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Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

May 2026

Vol. 107 No. 30

"Year of Inspired Action"

In this Issue

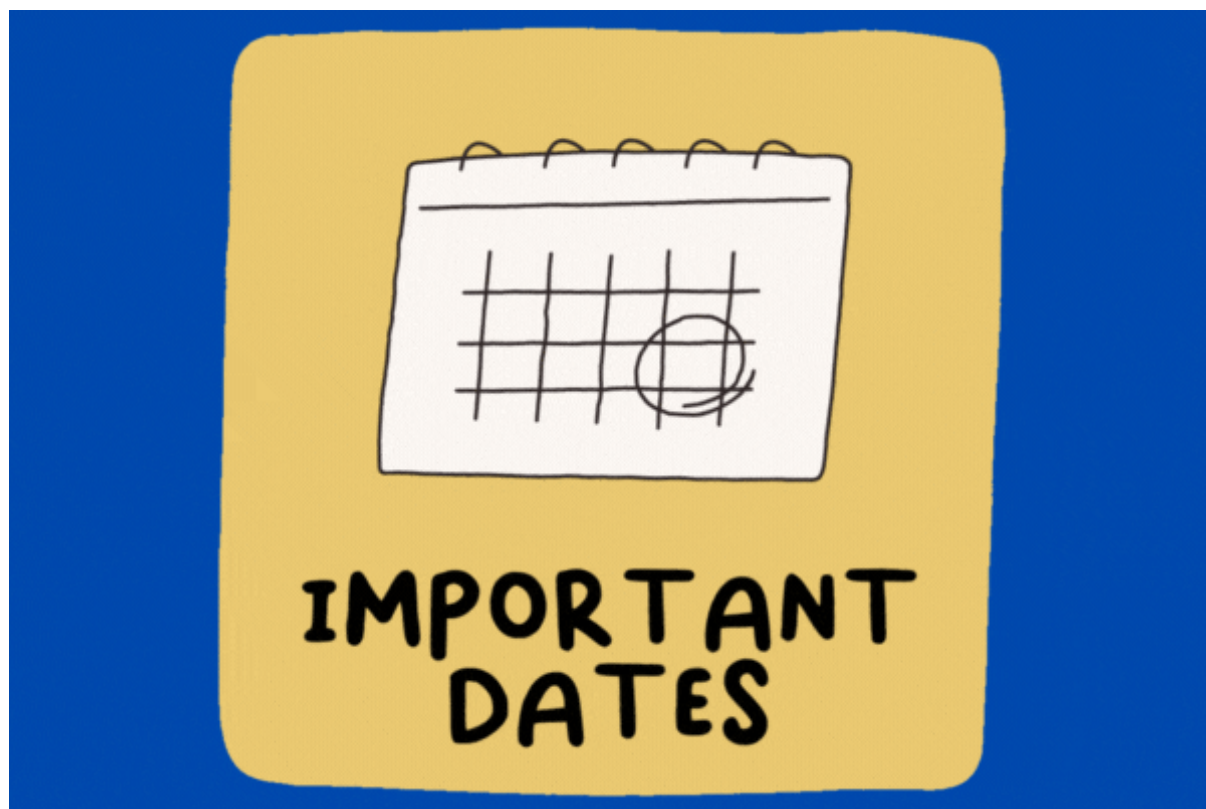
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

Feature Photos

Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



May 6 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dr. Mike Evans, Virginia Tech School of Agriculture

May 6 - (5:30 pm) Book Club

May 7 - (7 - 8:30 am) Prayer Breakfast

May 7 - (5:30 pm) Social at RidgeYaks

May 11 - (12:15 - 1:30 pm) Board Meeting

May 13 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dr. Amy White, Virginia Western Community College

May 16 - (9 am - noon) Kids' Fishing Day

May 20 - (12:30 - 1:30 pm) Club Meeting, High School Awards

May 27 NO MEETING

May 30 - Spring Fun Day

You can always stay up-to-date by checking out the calendar on our [website here](#).

May 6th - Club Meeting, Dr. Mike Evans, Virginia Tech School of Agriculture

Join us Wednesday for our weekly meeting in Charter Hall on the third floor of the City Market Building; networking and lunch begin at 12:00PM. We will listen to Dr. Mike Evans, Professor of Controlled Environment Agriculture at Virginia Tech, talk about what exactly Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) is, its history, its current state, as well as what the future for CEA appears to be in the US and Virginia.

Dr. Evans has been involved in CEA research and education for more than 30 years. He began his career in agriculture working on farms and at a local retail nursery/garden center in Pittsylvania County. After earning his Ph.D., he served on the faculties of the University of Arkansas, Iowa State University and University of Florida. In 2018, he returned to Virginia to serve as Director of the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech. He serves as Co-Director of the CEA Innovation Center operated by Virginia Tech and the Institute for Advance Learning and Research, and conducts research on crop production in controlled agriculture environments with an emphasis on the production of crops such as lettuce, herbs, micro-tomatoes, strawberries and watercress in various systems with an emphasis on efficient production, quality and flavor.



