



KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA
JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST

#KIDSNEEDKIWANIS

WELCOME TO
THE GRAPEVINE

President's Message



Kiwaniis
CANANDAIGUA

Dear Fellow Kiwanis Members

The Grapevine Newsletter is back after a brief hiatus! I would like to thank Cyndi Fordham and Gabe Cinquegrana for their effort and hard work in making this possible. Going forward, the Grapevine will be published on a quarterly basis.

The Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua has had an exciting, busy and impactful Spring. Our members (and their families and friends!) have been serving the community with dedication, spirit, and heart. On March 8th, we hosted our 11th Annual Chef & Sip Challenge Fundraiser at Hotel Canandaigua. This event brought together culinary and beverage talent and community generosity, raising critical funds to support our programs and initiatives. Kudos to Chair Gabe Cinquegrana and his wonderful committee for a successful event. We followed up that success by braving the cold with our fellow Kiwanians from the Finger Lakes Division for the Polar Plunge at Kershaw Park to benefit Special Olympics New York—a chilly but inspiring day of service and solidarity. I would like to give a special thanks to Terri Silverman for getting us involved. I will admit that I did not go in the water all the way, but it was not as bad as you would think! Our participation counted towards this year's Governor's project, and we are looking forward to participating again next year

In April, our annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Canandaigua Primary Elementary School, held on April 12th, brought smiles to many young faces despite the fog and rain, with over 9,000 plastic eggs hidden and a special accessible hunt area to ensure children of all abilities could join the fun. Chairs Shiela Greene and Elizabeth Malanga and their hardworking committee did a wonderful job, and have

(message continued on the next page)

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already strategized for next year! Later that month, on April 30th, our members rolled up their sleeves under the guidance of Chair Lou Loy for our Adopt-A-Highway Cleanup, collecting 15 thirty-gallon bags of debris along Route 21 North to help keep our community clean and beautiful.

We also came together in reflection and unity for the National Day of Prayer Breakfast on May 1st at the American Legion—always a meaningful tradition. This event would not have been possible without the assistance of Matt Meyers and Jim Hough, as well as several Kiwanis members that helped with cleanup. Leftover food was donated to the Canandaigua Salvation Army.

This spring, we were thrilled to welcome two new members, Ellie Smith and Adam Widera, who I am confident will bring energy and fresh ideas to our club. We also hosted a vibrant Spring Mixer and Membership Drive on April 15th at Acquilano Wine Cellars, where we connected with several potential new members, shared information about our club and its mission, and celebrated our shared commitment to service.

Our outreach continued at the Finger Lakes Community College's Pay It Forward Festival on April 28th, where we had the opportunity to engage students and staff about the many ways to get involved with our projects and volunteer work.

On May 2nd, we were honored to present a \$15,000 donation to Thompson Health's Clark Meadows Memory Care Project in memory of our long-time member R. Stewart Morse. This donation was made possible by his generous bequest to our club and stands as a lasting legacy of his dedication to serving others.

Looking ahead, we will again be participating in the 4th of July Parade, which will be here before we know it! We are also hard at work preparing for our Annual Chipping in For Kids Golf Tournament, taking place July 21st at Ravenwood Golf Club in Victor. We hope to see many of you out on the green—whether golfing, volunteering or just coming for dinner!

Thank you all for your continued dedication, support and service. Together, we are making a lasting difference in our community.

I hope to see you at an upcoming meeting or event! Please remember, our lunch meetings are accessible on Microsoft Teams and the link is in our weekly email reminder.

Yours in Service,

Daryn
President, Kiwanis Club of Canandaigua

[KIWANIS WEBSITE](#)



KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA

Welcome New Members!

We are thrilled to welcome Adam Widera to Kiwanis as our newest member! Adam is the Automated Systems & Technical Services Librarian at Finger Lakes Community College. Inducting Adam was his sponsor Gabe Cinquegrana. Welcome Adam!



We are also happy to welcome Ellie Smith as a new member as well. Ellie is a U.S. Navy Veteran and has already volunteered at a number of our service projects. Thank you for your service Ellie to Kiwanis, and to our Country.



Congratulations!

