lunch program feeds 1,482 children daily.
- After slightly more than 10 years in operation, AIFA is especially proud of the enrollment gains in Matim PS as well as the steady progress of Matim students on the National Exams given annually to all graduating (7th Grade) PS students.

School enrollment continues to substantially increase, and the scores on National Exams in record time documents additional progress. At this point, the challenge is shifting. AIFA has become a victim of its own success! But that's a confirmation of success, none the less!

The Mount Airy Kiwanis Club has supported AIFA's work annually over the last 9 years as part of its



international portfolio. Kiwanis members sit on the AIFA Advisory Board to monitor progress, make recommendations and contribute to the ongoing progress of this special enterprise.

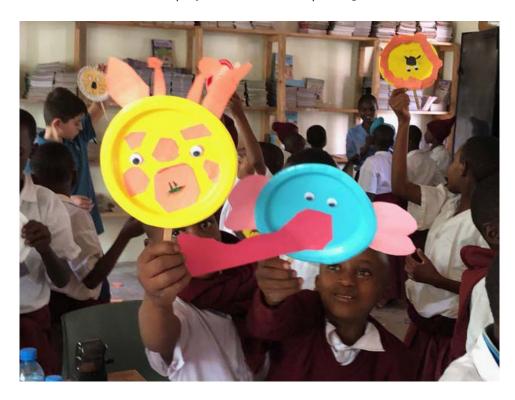
The AIFA board meets 2-3X per year to share detailed updates on the development progress of the AIFA local schools, especially Matim Primary School, as well as to plan fundraisers and promotional events. That's a fundamental part of the responsibility as AIFA board members, along with physically helping with the fundraisers and events.

In addition, the Mt. Airy Kiwanis Club's support of AIFA has grown over the years. They are a significant line item in the club's annual Community Service budget, and over the years their funding has been applied to the AIFA priority at the time. This past year, the priority was to fund and distribute menstruation kits for all the Matim PS female students.

When the club partnered with the local school system to create a Mt. Airy Middle School Mentoring Program and a few years later, a MAMS Builders Club, they introduced both groups to the opportunities of AIFA and both programs adopted AIFA as their "International Connection" and pursued annual service projects and fundraisers to benefit AIFA. Only the Builders Club currently exists and they continue to accomplish an annual fundraiser and service project for

AIFA. The Key Clubs we sponsor also frequently get into the act as well.

The Mt. Airy Club feels honored to have a close relationship with the Smith family, have members on the AIFA Board and be able to see the steady progress of what AIFA is accomplishing.



Family Ties

Updates from our Kiwanis Family Governors

CKI TANIYA BELLAMY, GOVERNOR

Hello Capital Kiwanians,

For those of you who don't know me, I am TaNiya Bellamy. I am a rising senior Political Science major at the illustrious Virginia State University. I am super excited for my upcoming term. It feels like everything is coming in full circle. From working with some of you in Key Club as a club officer and Lieutenant Governor



to now being Governor of CKI — it's an amazing feeling. I have been a member of the Kiwanis Family for five years.

As my term begins, our first priority is filling vacant seats and committee chairperson positiong. Currently we only have 3 District Board positions filled and I am hoping to change that before my first month's up. I'll also be attending GATC, the Governor and Administrator Training Conference April 8th - 11th. While I've already had the pleasure of interacting and meeting with members of my Governors class previously, I'm excited to learn and collaborate with more of the governors across international. While I'm sad about the cancellation of CKI Next, later this summer, we have the Educational Leadership Conference in June.

In the coming months, the District Board and I will be working to help clubs establish goals for the upcoming year through 1on1 sessions and feedback. We're encouraging clubs to create S.M.A.R.T goals for the year so that they can actively gauge their progress and accomplishments. We will also be looking at ways to increase member engagement which will hopefully in turn increase membership and attendance across the board.

My main goals for the year will be to increase membership and engagement, obtain a full district board, produce more DEI resources, improve communication and strengthen K-Family bonds through service and fellowship. This service year may still look different but the commitment and determination myself and the Capital District Board has, doesn't. We are ready for a fulfilling and prosperous service year in lieu of whatever challenges we face, with your support!

