



**“Building our community, one child at a time”**

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## **The Downtowner**

*Newsletter of the Kiwanis Club of Allentown*

**November 1, 2024**

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### **October 10 Meeting**

We had a nice turnout for our October 10 dinner meeting at the Shanty on 19<sup>th</sup>. The first order of business was the installation of our club’s officers and Board of Directors by Division 17/18 Lt. Governor **Janet Owen**. **Karen Baker** was installed as President, **Enos Martin** Vice President (and Chair of our Membership Committee), and **Peg Harp** as Secretary-Treasurer. Also installed were Directors **Bob Ashcraft**, **Young Chang**, **Deb Lamb**, **Deirdre Govan** and **Vic Mazzotti**. We would like to thank all of these members for volunteering to serve our club in a leadership role!





Next on the agenda was in the induction of two new members, **Katelyn Quinn** and her spouse **Timothy Jany**. Katelyn is a former Key Club member who is a sales representative for Air Products. Tim is originally from Northampton, Pa. and is an HR Business Partner for St. Luke's University Health Network. This young couple is a welcomed addition to our club's roster! Both have a lot of energy and a passion for service. They will contribute a lot to our club's plans for the future.



**Katelyn, Karen & Tim**

This was followed with a presentation by **Carol Anderson**, CEO of Bloom, a non-profit organization that works with women survivors of sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Bloom's headquarters are in Bethlehem, and they serve the greater Lehigh Valley. They operate five residential homes in the area to support women and provide them with hope to transition to a life of freedom. They also operate The Bloom Creative Studio in Bangor, which is a social enterprise featuring clients artwork. Another enterprise is My Sister's Closet in Bethlehem which is an upscale women's boutique that provides employment opportunities for their clients. There are 213 shelters in the U.S. for survivors of sex trafficking with just 2,100 beds for 300,000 victims. Bloom manages 21 of those beds for women in the Lehigh Valley. It is a program that serves a tremendous need in our country.



**Carol Andersen**

## Rose Sale



On October 26, Past-President **Tom Harp** was up before the crack of dawn, at 4 AM, to meet the delivery truck from Zieger's Florist. His garage served as a staging area for the Allentown, Allentown Northeast, and Emmaus Kiwanis Clubs. All of them helped assemble boxes and fill them with beautiful multi-colored roses. Our 2024 Rose Sale did not quite reach its goal of 60 dozen sold, but the 56 dozen sold netted the club \$542. It also benefitted the Pennsylvania Kiwanis Foundation. We would like to thank **Peg Harp** for serving as our Rose Sale Coordinator again this year, and to all of you who purchased roses. We hope that you enjoyed them!

## Holiday Hope Chests



It is that time of the year when our club supports the Holiday Hope Chests initiative by filling shoe boxes with small gift items for children in our local community. **Karen Baker** has registered our club with the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley, and pledged 27 boxes for donation by our members. Karen has emailed our membership with information about age groups, genders, and suggested gift items for those children. Please consider donating at least one Holiday Hope Chest for this worthwhile cause! Be sure to deliver them to Karen no later than December 5.

## Service Leadership Programs



The K-Kids Club at Ramos Elementary School is in the process of being organized. We expect a report next month from our club advisor **Vic Mazziotti**. We are still working on re-chartering the K-Kids Club at Washington Elementary School.

The Raub Middle School Builders Club participated in this year's Rose Sale and made approximately \$200 for their treasury. They plan to donate holiday candy wreaths to residents of the Phoebe Home again this year.

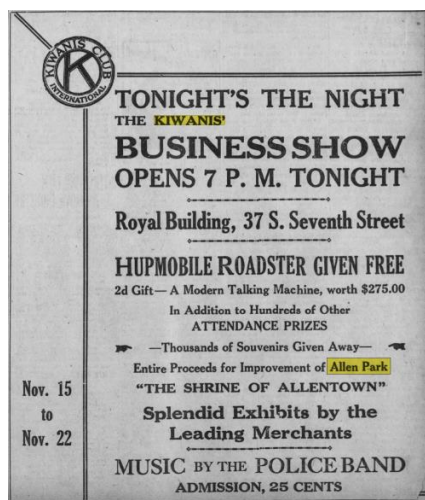
The Southern Lehigh HS Key Club recently treated seniors in their community to a dinner and tickets to a school play. The Allen HS Key Club will be helping out at our annual LVCC Christmas Party next month.

## A Glance Into Our Past

### 100 Years Ago – November 1924

The Kiwanis Business Show came into fruition as a fundraiser for the Allen Park beautification project undertaken by the Club. The Harrisburg Kiwanis Club, sponsors of their show, Irving E. Robinson and Joseph Hutchinson, described the results of their show in Harrisburg. In need of a major fund raiser to enable the club to support its commitment to underwrite the cost of the Allen Park project, they almost immediately approved the planning of a similar show in Allentown. At the club's September 22 board meeting, the club's Board of Directors approved the sponsorship of the beautification project for Allen Park. The ultimate cost of the project was \$21,000, equivalent to approximately \$370,000 today. The project was completed in May 1926.

Allen Park is located at the corner of E. Walnut and S. Fourth Street in Allentown and adjoining the Lehigh Valley Historical Society building. Trout Hall, built between 1768 and 1770, served as the summer home for James Allen, the third son of Allentown's founder William Allen. He apparently lived in Philadelphia where he served as a city councilman and later in the Pennsylvania Assembly. He also assumed the responsibility, from his father, to manage the city of Allentown. Since it was a 60-mile trip, he built Trout Hall as a residence during his time in Allentown. Trout Hall currently houses Revolutionary-era artifacts for viewing by the public. This site was also the original location of Muhlenberg College prior to the development of its current campus which opened around 1905.



The Kiwanis Business Show was held in the Royal Building located at 37-39-41 South 8th Street from November 15th through the 22nd. Over 32,000 people attended the show over the seven days. A total of 54 booths were open during the course of the event. The closing of the show was highlighted by the announcement of the winner of a Hupmobile

Roadster by John Hertzog of Allentown. Hupmobiles were built from 1909 through 1939 by the Hupp Motor Company.

The club hosted a second Kiwanis Business Show from November 13-20, 1926, to raise additional funds to fully cover the cost of the beautification project. This show was held in Allentown's Manhattan Auditorium located in east Allentown opposite Central Park, an amusement park which operated from 1893-1951. The location was on the south side of the current intersection of Hanover Avenue and W. Broad Street in the Rittersville section of Allentown.

- ***Enos Martin***

## **Upcoming Meetings and Activities**

**MONTHLY MEETING** – Thursday, November 14, 6:00 PM (Social Hour from 5-6 PM) at the Shanty on 19<sup>th</sup>. The guest speaker will be Jennifer Aponte, Principal of the Dual Language Immersion Academy.

**SERVICE PROJECT**– Holiday Hope Chests. Volunteers have your gift boxes ready and delivered to Karen Baker by December 5.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** – Thursday, November 21, 5 PM on Zoom.



### **November Birthdays**



- 9 - Cindy Ashcraft**
- 13 - Ricky Stringfellow**
- 14 - Kathryn Best**
- 16 - Deb Lamb**
- 19 - Tom Harp**

### **No November Anniversaries**



- ***Tom Harp, Editor***