After the mid-year Kiwanis District Conference in February in Binghamton, Past Governor Lucien Giancursio acknowledged our Canandaigua club with a number of awards for the 2023-2024 year.

This year's awards included:

- Distinguished Club Award for our 2023-2024 service year under the leadership of President Kim Sandic.
- A Distinguished Member Award went to Gabe Cinquegrana for his service during the 2023-2024 Kiwanis year when he was Secretary.
- Other awards included:
 - Fulfillment of the Governor's Project and 1st Family Project
 - Round Robin award for completion of all Interclubs
 - Youth Services and Single Service Awards (the Single Service Award was for the Discover Canandaigua Project in September, which was also forwarded to Kiwanis International for International submission.)



Women of Distinction 2025 Nominees



**Kristine Beniamino
Scherer**
*Women Helping
Women*



**Amy Jo
Bugenhagen**
*Women Helping
Women*



Denise Chaapel
*Entrepreneurial
Achievement*



Sara Chappell
*Volunteer
Service*



Danielle Clement
*Women Helping
Women*



Sheila Greene
*Volunteer
Service*



Julie Haers
*Entrepreneurial
Achievement*



Kathy Hoyt
*Professional
Achievement*



Samantha Mandrino
*Entrepreneurial
Achievement*



Karen Parkhurst
*Volunteer
Service*



Malina Payne
*Entrepreneurial
Achievement*



Jackie Preston
*Volunteer
Service*



Allison Whiting
*Professional
Achievement*



Rachel Willis
*Professional
Achievement*



Barb Years
*Volunteer
Service*



Jenn Yerden
*Entrepreneurial
Achievement*

Congratulations to Kiwanian Sheila Greene for being named one of Professional Women of the Finger Lakes's Women of Distinction 2025 nominees! Sheila was nominated in the category of Volunteer Service. We are proud of you, Sheila!

KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA

June Birthdays



Durham, Stephanie	June 12
Ashcroft, Corey	June 17
Cooney, Pat	June 20
Greene, Sheila	June 22
Fuge, Bill	June 23
Bolton, Andrew	June 23
Popelka, Sandro	June 27
Cinquegrana, Gabe	June 30

July Birthdays

Polimeni, Rocky	July 2
Piorkowski, Paul	July 3
Ficarro, Elizabeth	July 7
Madresehee, Leila	July 7
Antonelli, Gus	July 10
Widera, Adam	July 10
Berner, JD	July 10
Kelley, Jen	July 11
Schuppenhauer, John	July 18
Sandic, Kim	July 19
Carello, Jenn	July 20
Gravino, Meghan	July 24
Herman, Gail	July 26
Snyder, Kim	July 30

August Birthdays

Bagley, Kim	August 7
Loy, Daryn	August 20
Hough, Jim	August 28
Brule, Deb	August 28
Ritts, Jim	August 31

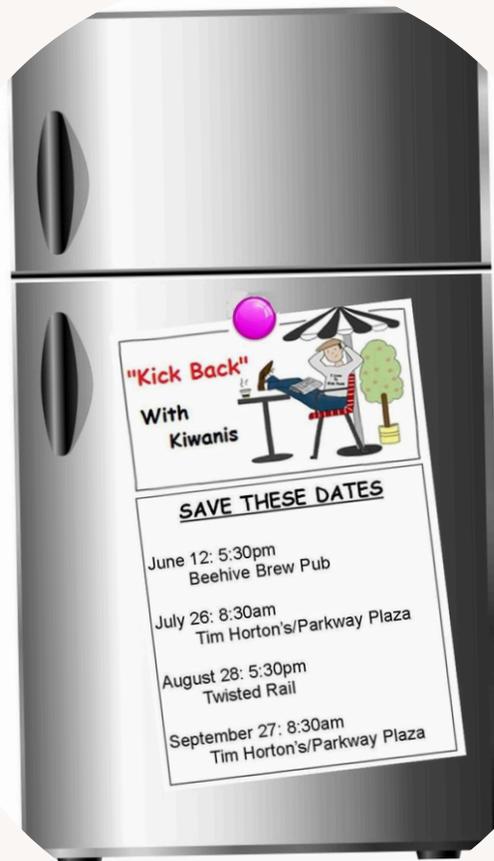
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Kick Back With Kiwanis

