



PORTAGE LAKES KIWANIS COMMUNICATOR

November 24, 2024



IMPORTANT SANTA DELIVERY DATES AND TIMES

- *DROPOFF LOCATIONS, COVENTRY FIRE DEPARTMENT AND NEW FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT WILL OPEN FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM DAILY AND WILL CLOSE AT 3:00 PM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND.
- *THE KIWANIS CIVIC CENTER WILL OPEN ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH FROM 12 NOON TO 6:00 PM DAILY AND WILL CLOSE AT 3:00 PM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22ND FOR GIFT DROP OFF.
- *LEAD CARS WILL COME TO THE CIVIC CENTER ON DECEMBER 23RD FROM 5:00 TO 7:00 PM TO HAVE LIGHTS AND SPEAKERS INSTALLED BY GENE COLE.
- *SLEIGHS WILL LEAVE THE CIVIC CENTER AT 5:00 PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE, TUESDAY DECEMBER 24TH. A MEAL WILL BE SERVED AT THE CIVIC CENTER BEGINNING AT 3:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE.
- *SANTA WILL ARRIVE AT CHASE BANK, 5638 MANCHESTER ROAD IN NEW FRANKLIN AT 5:45 PM FOR FAMILIES OUTSIDE THE DELIVERY AREA.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact the Santa Delivery chair, Connie Nagy at liberty644@aol.com

Wednesday's Child Holiday Project

Our club has taken on this project to help those in need this holiday season. We are gathering items to fill buckets for a nonprofit agency in New Franklin called Wednesday's Child. The buckets will be given to adults and children that are struggling in hopes of adding some happiness to their holidays. We are asking club members to pick up donations as you are out shopping. Our goal is to fill at least 15 buckets. We will need to turn in our donated buckets by December 10th so please bring in all donations to our December 4th meeting. At our meeting that night we will be decorating the buckets and filling them with all of the donations. Some ideas are: water bottles, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, notebooks, pens, highlighters, band aids, decks of cards, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, shampoo, conditioner, hand sanitizer, flashlights, combs, chap stick, stuffed animals, small toys, word search puzzle books, deodorant, crayons, markers, handheld games, granola bars, gum/mints, play dough. These are just suggestions, be creative! There is a inside the Civic Center to put your items in.

Blessings in a Backpack

We have done this project off and on for several years; Blessings in a Backpack. We will collect non perishable food items for our local school districts to help children that rely on school breakfast and lunches. The food will be sent home with children over weekends and holiday breaks to make sure they have something to eat; many families are struggling. Some suggestions would be single serving macaroni and cheese, fruit cups, crackers, peanut butter, or any food item with an easy pop top. When you are out shopping please consider adding a few items to your cart and dropping them off at the Civic Center. There are receptacles outside the Civic Center so you can drop your donation off any time or you can bring them in any Wednesday from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

Both of these projects are in direct line with the Kiwanis mission statement... Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.



GIRLS NIGHT IN HOLIDAY GATHERING

Thank you to all that attended our 5th annual Girls Night In Holiday Gathering. Thirty one of us got together for dinner, crafts, games, and an ornament exchange. There were a lot of laughs and a lot of fun had. I would like to thank Connie Nagy, Kelley Nagy, and Juanita Gehm for their help that night, as well as a thank you to all that helped clean up. Below are a few photos from Friday night. Team Purple won the Minute to Win It competition after winning the nail biting tie breaker!



