



“Building our community, one child at a time”

The Downtowner

Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown

June 1, 2022

LVCC Picnic!



The weather was perfect on May 12, 2022 for our 12th Annual LVCC Picnic at the beautiful Allentown Rose Garden Park. This annual signature project of our Kiwanis Club was suspended for two years due to the pandemic. It was wonderful that we could renew the event thanks to the hard work of sponsors **Keith and Jessica Reynolds**, and volunteers from our club and area Key Clubs. Once again we rented all three pavilions at the park. One was used for the children’s picnic lunch, another for Key Club members to hang out, and the third for arts & crafts. Things got a little nerve-wracking when the bathrooms were not opened by the Allentown Parks Department until 11 AM. But by then, everything was set up, and the children had all arrived from the three LVCC Centers.

The Reynolds family and friends, as well as several of our club members began setting up for the event by 8 AM. School by school, Key Club members from William Allen, Allentown Central Catholic, Parkland, Salisbury and Southern Lehigh Key Clubs began arriving. Keith provided them with an orientation and a tour of the six activity stations. After 9 AM, 163 children from the LVCC South Mountain, Walnut Street and Early Learning Center (ELC) locations began arriving. By 10:30 AM, the kids were on their way

under the escort of their instructors and Key Club volunteers. They enjoyed the parachute game, obstacle course, bubble-making station, t-ball, two science experiments, and the arts & crafts station where they painted little birdhouses. Meanwhile, several of our volunteers helped prepare lunch by firing up the grill, roasting hot dogs, and lining up the food station.

Around 11 AM, we enjoyed a visit by the LV Phantoms mascot **MeLVin**. He interacted with the Allen HS Canary and Salisbury HS Falcon mascots. Kids love the mascots! Shortly thereafter, we were honored by a visit from **Allentown Mayor Matt Tuerk**. Mayor Tuerk visited several of the activity stations and seemed to have a good time interacting with the children.



Science Experiment



Birdhouse Painting



Bubble Making



Hopping Around!



Parachute Fun



Mascot Pals!

When the children returned from fun and games, Key Club members helped serve them a picnic lunch of hot dogs (including meatless dogs), chips, fruit snacks, cookies and pouch drinks. The children enjoyed their lunches and socializing with our volunteers. After lunch, while waiting for their busses to arrive, the kids enjoyed seeing an Allentown Fire Department truck up close, and speaking to the fire fighters. It was a perfect ending to a perfect day!



Our Iron Chefs



Lunch Assembly Line



Mayor Tuerk & Tom



Kids Love Fire Trucks!

We would like to thank everyone from our club who made this event a huge success, including volunteers **Keith Reynolds, Joyce Crosby, Deb Lamb, Enos & Susan Martin, Deirdre Govan, Jeff Burnatowski, Young Chang, Terry Kennedy, Vic Mazziotti, and Tom Harp.** We are looking forward to an even bigger and better event next May!

Mother's Day Project



Terry Appleseed

On Friday, May 6, **Bob Ashcraft** visited the LVCC Early Learning Center, and **Terry Kennedy** visited the LVCC Walnut Street Center to help the children decorate flower pots and design cards to give to their moms on Mother's Day. This is a small service project that we have performed for many years. Bob donated the materials for the project. The kids really enjoyed making a special gift for their moms. Thanks, Bob and Terry!

June Service Project



Our club has signed up to participate in the United Way "Day of Caring" on Thursday, **June 23** by helping to renovate a community food pantry at the Allentown YMCA. So far, **Tom Harp** and **Enos Martin** have volunteered to help out with this project. We will meet at 9:00 AM at the Y and should be finished no later than 3:00 PM. If you would like to join us, contact President Tom. We could use the help!

A Glance Into Our Past

100 Years Ago – June 1922

A delegation of 33 Allentown Kiwanians and guests left Allentown on June 19th to attend the Kiwanis International Convention in Toronto, Canada, which was attended by 15,000 Kiwanians. The contingent included 19 Kiwanians and 14 wives. They left Allentown by train in a special Pullman car for Niagara Falls. After a tour of the Falls, they boarded a steamship bound for Toronto. The overall attendance at the convention filled all 91 area hotels. Some attendees had to sleep on boats and in their train coaches.

The Kiwanis baseball team played three games and won two of the three contests. They traveled to Lebanon and defeated the Lebanon Kiwanis team 16-7. They took their contest with the Allentown Police 13-10 at the Fairgrounds baseball diamond. At Hazleton, the Hazleton Kiwanis team took the measure of their Allentown counterparts 8-5.

75 Years Ago – June 1947

Jean Dulaney, who was serving as the club secretary, wrote the following poem which he published in the club newsletter and titled it “I Know Something Good About You”:

“Wouldn’t this old world be better if the folks we meet would say, I know something good about you and then just treat us that way! Wouldn’t it be fine and dandy if each hand-clasp warm and true carried with it this assurance, I know something good about you! Wouldn’t things here be more pleasant if the good that’s in us all were the only thing about us, that folks bothered to recall! Wouldn’t life be lots more happy, if we’d praise the good we see! For there’s such a lot of goodness in the worst of you and me. Wouldn’t it be nice to practice this fine way of thinking too! You know something good about me, I know something good about you!”

We should all practice this philosophy today!

50 Years Ago – June 1972

At the club’s annual Sons and Daughters meeting on June 22nd, which was held at the Lehigh Valley Club (now the home of the Community Music School), Captain Noah, skipper of the unsinkable Magical Ark, entertained the Kiwanis sons and daughters. Captain Noah sailed his Magical Ark each weekday from 7:30 AM to 9 AM. It was the highest rated daily children’s program in the US.

25 Years Ago – June 1997

Cathy Campbell, Carla Munsch, and Frank Szabo attended the Kiwanis International Convention held in Nashville from June 27- July 1. As the club’s representatives, they presented a check for \$50,000 to Kiwanis International in support of Kiwanis’s worldwide IDD (Iodine Deficiency Disorder) service project.

- ***Enos Martin***

Upcoming Meetings and Activities

MONTHLY MEETING – Thursday, June 9, 6:00 PM (Social Hour from 5-6 PM), Shanty on 19th. Speaker: Jodi Perry Petrozak, Branch Executive Director, Allentown YMCA.

SERVICE PROJECT – Thursday, June 23, 9 AM to 3 PM – United Way Day of Caring. Allentown YMCA – food pantry restoration.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – Thursday, June 29, 5 PM on Zoom.



June Birthdays



6 - Mark Hanichak
16 - Bill Hengeveld

Club Anniversaries

Todd Siegfried - 14 Years!
Vic Mazziotti - 7 Years
Jeff Burnatowski - 4 Years



- **Tom Harp, Editor**