On June 12th we will be hosting the first in a series of "Kick Back With Kiwanis" events. It will be from 5:30pm to 8:00pm at the Beehive Brew Pub on Pleasant Street. Just as it is titled, this event will be an opportunity for members (guests are welcome), to spend a relaxing evening with no agenda and no format, other than to enjoy each other's company and get to know each other better. We hope you will join us for this gathering. Check details at <https://canandaiguakiwanis.org/event/kick-back-with-kiwanis/>

Other dates and locations for "Kicking Back" will include:

- July 26th at Tim Horton's-Parkway Plaza from 8:30-10:30am
- August 28th at Twisted Rail from 5:30pm-8:00pm
- Sept. 27th at Tim Horton's-Parkway Plaza from 8:30-10:30am



Arts In The Garden

Kiwanis will again be supporting Historic Sonnenberg Gardens as we take part in their annual Arts In The Garden event. Join us on Saturday June 28th as we cook Hot Dogs and Burgers under the festival tent, and serve refreshments from 10-5. Two hour shift times are available. To help out, check it out at <https://canandaiguakiwanis.org/event/arts-at-the-garden/>



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Chippin In for Kids Golf Tournament

July 21st at Ravenwood Golf Club in Victor.

This is one of our three largest fundraisers each year, and is vital to support our many service projects during the year. Whether you are interested in supporting this important fundraiser by volunteering to help, playing in the tournament, or even sponsoring or donating to it, check out the links below for more information. There is even a dinner only option. Details also on website <https://canandaiguakiwanis.org/events/chippin-in-for-kids-golf-tournament-2025/>



[VOLUNTEER](#)



[SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES](#)



July 4th Parade



Parade- Help to make our float and march in the parade. Watch for details upcoming in the Kiwanis Weekly Reminder and on our website.

We are meeting at 9am in the county parking lot across from the Sheriff's Department at 74 Ontario St. Canandaigua. We will have decorations and candy to distribute. The parade kicks off at 10am.

www.canandaiguakiwanis.org

KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA

2025-2026 Elections

Election of Officers for the new year were recently held. Elected President - Elizabeth Malanga, President Elect-Sheila Greene, Treasurer-Kim Bagley. Additionally, current President Daryn Loy was elected Immediate Past President, which also holds the title for next year of Kiwanis Foundation President, a position held this current year by Kim Sandic. Our new Officers will take their positions starting October 1, 2025. Congratulations all!

At the Division level, Canandaigua Past President and current Lt. Governor for the Finger Lakes Division, Pam Metting, was re-elected to a second term as Lt. Governor for the 25-26 year. Congrats Pam!



KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA ACTIONS & DECISIONS FROM THE FOUNDATION

The Kiwanis of Canandaigua Foundation was originally established in 1986 to raise funds for scholarships, feeling that the scholarships could eventually be paid out of the interest from the Foundation investment. The Board of Directors of the club is the same as the Board of the Foundation. The Immediate Past president of the Club acts as President of the Foundation. All other Officers and Board members of the Club serve in the same capacity in the same capacity on the Foundation. The Foundation also is responsible for the investing and use of endowments and grants.

The Scholarship Committee of the Foundation recently reviewed applications for Canandaigua students for \$8,000 in Scholarships to be awarded by Kiwanis. While the names of the recipients have not been made public yet, the Foundation is excited to be announcing these awards soon to the deserving students and their parents soon.

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KIWANIS CLUB OF CANANDAIGUA ACTIONS & DECISIONS FROM THE FOUNDATION (continued)

The Foundation Board over the last several months also authorized Foundation President Kim Sandic to utilize funds previously endowed to Kiwanis by past member R. Stewart Morse as memorials in his honor. Some of the funds were appropriated to purchase and place a bench on City Pier with an engraved plaque in his honor. We hope this will be done sometime this summer. The Foundation also approved the donation of \$15,000 of the endowment to the F.F. Thompson Foundation to be used for the development and construction of a 12-Bed Memory Care Center at Ferris Hills and Clark Meadows. (See picture and caption). When completed in 2026, the Activity/Dining Room in the new Center will bear his name.