Highlights From Our Last Meeting

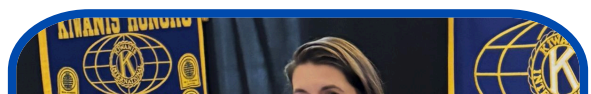
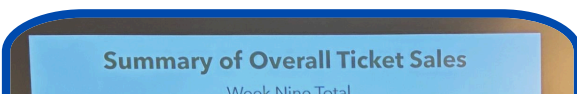
Most photos are taken by our resident photographer extraordinaire, Don Witt, who also adds the captions.

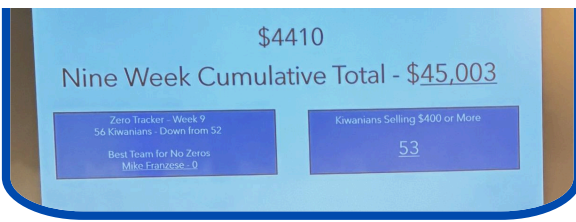


Kevin Matheson and Judy Clark serenade Kiwanians with great music



Tech team prepares for KPAD ticket sales report





Week 9 ticket sales report



Speaker, Lisa Archer describes
Roanoke Foodshed Network



Kiwanis
CLUB OF ROANOKE

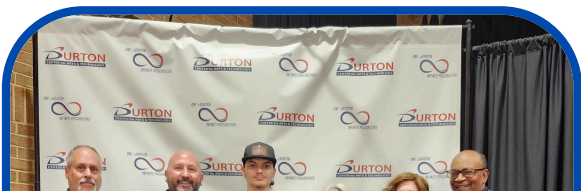
Happenings

Kiwanis CTE Awards

Last year, our club reinstated the annual Career & Technology Education (CTE) awards to students attending Burton Center for Arts & Technology (BCAT), Roanoke Technical Education Center (ROTEC), and Charles W. Day Technical Education Center (DAYTEC). For the program, the technical schools are awarded a total of \$7,000 and school administrators work with faculty to select graduating students to receive a financial award that is used to purchase the equipment they will need to enter the workforce after graduation. We are pleased to continue the program this year and last week our club was represented by President Joyce Montgomery, Past President Jeanne Bollendorf, and Board Member Bert Boyd at BCAT for their student awards assemblies. Seven seniors were awarded Kiwanis CTE Scholarships in the following programs: Automotive Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary Arts, and Masonry.

Joyce, Jeanne, and Bert will represent our club at the Roanoke City CTE Awards (ROTEC & DAYTEC) at their CTE Extravaganza on May 21 from 5-7pm at DAYTEC - this event is open to the public and includes tours and silent

auction. Kiwanians are welcome to attend.



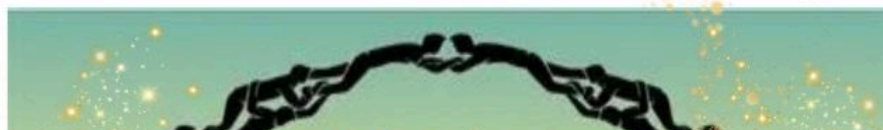


Book Club

Please save the date: next Book Club meeting is going to be held on May 6th at 5:30 pm at the Crystal Spring Grocery. See you then!

Cheri and Dave Hartman

Signups for the Prayer Breakfast are Closed





Join Kiwanis as we celebrate our annual

Interfaith Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 7, 2026 7:00am-8:30am \$10.00

Kazim Temple

628 West Campbell Avenue Roanoke VA
(free parking in back)

Join us in learning about the many faiths and cultures in the Roanoke Valley.
Facilitators will lead discussions at each table.

*Our Keynote Speaker for 2026 is Rev. Mayor Joe Cobb, Roanoke, Virginia.
Music provided by Judy Clark. A thank you to our sponsor, Howell's Motor Freight!*



For tickets contact any Kiwanian or call _____ and leave a message.



Social May 7th at the RidgeYaks

Our Club's Fun Committee has made arrangements to enjoy a baseball game at the Salem Memorial Ballpark to watch the RidgeYaks. Gates open at 5:30pm, we will gather to sing the pre-game National Anthem at 6:10pm.

We have a group of tickets reserved for advance purchase for us to sit together. Tickets are \$11 each. Should be a FUN night at the ballpark.

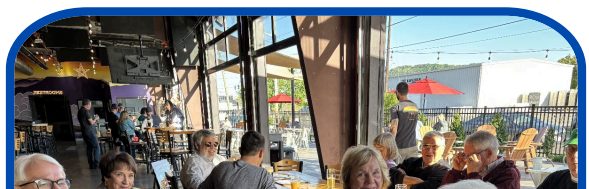
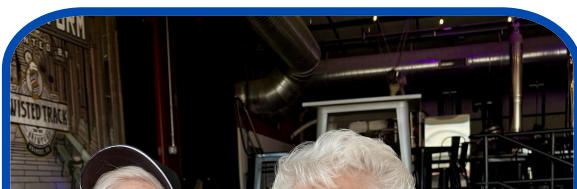
Wear a Kiwanian shirt or hat. This is an excellent opportunity to invite a guest to see some of what makes our Club special.