Yours in Caring and Service,

Ta Niya Bellamy

Key Club MACY LINDBLOM, GOVERNOR

Hello Capital Kiwanians,

My name is Macy Lindblom, and I am honored to be serving as the Capital District Key Club Governor for the 2021-22 year. I am so excited to embrace the new challenges, serve alongside every branch of the K-family, and work collectively to lead our District out of a pandemic and through another successful service year.



Recently, Key Club has been in the process of transitioning over the new District board. This includes all of our new Lieutenant Governors who were elected a couple of months ago, as well as our new District Executives who were elected at DCON in March. Although District Convention looked a little bit different this year, it was executed beautifully. From motivational keynote speaker, Hoan Do, who offered a professional and engaging experience, to our nine different workshop sessions and so much more, the weekend was an amazing experience for all of our Key Clubbers.

Looking forward, we will continue to focus on providing sufficient training for the board and building a strong leadership base through our first Board Meeting/Officer Training Conference which is scheduled for the end of April, and through individual communication between Lieutenant Governors, Executives, and adults.

Kiwanis family relations are a critical component to the success of Key Club. Our adults are our backbone, and we couldn't be more appreciative to have such influential servant leaders as role models. As this year progresses, our new board is beyond excited to form relationships with all of our wonderful Kiwanians and lead our communities through a collaborative effort.

There's no doubt that this year is going to be amazing. We are more than ready to confront new challenges, devise new processes, and welcome change. Thank you all so much for your continuous support, and please don't hesitate to reach out at any point!

Mary Lindlom

AKTION UPDATE

BY JENNIFER HISCOCK, DISTRICT AKTION CLUB ADMINISTRATOR



Aktion Club Week is annually celebrated the first week of March which was March 1-5, 2021. Each day has a different theme and one of the themes was Kudos to Aktion. We would be remiss if we did not give kudos to all of our advisors who support our clubs' operations and our members. Our advisors are invaluable to the success of Aktion Club within the Capital District! We would like to give kudos to the following advisors for their tremendous support:

Devin Brown
Gregory Glassner
Grace Millinga
Betty Figure
Debra McGuire
Charles Marks
Suzanne Holliday
Pamela Miller
Dennis Baugh

Noelle Funk Adela Mahmutovic Veronica Callahan Joseph Eskridge Lynn Hammond Robin Marks Kayten Stroop Camille Settles Walter Vance Mildred Kriemelmeyer Emily Ferren Teresa O'Brien Lisa Daigle Art Riley Dominique Halse Pamela Fishback Janelle Deshields Steven Cohen

Thank you for your time, commitment, and service to Aktion Club! We hope that each of our members and advisors had an AWESOME Aktion Club Week! Thank you for celebrating each day's theme as much as possible given the pandemic's continuation. Despite our clubs not being able to carry out traditional Aktion Club Week celebrations, each of our members is just as important to us here in the Capital District!



We are very proud to be planning a Training and Leadership Conference for Capital District Aktion Club members! The conference will be held virtually on Zoom on Saturday, July 17th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for all Aktion Club members and advisors! Please start to save this date! More information will be released over the next few months. The conference is sure to be a great deal of leadership training, service, and fellowship for all!

DOLLARS & SENSE

Look for fundraising inspiration in this new featured column! Do you have a successful fundraiser that you would like to share? Contact editor@capitaldistrictkiwanis.org.

BLUEBERRIES: A POPULAR FUNDRAISER FOR ARLINGTON KIWANIS

What do you think when you hear or see the word BLUEBERRIES?

- 1. Healthy
- 2. Nutritious
- 3. Delicious
- 4. Kiwanis Club of Arlington, Virginia
- 5. All of the above

Well, all of the above, of course. And blueberry season 2021 is about to start. Always picked at the height of their freshness, the berries are expected to arrive in Arlington the last weekend in June, directly from the grower. Capital District Kiwanians are invited to place orders and participate in the bounty.

The Kiwanis Club of Arlington began selling blueberries as a fundraiser eight years ago. That first year just 250 10-pound boxes were sold, mostly to Kiwanians and friends of Kiwanians. But word got out and each year the club has increased its sales. Hesitant about their ability to use 10 pounds of blueberries, customers will often start by splitting a box with a friend. The next year, they buy a box, and before long, they are purchasing multiple boxes, freezing some for use throughout the year. The high-quality blueberries are addictive.