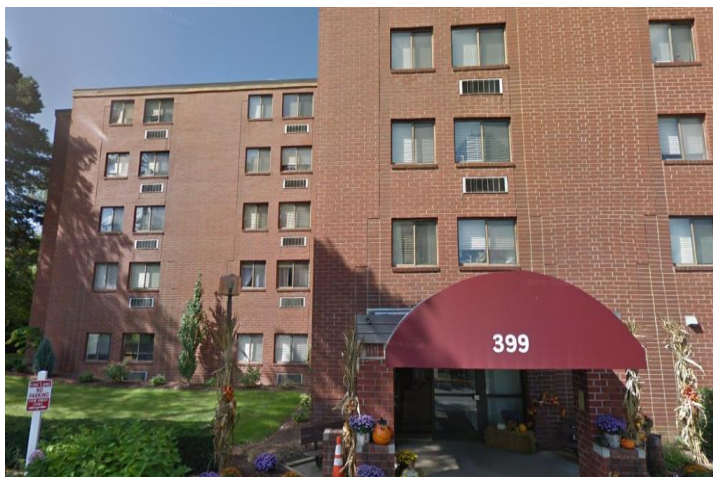


It's that time of the year again! The Acme Cash back Program will run from August 1st through February 2025. This is another super easy way to earn money for our club. Please save your receipt every time you shop at Acme. At the bottom of the receipt it will show how much community cash back you earned. Our club will get 5% of all the receipts we file at the end of the program. You can bring your receipts to any meeting and give them to Secretary Cathy. Thank you

Division 16 Governor's Dinner

The Division 16 Governor's Dinner was held on November 21st at the Wayne County Schools Career Center in Smithville. Governor Kelly Brown spoke about her Bee Project while Lt. Governor Sandy Elliott hosted the event. Dinner was prepared by the students in the Culinary Arts Program and it was delicious. Several Key Clubs were represented including our own Coventry High School. The Club President, Vice President, and Secretary were able to attend and spoke about their plans and upcoming events. Five of our club members attended as well, President Dale Dietz, Vice President Jon Vielhaber, Secretary Cathy Dietz, Treasurer Dana Roderick, and Board Member Al Grzeschik. Photo below.





Our annual Cookies with Kiwanis event will be held at the Kiwanis Tower on Wednesday, December 11th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. We'll have a meal with cookies and desserts. Santa will be there and we will have gifts for all Tower residents. A signup sheet will be passed around so we get a variety of foods. Please mark the date and plan to attend. This will be a fun event for all.

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Secretary Cathy will be updating the membership roster soon. If your address, phone number, or email address has changed please let me know so we have current information. You can shoot me an email at cathy.dietz61@gmail.com



*Light Up
the Clock Tower*

The Coventry Clock Tower holiday event will be held on Sunday, December 8th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. There will be family friendly activities, complimentary refreshments, and the lighting of the Clock Tower. Our club will have a booth and we will have one of our Santa's with our sleigh there for visits with the children. We'll pass out free hats and gloves for anyone that needs them along with candy canes. Promises to be a fun event, hope to see you there.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- >November 27, NO MEETING, Thanksgiving Holiday
- >December 4, Regular meeting & Board meeting
- >December 8, Coventry Christmas Tree Lighting
- >December 11, Cookies with Kiwanis at the Tower
- >December 13, New Franklin & Coventry Fire Departments
open to take in Santa Delivery gifts
- >December 17, District 16 Meeting, Westfield Center
- >December 24, Christmas Eve Santa Delivery
- >December 25, NO MEETING, **Merry Christmas**
- >January 1, NO MEETING, **Happy New Year!**

BIRTHDAYS:

- 11/01 Jeff Goodwin
- 11/14 Becky Shookman
- 11/15 John Hercules
- 11/20 Benjamin Pearson
- 11/20 Crystal Cianciola
- 11/23 Al Bollas
- 11/30 Debbie Doan

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

- Denise Goodwin - 10 years
- Jon Vielhaber - 2 years
- Lynda Farkas - 1 year

KIWANIS FAMILY NEWS: Please keep our members and friends in special thought and prayer.

- Vicki Kepnes
- Nancy Terjesen
- Stanley Vaughan
- Frank Smith

If you know of anyone that needs to be added to our family news/prayer chain, please let me know, cathy.dietz61@gmail.com



Wishing our Kiwanis family members a wonderfully blessed Thanksgiving.

ALL ABOUT PLK...Our club is currently meeting every Wednesday. You can join us at 6:30 pm for dinner, which is catered by Lukity's Restaurant, a full meal for just \$15.00, or you can attend any meeting which begins at 7:00 pm. We'd love to have you.

We meet at the Civic Center, located at 725 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, OH 44319. Telephone number (330) 644-8967.

Our website is: plkiwanis.org and please check out and like our Facebook page, under Portage Lakes Kiwanis.

KIWANIS MISSION STATEMENT - Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Published on the first and third week of the month, Cathy Dietz, Editor.