



Kiwanis®

GRAND RAPIDS

<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

June 2025

Dan Williams, President

Linda Paige, Secretary

Sarah Pastoor, Treasurer

Linda Paige, Editor

Future Programs/Events

July 8 Jeff Travis Historical Society of Michigan
July 8 Board Meeting
July 8 St. Alphonsus Supperhouse
July 15 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Students
July 22 Eric Drugotch Revive Environmental Technology—PFAS
July 29 Michael Schut Mackinac Center
July 29 St. Alphonsus Supperhouse

The club meets every
Tuesday from 11:30AM
to 12:30PM.

Shots on the River

5760 W River Dr NE,
Belmont, MI 49306

616-951-6071

Always remember—
#KidsNeedKiwanis

PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



Evren Erhan joined us to speak about [Rank MI Vote](#), “Ranked Choice Voting” and the initiative to get it on the ballot for 2026. Voters rank as many candidates as they want in order of preference. This voting method gives voters more freedom. Instead of picking just one candidate, a voter has the option to rank their candidates in order of preference. Ballots are counted in “instant runoff rounds” where contestants receiving the fewest top-choices are

eliminated and their supporters’ ballots are then counted toward the next choice indicated on each.

Members from the new Key Club Board attended the meeting. Maddy, the new President reviewed the projects from last year and what they plan to do for the next school year.



Club Contact Information
KiwanisGrandRapids@gmail.com

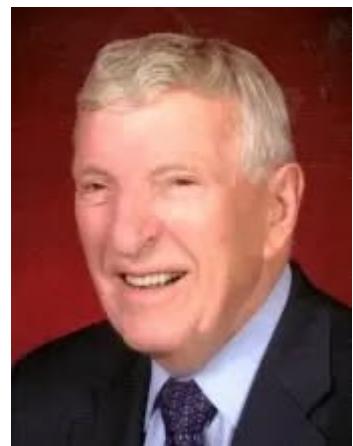
The primary purpose of this club is to improve the quality of life for children and families worldwide by adhering to the Objects of Kiwanis International. The objectives were approved in 1924 and through the decades, they have remained unchanged.

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual, rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop, by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive, and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide, through Kiwanis clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism, and goodwill.

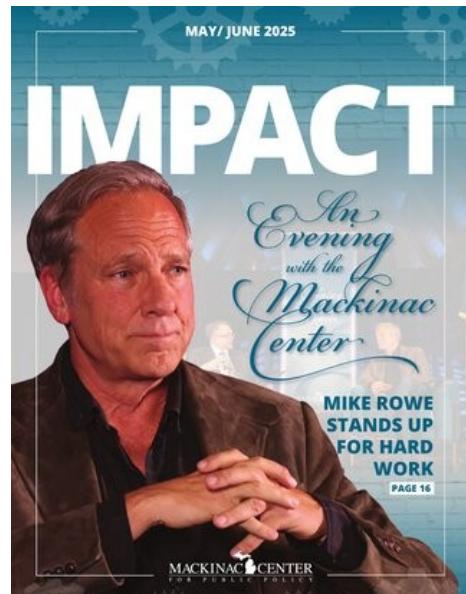
MORE MONTHLY PROGRAMS



Dr. James Smither with the GVSU Veterans History Project, <https://www.gvsu.edu/vethistory/>, spoke about the mission and highlighted one veteran. Don Jandernoa proudly served his country as Pilot and Commander of a B-24 Liberator Bomber. He flew 23 missions and he and his crew had to bail out of their plane in the 43 degree Adriatic Sea and was rescued by local fishermen.



Bruce Oosterhouse listened to Mike Rowe speak about how "hard work matters" and that all work is essential. There is a tremendous shortage of skilled labor in the US and it is a matter of National Security that we train and employ these young people. Not everyone needs and expensive college education and can be just as or even more successful without that financial obligation.



*Every day is a chance
to change the
WORLD.*

 **Kiwanis**

We are on the web: kiwanisgrandrapids.org
Facebook: [Kiwanis Grand Rapids North](https://www.facebook.com/Kiwanis-Grand-Rapids-North)
Twitter: [@kiwanisgr](https://twitter.com/kiwanisgr)

POPULAR MOVIES AND TV SHOWS THAT HAVE NAME-CHECKED KIWANIS AND KEY CLUB OVER THE YEARS.

Kiwanis International has been serving the children of the world for over a century — and in that time, it has permeated popular culture as well. In movies, TV and written fiction, the presence of a Kiwanis club succinctly tells the audience that the setting is a community that helps out its less fortunate members. Characters might say they are Kiwanians to indicate a dedication to service or a thriving social life. Or they might mention an affiliation with Key Club to indicate that they are high achievers involved in their schools and communities.

Part one of the series is in the [**February**](#) edition of the newsletter. **There are a total of 10 in the series.** Look for more in the coming months.

“Gilmore Girls” (2000-2007)

In season three, episode 21, we learn that high school senior Rory Gilmore (Alexis Bledel) has received a US\$250 scholarship from a Kiwanis club — possibly the Kiwanis Club of Hartford, Connecticut, U.S., which is the location of Rory’s fictional school, Chilton Academy. It’s no surprise that Rory receives the club’s recognition: She is valedictorian of her graduating class, bound for Yale University and, in her mother’s words, “the most deserving kid ever.”

It’s also possible that Rory’s fictional hometown, Stars Hollow, has its own Kiwanis club — town selectman Jackson Belleville (Jackson Douglas) is on his way to a Kiwanis luncheon in season five, episode five. Considering the town’s packed schedule of themed festivals, the Kiwanis Club of Stars Hollow would undoubtedly be busy with quirky community activities and fundraisers all year long.



CLUB SERVICE RECAP

Employment Coaching

Hours Total — 4

Members Involved — 1

Tutoring at Palmer

Hours Total — 2

Members Involved — 1

Children served — 4

First Tee

Hours Total — 3

Members Involved — 1

Children served — 15

Key Club

Hours Total — 2

Members Involved — 1

Children served — 40

“QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

“If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal.” — Emma Goldman

“Just be good and kind to your children. Not only are they the future of the world, they're the ones who can sign you into the nursing home.” — Dennis Miller

“Knowledge is power” — Francis Bacon

“Why worry about doing something you love? Figure out what the opportunity is. Find a thing, get good at it, learn to love it later.” — Mike Rowe



July



26 Mary and Bruce Oosterhouse

31 Stacey & Tim Breadon



Kiwanis Trivia

The first Kiwanis headquarters, a two-room office, was opened in Chicago in 1918. Kiwanis continued to rent larger and larger offices in the “Windy City” until 1957, when the first Kiwanis International building was dedicated. This building served Kiwanis for 25 years, until the organization outgrew the space. In 1982, the sale of the property allowed construction of a larger building in Indianapolis—a site with lower costs and greater convenience than downtown Chicago.