In 2020, the club had to adjust procedures in order to comply with CDC pandemic guidelines. Masks were worn by all and social distancing was observed. Customers were asked to order and pay online and 90% of sales were prepaid. Delivery was contact-free with Kiwanians loading berries directly into the purchasers'

cars. The club discovered that, unlike other in-person fundraisers, blueberry sales could be adapted to the realities of COVID-19 restrictions, and customers were especially grateful to be able to do something "normal," since so many other activities had to be cancelled.

"The Club sold 1100 boxes and we could have sold more," commented Julie Wright who has led the Club's blueberry fundraiser since its inception. "Just imagine. That's five and a half tons of blueberries!"

The club has also partnered with the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), which loans a forklift and driver to transfer pallets of berries from the delivery truck to the Arlington storage location. That location used to be a warehouse but in recent years, the Kiwanians have operated from the parking lot of Cherrydale Methodist Church, 3701 Lorcum Lane, Arlington, where there is greater visibility. That required renting a refrigerated truck

for berry storage. "This year we will need two trucks," Wright adds.

In addition to their own orders, customers are also given the option of ordering blueberries for AFAC. In 2020, more than 600 pounds were donated to AFAC for distribution to Arlington's neediest families. In addition to AFAC, organizations that benefit from Kiwanis blueberry sales include Arlington THRIVE, Crisis Link, Girls on the Run, Arlington 4-H, YMCA, Make-a-Wish, ASPIRE After-School Learning, VHC Pediatrics, National Capital Treatment & Recovery, and many others.

Wouldn't you like to have some of the plumpest, juiciest, most delicious blueberries you can get? A 10-pound box is just \$35. Purchasing information is available on the Kiwanis Club of Arlington website www.arlingtonvakiwanis.com and questions may be sent to blueberriesinarlington@gmail.com.

WATCH THE VIDEO:





FOUR STEPS FOR CREATING A VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER

BY STEVEN HADT, KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

The need for social distancing continues to impact fundraising plans for Kiwanis clubs around the world. But the needs of the community remain. Without the funds raised by those events, many community needs will remain unmet.

However, nearly all in-person fundraising events can be done online, says Anna Wu, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Hacienda Heights. Wu has chaired virtual fundraisers for several Kiwanis clubs since social distancing orders went into effect.

"Whether we're at home, apart or together, we're always making a difference. That's what Kiwanis is doing every single day," Wu said.

On the August 12 Lunch with a Leader Kiwanis video series, Wu detailed the four-step process she uses to help guide her planning for virtual events.

Step 1: Decide the details of the event.

Pick the date, time and kind of event you want to have. Some options that have worked well for other Kiwanis clubs include wine tastings, painting nights, cooking class, walk-a-tons and virtual auctions.

Step 2: Create a way for people to sign up.

A simple Google Form may be all you need to collect the attendees' contact information. Other options include Eventbrite or Facebook Events.

Step 3: Publicize your event.

Let people know how they can participate and pay the registration cost.

For one event, Wu teamed up with a local wine shop where participants could pick up the supplies needed for "Wine Night." During the 60-minute virtual event, a wine expert from the shop went through the descriptions of the four half-bottles of wine, noting the flavors and profiles of each of the samples — just as the expert would have done if the participants were together in a room.

"It can be a little logistic-heavy in the beginning," Wu said, "but once you have everything figured out, it just all falls into place."

Step 4: Send the link to participate.

Once the person pays, send them the link they need to participate virtually and instruct them how to pick up the supplies.

Wu says she's talked to clubs that have made more money with virtual events than in-person fundraisers. There are fewer expenses such as facility rental or food. "There's no chance of losing money because you're only buying supplies for the people who have signed up," she said.

Since people are getting accustomed to interacting with each other on Zoom, Wu finds there hasn't been a problem getting people to participate in a virtual fundraiser — especially when she connects the event with its purpose.

"You want to make sure people know why they're spending this money — to help kids achieve another level of literacy, help them stay safe or prevent injuries," she said. "The purpose is just as important as the event."

Wu's last piece of advice is to have fun and create events that interest the club and community.

"While we are apart, it's important for us to be together in the same environment, doing the same thing," she said. "During our virtual fundraisers, we've been fortunate enough to recruit two new members because they enjoyed our interaction and they wanted to make a difference in the community."