Mural Project Grant

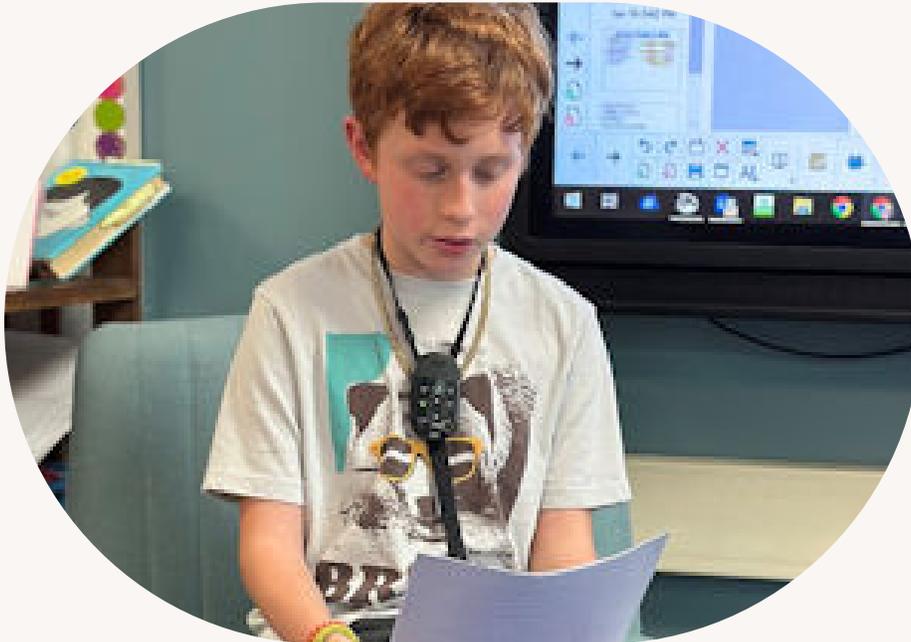
Our Board provided a grant to Paints and Rec Program to paint murals at the Bath House at Kershaw Park this year. Kiwanis also granted the group funds last year to do paintings on the outside of the Canandaigua Firehouse. This provides a great opportunity for children in this program to exhibit their talents and provide a great service.



Service Leadership Programs

- The Canandaigua Academy Key Club is the second largest Club in New York State and the Fourth Largest Club in Key Club International- world -wide. This is the 100th birthday of Key Club, with our club chartered in 1960. The Club has 59 student members, led by Faculty Advisor Karen Brown. There will be a celebration and reception in July to celebrate our years of Canandaigua Academy's Key Club service and to recognize our Faculty advisors, past student leaders and our community that welcomes our youth in service. Key Club was also busy for the Wood Library Golf Fundraiser, helped with our Chef & Sip Fundraiser, assisted at Eastview Mall MMOD-face painting, helps regularly with Bingo, and participated in the Easter Egg Hunt. 14 Key Club members are graduation seniors. The club was recognized for their timely and complete reporting to Kiwanis International.
- Builders Club: Builders Club: Students made Easter Cards for Clark Meadows Assisted Living. The club helped to decorate crates that will be used in the Hunt Helper area of our Easter Egg hunt. Earlier in the month. They put together baskets for the hunt. They finished out their year with a pizza party and painting inspirational rocks for the Middle School Rock Garden.
- Aktion Club: Aktion Club sold baked goods at the Easter Egg Hunt and joined us for egg stuffing. They hosted their first pancake breakfast at Charlie Reidel's on April 26th, and are also hard at work preparing for their summer picnic at the Inclusion in Motion Playground.
- K-Kids: Finished writing Shamrock appreciation notes for teachers and staff, with K-Kids distributing the notes. Finalized the timeline for the K-Kids Book Drive: April 21 – May 13, 2025. Created posters to promote the K-Kids Book Drive, to run from April 21 through May 13, 2025. Collected board books will be donated to the Kiwanis Club for Climb Into Your Imagination bookshelves. Collected paperback and hardcover books will be added to the elementary school's free library bookshelves.





