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Kiwanis®
CLUB OF ROANOKE

July 2026
Vol. 107 No. 42

"Year of Inspired Action"

In this Issue

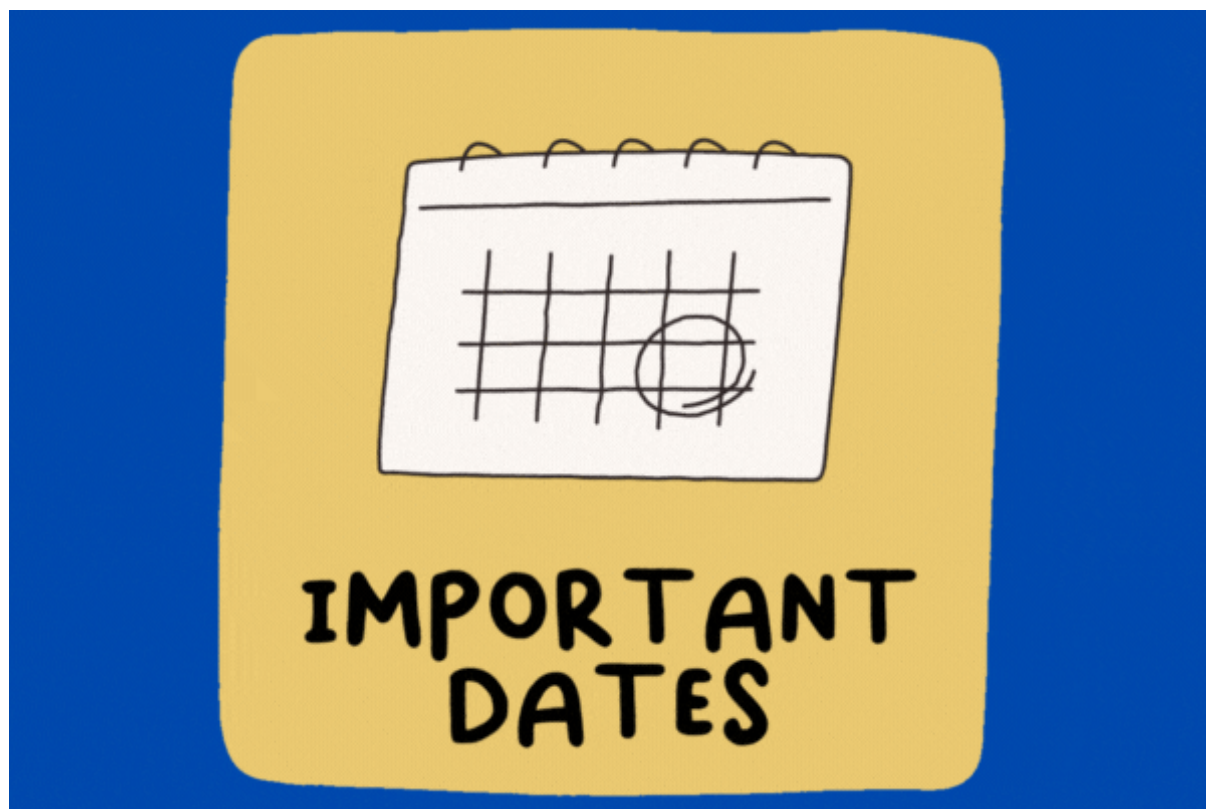
Important Dates

Speakers' Info

Feature Photos

Kiwanis Happenings

Kiwanian Birthdays



July 29 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Jason Kiser with Blue Cow Ice Cream

July 30 - (6 - 8 pm) Fun Social at Remini's

August 5 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dr. Lee Learman with VT Carilion School of Medicine

August 8 - (12:00-4:00) Commonwealth Day of Play

August 12 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Ron Bradbury with VT Carilion School of Medicine

August 13 - (10 - 11 am) Mill Mountain Star Dedication Ceremony

August 19 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Michelle Rockwell with VT Carilion School of Medicine

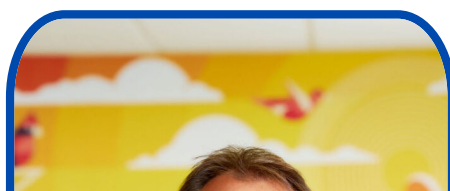
August 26 - (12:30-1:30 pm) Club Meeting, Dr. Denis Foretia with VT Carilion School of Medicine

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

July 29th - Club Meeting, Jason Kiser with Blue Cow Ice Cream

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 Jason Kiser, CEO of the Blue Cow Ice Cream company. Jason will discuss how quality ice cream and the customer experience are their formula for success. He will also share what it means to produce quality small batch ice cream and what the flavor development process is like.

Jason Kiser spent more than 20 years building a career in technology and commercial insurance before he and his wife, Carolyn, decided to launch Blue Cow Ice Cream. After completing an Ice Cream Technology Short Course at Penn State and the instant fanfare upon opening the first Blue Cow scoop shop in Roanoke, Jason's side-gig quickly became much more. As CEO, Jason has overseen the company's growth from a single Roanoke shop to six scoop shops around Virginia with more on the way.