Kiwanis in the News

From *The Southwester*

Op-Ed: Become a Member of Southwest Kiwanis Club

BY LINWOOD N. WATSON, PUBLISHED MARCH 2021

READ THE SOUTHWESTER

It has always been essential that children are prepared for the future and it has always been expected that it starts at home. But in the old African proverb; "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child" suggest that outside support is also key; that an entire community of people must interact with children so they can experience and grow in a safe and healthy environment.

The birth of the "Kiwanis" was organized in August 1914 to provide fellowship and to experience new ideals in human relationships. In 2005, during the Kiwanis 90th anniversary, "Serving the Children of the World" became their new motto to emphasize the primary focus of Kiwanis service over those nine decades and to make a commitment for the years to come.

One major object of the Kiwanis is to provide a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service, and to build better communities. To accomplish this object, Kiwanis clubs take on humanitarian and civic projects focusing on youth and special needs of the community.

Some organizations established for youth by the clubs are "K-Kids" at the elementary level, "Builders Clubs" at the middle school level, "Aktion Clubs" for people who are living with a disability, "Kiwanis Junior" for young adults in Europe only, between the ages of 18 and 32, "Key Clubs" at the high school level and "Circle K Clubs" at the



college level and provides youth the opportunity to help others become personally involved in their community and build a positive future for themselves.

All in all, "KIDS NEED KIWANIS". In Washington, DC, the Kiwanis Club of Southwest Waterfront has been helping kids since it was formally organized in July 2001. We ask advice from community leaders where our support is needed most. We believe we can make a difference in the world of "children" by supporting projects that replace school or civic events that have been reduced by budget cuts. Our projects not only help to keep kids engaged and entertained but offer opportunities for them to be nurtured for future development and to practice new skills by exposing them to interacting with peers, getting them engaged in positive choices, learning the concept of

accountability, resolving conflict, showing respect, communicating effectively, becoming self-confidence. We include social skills in our effort to help our youth succeed because it is so very necessary for them (us) to get along with others.

We are remarkably diverse in our outreach efforts which includes, but not limited to, partnering with schools and churches. Our support includes supplying back-to-school supplies, school uniforms, food distribution to families, funds for students to attend Key-Leadership Programs and swimming lessons, helping to send Junior Ushers to Conventions, sponsoring trips to baseball games and fishing, donating Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas gifts in the Southwest Washington area. We also nurtured and supported Miss Kyan King, a cancer survivor and deemed her "Our Little Angel".

From *The Roanoke Times*

Coming together in CommUNITY IN 2020

BY CHERI HARTMAN, PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2021

READ THE ROANOKE TIMES

Additionally, through "The Eliminate Project", Kiwanis International and UNICEF joined forces to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus, a deadly disease that steals the lives of nearly 31,000 innocent babies and a significant number of women each year. We received a special recognition in 2019 as a "Model Club" for donating \$12,000 to this World Wide Service Project.

Last year (2020), the Southwest Waterfront club initiated a "Scholarship Program". Aaron K. King, a graduate of DC's Wilson High School was our first recipient. He is currently pursuing a degree in Journalism at West Virginia University. Aaron's focus is in line with the Kiwanis' objects in that he "believes whatever he does will involve some advocacy concentrating on the underserved members of our society.

"KIDS NEED KIWANIS" – AND KIWANIS NEEDS YOU. Being a Kiwanis member can be rewarding in many ways because we believe that the greatest gift you could ever give yourself is the gratification in knowing you are contributing your help, time and efforts to people who are in dire need. Giving something back to your community is the highest level of self-satisfaction you can ever encounter.

Because we have struggled with membership over the years, volunteers are needed to help us meet our objects. To find out how you can help, please text Clay Goldston at clay1231@verizon.net or Linwood N. Watson at bepbear@aol.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

The year of 2020 has brought us dark times – but the bright light of neighborly love is reflected in the Melrose-Orange Avenue neighborhood, where so many of us have come together from throughout the Roanoke Valley to benefit our children. The immediate neighborhood's families and children and local businesses, volunteers from far and wide, a variety of faith communities, some located in NW Roanoke and others from far-reaching corners of our valley, a rich potpourri of races and ages and backgrounds, an international organization - the Kiwanis Children's Fund, as well as local foundations and charities, ALL joined in commUNITY to build a 10,000 sq. ft. inclusive playground, so that ALL may play.