Circle K Short Story Contest

We are proud to announce that Mason Hall is the winner of Circle K's short story contest, themed "Family and Service." Mason was selected from among 23 participants across the state. To celebrate Mason's outstanding achievement:

- The K-Kids enjoyed a pizza party on May 27, 2025.
- Mason's essay will be featured in the next issue of The Empire State Kiwanian.
- Mason's Achievement Award Certificate from Circle K was presented by the school to him as a special surprise in front of Mason, his classmates, and his parents.
- Following the school presentation, Mason, his parents, and our advisors, Meaghan Smith and Amanda Harris, will be invited to attend a Kiwanis dinner meeting for formal recognition of Mason's accomplishment. [READ THE DISTRICT STORY HERE](#)

Civil War Encampment

War Days- Our Kiwanis Club sponsored 70+ students from Marcus Whitman Central School to attend the Civil War Encampment at Sonnenberg Gardens on May 9 and 10.



Camp Transportation

The Board approved funding from our Community Service Committee to the Canandaigua Salvation Army to fund transportation to the Lakefront this summer in support of the Phoenix after school and the Day Camp Programs.

Pay It Forward Festival



Members of our club hosted an information table at the FLCC Campus on April 28th as part of the Schools' Pay It Forward Festival. The event was designed to expose students, faculty, and staff, to many of the not-for-profit and service organizations in the Community, and their continual need for volunteers and donations to "Pay It Forward". There were a number of students who indicated an interest in Kiwanis, and Kiwanis was able to introduce Circle K to the College.

Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Egg Hunt- On April 12th the Club conducted it's annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Canandaigua Elemntary School. Over 9,500 filled Easter Eggs were distributed, as well as several dozen gift baskets and Bicycles. Great job by the Easter Egg Hunt Committee, our many volunteers, and donors throughout the Community.



Membership Mixer

Our Spring Mixer for members and guests was held by the Membership Committee on April 15. The event designed to provide information to prospective members, was held at Acquilano Wine Cellars in Canandaigua, with 5 guests attending and almost 20 members.

Chef & Sip Challenge

We had 15 Chefs and Beverage providers, over 80 silent auction baskets, and a drawing for 7 nights in the Bahamas. The event netted our Club over \$12,100, which will be used in our Project fund to cover the costs of our many service projects such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas at the Salvation Army, Halloween Downtown and at Onanda Park, and many other projects. We had a great turnout from the Community, as well as members of the club who volunteered. Another success for the Chef & Sip Challenge Committee.



Freezin for a Reason

Freezin for a Reason Polar Plunge- Several members of our Canandaigua Club joined the Finger Lakes Division in the Annual Polar Plunge at Kershaw Park on March 15th to raise money for New York Special Olympics.



Miracle Mile Donations

Canandaigua Members also assisted the Finger Lakes Division at Eastview Mall on March 29 to raise funds for the Golisano Children's Hospital as part of the NYS District First Lady Project. Over \$1,500.00 was raised

Senior Bingo

Chair, Phil Almond and other members continue to support our monthly Senior Bingo event at the 80 Parish St. Senior facility the first Thursday evening of each month. Thanks to all. By popular demand, Phil is also hosting Bingo once a month at Wilcox Lane Apartments. The more than 20 residents a month at Wolcox Lane are enjoying this service project.

Kiwanis Kids Carnival

We had a BLAST at this year's Kiwanis Kids Carnival! A HUGE thank you to the Sands Family YMCA for being so gracious with their facility -- we can't do this without their support and help! And thank you to all the families who came out for the fun!



Governor's Visit

Governor's Visit to the Division- On April 5th 9 Canandaigua Members attended a dinner at the RIT Convention Center to celebrate our New District Governor, Gordon Soderholm, who was visiting the area.



Adopt-A-Highway

Rounding out a busy April was the semi-annual meeting of members to clean up the highway area on Route 21 South. Over 10 members assisted and were treated to pizza for their efforts.



National Day of Prayer

The annual National Day of Prayer breakfast was held at the American Legion in Canandaigua on May 1st. The event was attended by a number of Kiwanis members, as well as Rotarians and members of the Community. We appreciate the support of so many who assisted and attended, on a Thursday morning at 7:00am. The speaker was Alison L. Martinez Finstad, MPA, CFRE and Founder and Principal of Benezet Advisors, LLC