

Kiwanis®

EYEOPENERS FORT COLLINS

Newsletter

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March 2024

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Another Great Program — During our February 1 meeting, several members of the Wellington Waverly Kiwanis Club presented a review of the projects they are doing to help their community. They are doing a great job.

Sweet Dreams in a Bag — On the afternoon of February 4, we had our 2nd Sunday meeting a week early and what a meeting it was. Kiwanis members and guests packed 45 packages of bedding for kids. The packages consisted of sheets, pillow cases, a pillow, a blanket, a toy, and a toothbrush so that the kids could sleep warm and comfortably. Following the project, we enjoyed a delicious lasagna dinner. The lasagna was prepared by Jackie Tomlinson, wife of **Jim O'Neill**. Other members brought salads, appetizers, desserts, and wine. We also had a number of guests participate and we hope that some or all of them will join the Club. A number of the packages were given to kids on February 7 at the Springfield Court apartment complex. We received a nice note from Kaitlin Hill, Resident Services Coordinator, thanking us for our service. Thanks to **Krista Taylor** for organizing this event.



***Krista Taylor** demonstrates the proper technique for preparing the Sweet Dreams in a Bag packages of bedding.*



A team of Kiwanians and guests assemble a Sweet Dreams in a Bag package



Bob Svagr** is initiated into our Club by **Larry Howell



After the project was completed, Kiwanis members and guests enjoyed a delicious lasagna dinner

Welcome New Member — Dr. Bob Svagr has been approved and registered as a new member of our Club. He was formally initiated during our February 8 meeting. **Bob**, a native of Prague, Czech Republic, recently moved from Utah to Colorado and is an orthopedic surgeon by profession.

Samaritan House — On February 12, **Steve Railsback** and **Dale Conant** helped serve dinner at the Samaritan House. They served dinner to around 60 people.

More Great Programs — We had some great programs during our February meetings. On February 8, **Dan Hemphill** invited Pam Dinkfelt of the Colorado Mission of Mercy to discuss the annual two day dental clinic she organizes that provides dental services to people who are unable to afford regular dental visits. Our Club has helped with this event for a number of years. On February 15, **Bill Thieman** invited former Fort Collins mayor, Ray Martinez, to present his work with Neighborhoods United, which attempts to unite diverse neighborhoods under a common goal. He also discussed his personal trials of growing up as an orphan. On February 22, **Carol Tunner** invited Hannah Norris of the Arboretum Coffee Shop in Fort Collins who spoke of the coffee shop's work in helping immigrants and on February 29. Club President **Gary Klesner** discussed the upcoming elections and the role of election judges.

March Program Schedule

March 7 — Nancy Weihagen — Ruby Kayser - CSU Women's Volleyball team

March 10 — 2nd Sunday meeting at home of **Gene Apuan**. Participants will assemble slime making kits and fill Easter eggs for Kids At Heart.

March 14 — Gene Apuan

March 21 — Larry Howell — Thad from Fort Collins Youth Baseball

March 28 — Frances Aubuchon



Boys and Girls Club: During the February 22 meeting, **Ryan Caldwell** presented a check for \$8,000 to Caitlin Carter of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Larimer County. The donation was from the Gingerbread House fund raiser.

Thanks to **Krista Taylor** and **Bob Hansen** for providing photos for this edition of the newsletter.

Upcoming Events

Samaritan House — March 11, 2024. **Sarah Wasson** and a friend have volunteered.

Rocky Mountain District Convention — April 12-14, 2024, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Club Officer Elections — May 2024.

MS Walk — May 11.

Timnath Safety Fair — May 18, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Timnath Community Park. Swimsuit Lesson books will be distributed.

Taste of Fort Collins — June 8-9, 2024.

Kiwanis International Convention — July 3-6, 2024, Denver, Colorado.

Colorado Mission of Mercy — September 27-28, 2024, Thornton, Colorado.

Closing Thought — To make dreams real, first you must have them.