Highlights From the Last Club Meeting

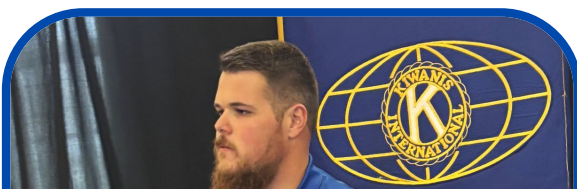
Most photos are taken by our resident photographer extraordinaire, Don Witt, who also adds the captions.

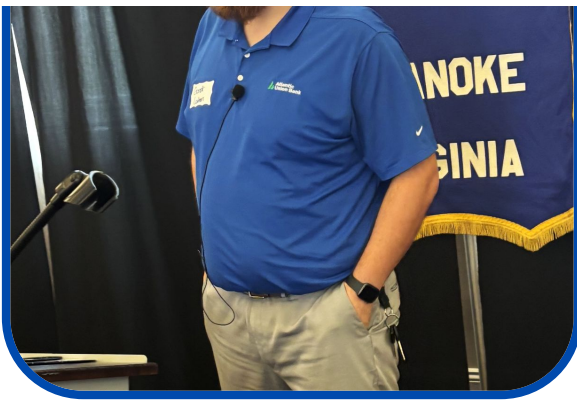


Eric Sichau presents Leadership Roanoke Valley (LRV) program

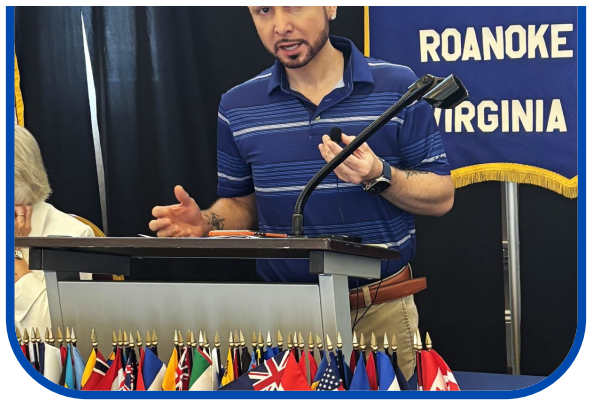


Ryan McDonald explains the "scrappy mindset" for small business development





Garrett Louthen discusses the tourism component of the LRV program



James Kittinger presents LRV's study of technology



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Happenings

Nature Park Update

100 new plants are in the soil! A bluebird house is installed. To date 7 fledglings have taken flight! Bees and butterflies are showing up! **YOU ARE NEEDED!**

Our first garden brigadiers have rolled up their sleeves and rolled out the garden hose to nurture nature at the Wildflower Garden. Thank you to Don Witt and Joyce Waugh and yours truly for keeping the wildflowers from succumbing to the drought. Please let me know if I can guide you through a mentoring session to help out for one week this summer. We still have no sign ups yet for the following weeks:

July 27th to help Sarah Ross through August 3rd

August 10th -- August 16th

August 17th -- August 23rd

August 24th -- August 30th

August 31st -- September 6th

Sept. 7th -- Sept 13th

Thanks to those of you who signed up as follows:

July 13th: John Pendleton

July 20th: Jason Poff and Kelsie

August 3rd: Tom Fitzpatrick

Thanks much!!! Please email me which week works for you and I will be sure to find a time we can meet at the Nature Park to provide an intro to the "ropes." or rather the hoses...

Good day to be a Kiwanian!

Cheri

Cheri W. Hartman

Pop Up at Remini's Fud Social

Socialize at the Remini's on Brambleton Avenue on July 30 from 6-8pm; we will have a private room. No cost is involved beyond what you order and pay for individually. This will be a good time to enjoy each other's company. Brings your kids and family members. This will also be a good time to invite a non-Kiwanian so they can see the fun side of our Club.

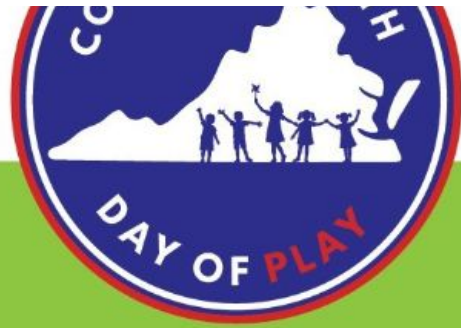




Call for volunteers!

Our Club is a co-sponsor for the upcoming Commonwealth Day of Play hosted by the Greater Williamson Road Business Association and Brookside Par 3 Golf Course. The event will be Saturday, August 8 from 12-4pm. We need volunteers to help set up a table and tent, man the table to give out information and toys, and break down the tent at the end of the day. Volunteers do not need to commit to a full day. Please email/call/text Jeanne Bollendorf at jeannekiwanis@gmail.com 757.773.3312 to sign up.