Active outdoor play builds stronger minds and bodies and neighborhoods. Children learn through play to resolve differences and solve problems and figure out how to get along with one another. What did we adults learn as we faced our common challenge of raising the funds needed to purchase all the adaptive equipment and to make the neighborhood's dreams of play come true? Amazing what can be accomplished even in the face of COVID-19, when we each act on our common love for our children!



The Roanoke Police Department mobilized ten recruits, men and women, to put their muscle into raking and spreading mulch at the playground, so children could be ensured safer landings. Picture 64 volunteers of all ages, races, genders, and sizes gathered at the playground site to complete this final step of the equipment installation on August 30th. On this day of dedicating a place to play, the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke culminated a century of service by gifting the Kiwanis Centennial Playground to our city, as this civic group celebrated its 100th Anniversary. A bright moment in 2020 - heralding an optimistic vision for a better future, where we share a commitment to leveraging our unique gifts and differing assets to act on a common commitment to improve the opportunities that make it possible for ALL to thrive!

BY RONESHA L. PRIOLEAU, KIWANIS CLUB OF MITCHELLVILLE

Please allow me to introduce Ms. Othalene Daniels who

turned 95 years young on February 22nd. She was born in Marshall, Texas (one of 10 siblings) where she grew up on her parent's farm, and whose hands have picked cotton and cleaned homes. The same hands Ms. Daniels used to pick cotton and clean homes touched and endearingly turned the pages of many books throughout her life as a student and teacher. She was the valedictorian of her high school class and attended three HBCUs. She received her B.A. from Bishop College, M.A. degree from Texas Southern, and enrolled in several courses at Prairie View A&M University. After 50 plus years of teaching in the public-school systems in Texas and Washington, DC, Ms. Daniels retired in 1993. After her retirement, she continued serving as a substitute public school teacher in Prince George's County Maryland until the age of 92, when she was involved in a car accident that caused her vehicle to flip while driving to purchase school supplies for her students. Ms. Othalene Daniels is the most elegant, resilient, gracious, and intelligent woman of distinction that I know.

Ms. Daniels continued coursework in her mid-80s while attending the University of Maryland and Bowie State University to maintain her teaching certification. She is a member of Shiloh Baptist Church on 9th & P Streets, NW, Washington, DC., the Divine 9, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., served as a faithful member of the National Panhellenic Conference and a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Mitchellville. Her mottos are, "I will continue to learn as long as I have breath in my body" and "success is the greatest revenge."

Let's give due appreciation and recognition for this momentous milestone in her life of devoted and faithful service as a lifelong educator and inspiration to us all.



We know her!

The Kiwanis Club of Tysons is proud to have a front line hero! Congratulations to member Nicole McDermott for being featured as a Front Line Hero in the March 2021 issue of the Kiwanis International Magazine. Check out the full article on page 17 here.



HOSTING AN OPEN HOUSE

Audience: Membership committee, with club members' participation where designated

When your members love their club, they'll want to share that experience and invite others to be part of it. An open house is one such opportunity. Showcase your club to your community, and focus the club's efforts on inviting potential members with these three simple steps.

STEP 1: PREPARE

Two months before: Choose your team

Surround yourself with people who are committed to making the club bigger and better. And consider involving members of your club's sponsored Service Leadership Programs clubs. Then seek approval from your club's board of directors to conduct and fund an open house. (Costs could include postage, printing programs and food and beverages.)

Appoint individuals to take on these tasks:

- **Project lead.** Coordinates the entire program, orients the team members to their responsibilities and monitors their progress.
- **Attendance.** Develops the prospect list, arranges for printing and mailing of invitations and ensures the attendance of members and guests.
- **Venue.** Establishes the meeting time, place, setup and materials (including name tags and applications) and identifies greeters.
- **Program.** Arranges speakers and sets the agenda.
- **Public relations.** Writes press releases and promotes the event in the community.
- **Follow up.** Reaches out to invited guests after the event to answer questions and assess their interest in joining.

Team members:

Project lead:	Public relations:
Attendance:	Follow up:
Venue:	Greeter:
Dra cira va	



