



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke announces its
STAR OF THE YEAR
is SUSAN WILLIAMS**

**The iconic Roanoke Star atop Mill Mountain will be
temporarily renamed for Susan Williams
The ceremony will take place on
Tuesday, August 5 at 10:00 am
at the Mill Mountain Star**

For the fifth year in a row, the **Kiwanis Club of Roanoke** is temporarily renaming Roanoke's iconic star atop Mill Mountain. This year's honoree is, **Susan Williams**.

The ceremony will include remarks by Jeanne Bollendorf (President, Roanoke Kiwanis); Mayor Dr. Joe Cobb; and Ron Boyd (President, Local Office on Aging). A plaque honoring Susan Williams will be unveiled on Tuesday, August 5, immediately following the remarks.

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, the leading civic organization in the Roanoke Valley and the 17th largest Kiwanis Club in the world, has worked with the City of Roanoke to temporarily rename the neon star that overlooks the Roanoke Valley since 2021. Kiwanis is very grateful to **Roanoke Gas Company**, who is sponsoring the 2025 dedication.

"This year, we are honored to partner with Roanoke Gas Company to celebrate the life and legacy of Susan Williams, whose life was tragically cut short in February. Susan embodied the ethos of Kiwanis in her values and principles, and we want to honor her legacy of lifting up everyone in the Roanoke community" said **Jeanne Bollendorf, President of the Roanoke club**. "May Susan's legacy inspire future generations to lead with passion and serve their community with unwavering dedication".

About the Star of the Year Auction: Each year, the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke conducts a temporary renaming of the Roanoke Star. The Star can be sponsored by a company or an individual. The funds raised go directly back into the community through the many Kiwanis Club programs for children, older adults, and the environment. The tradition began in 2021.

About Susan Williams: Susan was the Executive Director of the League of Older Americans (now known as the Local Office on Aging) for 32 years, where she spent her life in service to those less fortunate, the forgotten, and the underserved. Her dedication to supporting the vulnerable population shone through her passionate advocacy for Meals on Wheels. She championed efforts to ensure that homebound individuals received nutritious meals and also vital social connection.

About the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke



The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke is a community service organization in the Roanoke Valley of Virginia that has been serving the needs of youth, older adults, and the environment for more than 100 years. Our Club provides funds and sweat equity to over 25 charitable organizations, sponsors Key Clubs at Roanoke City & County high schools, Builders Clubs at area middle schools, K-Kids at area elementary schools, and an AKtion Club for adults with special abilities. We have provided mileage markers and signs on the greenways and donated an all-inclusive playground to the Melrose-Orange neighborhood. At the Kiwanis Club of Roanoke, you can fulfill your desire to serve the community and build friendships that will last a lifetime. All are welcome to join or participate in programs.

The Kiwanis Club of Roanoke meets each Wednesday from 12:30-1:30PM.

For general information:

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