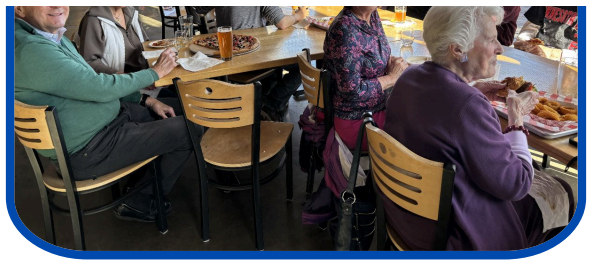


Spring FunDay May 30th!

Spring FunDay and Career/Community Resource Fair is scheduled for Saturday, May 30th and is open to the public from 11:00 to 3:00 pm. Kiwanians, we will need volunteers from 8:45 to 3:45 as we both prepare the site (at Melrose Plaza) and clean up after the activities. Questions? Please reach out to Cheri Hartman at chartman2423@gmail.com.

A Great Time Was Had at the Twisted Track Social





Corporate Partner Spotlight

Gentry Locke

The Gentry Locke Cup

The Gentry Locke Cup is a spirited new athletic competition among four schools in the NCAA Division III Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC). Each college or university represents one of the four markets served by Gentry Locke: Roanoke, Lynchburg, Richmond, and Norfolk. The participating schools are: Roanoke College (Roanoke), University of Lynchburg (Lynchburg), Randolph-Macon College (Richmond), and Virginia Wesleyan University (Norfolk).

During the 2025-2026 academic year, teams from each school will go head-to-head in a variety of sports. Points will be awarded based on results: two points for a win and one point for a tie. The school with the highest cumulative score at the end of the spring seasons will be awarded the Gentry Locke Cup. In addition to bragging rights, the winning school will also receive a scholarship contribution from Gentry Locke, reinforcing the firm's commitment to supporting higher education and the communities in which we serve.

For more information, and to follow along the inaugural season, please visit: gentrylocke.com/thegentrylockecup.



April Board of Directors Meeting summary

The April Kiwanis Club board meeting covered several key updates and discussions. The club approved new members Tom Fitzpatrick, as well as a change of membership for Lori Baker-Lloyd from individual zoom to corporate membership for her employer, National Bank. Milton Hardy's resignation was accepted with regret, though we hope he'll join the Kiwanis Club in his new home in Covington. The board reviewed the strategic plan progress, particularly focusing on membership goals and KPI tracking. A significant discussion centered on planning a membership open-house event. The board also evaluated the community service budget, discussing potential reallocations of unused funds. Board members have been asked to spearhead more hands-on volunteer service activities for the club and Steve English is currently organizing a project with Sleep in Heavenly Peace for October, where the club would commit 25-30 volunteers to build beds for children in need.

Other Upcoming Activities & Events:

~ Career & Technical Education Awards will be presented by Joyce Montgomery, Jeanne Bollendorf, and Bert Boyd at the Burton Center for the Arts.

~ The Scholarship Committee will finalize reviewing applications and conduct interviews.

~ President Joyce will review hosting an InterClub event and invite members from other local Kiwanis clubs to participate.

~ The board approved a \$150 sponsorship for the Salem Kiwanis golf tournament in memory of Lisa Bain.

~ Later in the summer our Club is planning to sponsor and help with the Commonwealth Day of Play (in partnership with Williamson Road Business Association) and Cuts with Cops back to school event (in partnership with Roanoke County Police).

BIG News for our Club and Beyond:

~ Mike McEvoy and the Nominating Committee are finalizing the 2026-2027 slate of officers and directors. Stay tuned for the election!

~ Our Club is sponsoring a new Kiwanis Club in South Boston! Cheri & David Hartman, Joyce & John Montgomery, Jeanne Bollendorf have been working with a taskforce from the Capital District and Kiwanis International to recruit new members, 10 new members have been confirmed so far. Several of us will be in South Boston on May 9 to host an informational meeting.

~ In August 2027 Roanoke will host the Kiwanis Capital District Convention! Don Witt has kindly agreed to chair the planning committee. If you'd like to help out, please let Don know.

Meeting Recordings

Note that Club meeting recordings can be found on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Club Meeting Zoom Info

Here is the [zoom link](#)

Meeting ID: 817 8581 5453

Passcode: 102906

Please email any potential Kiwanian happenings by 7 pm on Monday to Alex at abarge11@gmail.com.

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

Kiwanian May Birthdays

Coming next newsletter.



Officers:

Joyce Montgomery,
President

David Hartman, President-
Elect

Reif Kessler, Vice President

John Montgomery,
Secretary-Treasurer

Jeanne Bollendorf, Past
President

Directors:

Lee Osborne, President
Kiwanis Foundation of
Roanoke

Bill Bestpitch, 2026

Alex Barge, 2026

Preston Tyler, 2027

Bert Boyd, 2027

Chris Rouse, 2027

Jeff Vick, 2028

Steve English, 2028

Fred Jeter, 2028



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