



Red Cross Blood Drive June 16, 2025



Our club's annual Red Cross Blood Drive was held Monday, June 16th at the George Washington Hotel from 10:00 to 4:00. This was a special drive in memory of Pattie Good (Bud Good's wife) who passed away April 11, 2025. She was a strong advocate of public service and the Red Cross. Pattie volunteered for 27 years with the Red Cross and had personally donated over 3 gallons of blood. Fifteen Kiwanians showed up to donate blood and nine others volunteered to help with the event. Six members of the Bud and Pattie Good family also donated.

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KIWANIS KOURIER



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

JULY 2025

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

MIKE DIDAWICK



Happy 4th of July. Enjoy the 249th anniversary of our great country.

At our July business meeting the Pancake Committee will be presenting checks to the club and our major beneficiary. It is my understanding we were very successful.

Some members have talked with me about the end-of-year distribution of money. They want to select an organization and give an amount that will
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JULY BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday To Our Members!



Danny Starliper	07/01
Rose Black	07/04
Carmen Rio	07/13
Fred Board	07/15
Ryan Clouse	07/19
Reid Hoak	07/23
Craig Morcom	07/25
Rick Ours	07/25
Freda Roberson	07/29
Doug Thomas	07/30

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

CALENDAR

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

July 9: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Ben Weber, Independence at Home; 12-1pm

July 16: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Jenny Grooms, Valley Health Foundation; 12-1pm

July 23: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Doug Thomas, D-Day presentation; 12-1pm

July 24: Board Meeting; location TBD; 6pm

July 30: Lunch meeting at the Winchester Moose Lodge; Robyn Miller, WATTS; 12-1pm

Dates to Remember

Picnic: August 13; Jim Barnett Park

Installation Banquet: September 26; George Washington Hotel



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Our goal was to collect 55 units of blood and we collected an outstanding 61 units. There were five Power Red donors and 51 regular donations. Power Red donations count as two units.

The 15 Kiwanis members who donated were: Susan Corrigan; John Hess; Craig Morcom; Sylvia Strause (former member); Craig Organ; Scott Straub; Doug Green; Sean Devolites; Pat Snapp; Bill Nordman (President, Kiwanis Club of Old Town); Debbie Guiffre; David Sunter; Chris March; Jon Eye; and Ryan Clouse.

The nine volunteers were: Ginny Grant; Lennie Wolfe; Carmen Rio; Robin Doss; Debbie Guiffre; Jody Wall; Mike Didawick; Fred Board; and Tim Anderson.

Good family members donating were: David Shuma; Wendy Martin-Shuma; John Good; Trina Estrada-Good; Clifton Scott Good; and Rick Sullivan.

Thank you to everyone that donated and volunteered for this lifesaving event.

Respectfully submitted ,
Tim Anderson
Blood Drive Coordinator



GUEST SPEAKERS



Pam Haefner, a licensed clinical social worker, spoke at our June 11th meeting about The Yellow School House, a nonprofit she founded. Her mission is to provide support to the parents of very young children. She provides educational resources and a community in order to help children and families thrive. She talked about how many new parents feel so alone, and The Yellow School House is a safe space for them to make connections with other new parents. Counseling, play time, sleep help, setting positive boundaries, and temper tantrum support are just a few of the services provided to new parents and children. A "Swing into Giving" benefit will be held on August 21st to support this fantastic organization. Thank you for making our community a better place for our families, Pam.



The Yellow School House
Board of Directors



Elizabeth Albert, the Managing Director of the Shenandoah University Summer Theater, talked at the June 18th meeting about the beginnings and future of the musical theater in our community. Industry professionals and talented students from across the country vie for a position at this phenomenal program. This year, they received over 8000 applications for 50 parts and more than 1000 applications for support roles. A total of 187 artists are working at the theater this summer, which includes actors, set designers, directors, high school interns, musicians, and more. They provide a "Behind the Scenes" opportunity where you can watch a rehearsal, get a backstage tour, and learn about the history of the show.

The three plays this summer include *Singin' in the Rain*, *Little Women*, and *Million Dollar Quartet*. There will be a total of 42 performances that more than 20,000 people will attend. They also offer a "relaxed performance" for children and people with sensory difficulties. This performance is at a reduced price and there is no expectation of silence. Elizabeth stated this is a favorite performance for the SU artists. There are not many tickets left, so go on-line and get tickets as soon as possible.



We are very fortunate to have the SU theater program as a part of our community!



GUEST SPEAKERS



On June 25th, Christopher Clymer Kurtz, the Director of Development for the Scholars Latino Initiative (SLI), and board member Dr. Bryan Pearce-Gonzales spoke at our June 25th lunch meeting about an underrepresented population of students on college campuses.

The SLI mission is to support Latino high school students with academics, leadership development, scholarships, and mentorships. While still in high school, scholars are supported in pursuing dual enrollment, tuition assistance, scholarships, and technology grants. Many of these scholars are first-generation college students and need support to overcome financial, educational, and cultural barriers.

Everth Hernandez eloquently shared his experiences with SLI. By the time he graduated from Handley High, he had almost two years of college credit through dual enrollment with Laurel Ridge. He discussed how his dreams, aspirations, and goals became reality due to the support of SLI. He is grateful for the support of SLI and Kiwanis, which led him to want to give back to the Winchester community. This desire led him to choose nursing as his college major. He just graduated with a nursing degree and will be working at Valley Health in the ICU unit. Everth's story was very inspirational.



FASCINATING ROCK TOTEM



While on an Alaskan cruise, Kiwanian Clay Perry came across a rock totem while driving from British Columbia to Skagway, Alaska. After taking a picture of the rock totem, he zoomed in on the picture and realized that it was a Kiwanis International totem. There are about 12 Kiwanis clubs represented by plaques/rocks on the totem. Some are from Canada and others from the USA. Thank you for sharing this, Clay.





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make a "big splash." I agree with this. However, the board needs suggestions on worthy organizations. Please provide names to Brenda or me so the board can begin thinking about this. Of course, our "splash" is based on money available and other requests.

Remember, our family picnic is Wednesday, August 13th in Jim Barnett Park at Kiwanis Shelter #2. This shelter was chosen due to access to restrooms. Jordan Springs Market will be providing the barbecue feast. Robann and the social committee are planning games and other activities. I always look forward to this as it's casual and easier to visit with members and guests.

Our new sound system has arrived and Rick Ours is checking it out. Hopefully, it will be fully connected soon and work better than our current system, especially when the train passes by the Moose Lodge.

Enjoy your summer and the humidity. When people complain about the humidity, I tell them I've never had to shovel humidity.

-Mike



Board Members: 2023-2025

Jim Coots
John Hess
Robann Riggleman
Lennie Wolfe

Board Members: 2024-2026

Doug Green
Nancy Huth
Rick Ours
Ryan Taylor

Officers

President—Mike Didawick
President-Elect—Susan Corrigan
Secretary—Brenda Dodd
Treasurer—Dennis Grubbs
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Kiwanis Club of Winchester, VA

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Susan Corrigan, Kourier Editor: editor@winvakiw.org

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

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



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