AUGUST 8

12PM - 4PM | FREE EVENT

Includes golf, activities,
food, ice cream, & giveaways



Brookside Par 3 Golf Course
6303 Williamson Road, Hollins, VA



Get outside and swap
screen time for fun time
for families of *all* ages!



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No RSVP
Required.

For more information contact: Val Brown, Executive Director of GWRABA,
valerie@williamsonroad.org | (540) 362-3293

Book Club

We meet next on Wednesday, August 12th at 5:30 at the Crystal Spring

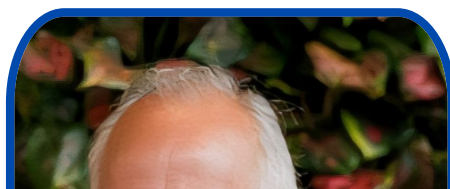
Grocery Store -- hope you can join us. Share your favorite recent read...

Cheri on behalf of David Hartman



Hetzal Hartley New Member Highlight

I am a native of Normal Illinois. I finished Emergency Medicine residency at Wake Forest and practiced in North Carolina for a decade. I moved to Roanoke over 30 years ago and recently retired from Carilion. I am married to Theresa, we have 3 grown kids, and 3 grandchildren.





Ducky Derby

Our annual Kiwanis Capital District Ducky Derby is underway. This fundraiser has been ongoing for many years and has raised nearly 1 million dollars to support 11 pediatric hospitals around the district. Among these is our own Carilion Children's which makes care available locally not only for premature infants in a state-of-the-art facility, but also for youngsters suffering from both acute and chronic illnesses, certain malignancies and with significant traumatic injuries. It is of enormous benefit for the entirety of Southwest Virginia.

Please help by buying some raffle tickets. (There are many prizes, but the first prize is \$750 cash.) Participation is easy. Type "Capital District Ducky Derby" on your search bar – you can do this immediately after reading this message. Click on "Buy Tickets Here", then proceed to "Purchase". Next click "Buy Entries", select a quantity of tickets to purchase and proceed from there with your information. Along the way be sure to click on "Select Club" and look for Roanoke. We should be the district's leaders in this endeavor. After all, we are one of the largest clubs and certainly among the very best.

As an alternative, you can just give money or a check to Reif Kessler (or send to him at 6524 Fairway View Trail, Roanoke, VA 24018) and he will push the buttons on the computer for you.

Quack – Quack. Thanks for your consideration and double thanks if you elect to buy some tickets.

July 13th Board Briefs

Ken Briggs visited Alex Bowman at Brandon Oaks recently. The lavalier mic worked very well at our last regular meeting, so we will continue to use it. The trustee position for the Kiwanis Capital District Southwest Region is vacant and can be filled only by a past Lieutenant Governor. Regional borders may be realigned if no one can be found to serve this role. Reif Kessler reported that our Club remains in the top spot for sales of Ducky Derby tickets.

Jeff Vick commended everyone who volunteered to help RAM House move everything out of their former building. Joyce Montgomery, David Harman, and Jeanne Bollendorf will be our voting delegates at the upcoming DCON. Bill Bestpitch presented the Strategic Plan Status Report for the three quarters ending June 30 and will be happy to share a copy with anyone who requests it. Bert Boyd reviewed preliminary plans for a project to increase tree canopy in areas of Roanoke identified as heat islands.

David Hartman noted that the Board will have a retreat on Sep 14 to plan for the new Kiwanis year, which begins on Oct 1. The installation of officers is scheduled for Sep 30. Jeanne Bollendorf updated the Board on our Club's contract with Power Up Online Promotions. They will update our website, initiate a blog, and manage our social media. Fred Jeter reported on plans for a membership open house in October, exact date still to be determined. Jeanne Bollendorf mentioned the Commonwealth Day of Play on Aug 8 at Brookside, organized by the Williamson Road Area Business Association. She also informed the Board that the new Kiwanis Club of Halifax appears to be off to a great start.

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

Newsletters Additions

Please email anything that you would like included in the next newsletter by Monday at 7 pm to abarge11@gmail.com.

Please consider sharing this email with a friend!

 **Forward**

Kiwanian July Birthdays

- * July 4 -- Preston Tyler
- * July 7 -- Sam Lionberger, Jr.
- * July 9 -- Tom Fitzpatrick
- * July 13 -- David Farnum
- * July 19 -- Ken Mowbray
- * July 21 -- Taylor Medley
- * July 23 -- Lori Baker-Lloyd
- * July 24 -- Ollie Howie
- * July 29 -- Reggie Harris



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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

Steve McGraw, 2026

Preston Tyler, 2027

Bert Boyd, 2027

Chris Rouse, 2027

Jeff Vick, 2028

Steve English, 2028

Fred Jeter, 2028



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