



Kiwanis®

GRAND RAPIDS



<http://www.kiwanisgrandrapids.org>

May 2025

Brenda Eller, President
Linda Paige, Secretary
Sarah Pastoor, Treasurer
Linda Paige, Editor

Future Programs/Events

June 9 Weekly Meeting
June 16 Weekly Meeting
June 23 Weekly Meeting
June 30 Weekly Meeting
July 7 Fellowship of Christian Athletes
July 14 Weekly Meeting
July 14 Board Meeting
July 21 Ian MacNeil OLLI Aquinas College

PROGRAMS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED



At the 2024 Kiwanis International convention Diana Nyad spoke about her courageous swim from Cuba to Key West in 2013. At the age of 64 she became the first person to complete a swim from Cuba to Florida without the protection of a shark cage. You can see her TED talk here: https://www.ted.com/talks/diana_nyad_never_ever_give_up

Lindsey VanDyke and Ashley Sturgis from Early On <https://www.kentisd.org/early-childhood/early-on/> with [Kent ISD](#) spoke about the program. They help families find the social, health, and educational services that will promote the development of their infant or toddler (birth to 36 months) with a developmental delay, disability, or established medical condition. Their collaborative approach partners parents and caregivers with trained early interventionists. They receive 250-350 referrals per month and have roughly 1,200 children enrolled.



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**



Mike Martin and three other members from the Golden K joined us for our meeting. Mike gave a talk titled “Why I No Longer Hate Poetry”. He explained how poetry can express feelings and emotions in just a few words. Poems can help with loss of a loved one and even make you laugh.

Club Contact Information

KiwaniisGrandRapids@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



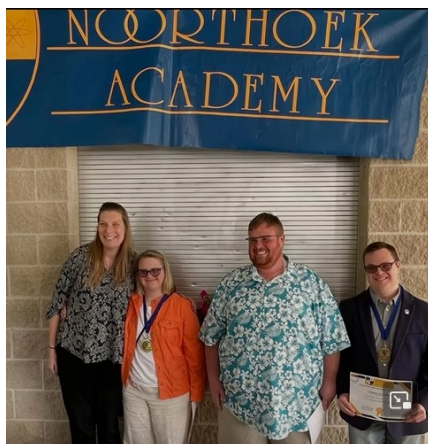
President Brenda Eller talked about our participation in the Comstock Park—Mill Creek Days - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083564850866> We plan to have a booth with games for kids and maybe even cookie decorating. We will use the time to discuss Kiwanis and maybe pick up a few members.

NOORTHOEK ACADEMY & AKTION CLUB

We are thrilled to partner with [Noorthoek Academy](#) and their pop-can tab collection. The Aktion Club donated them to the Ronald [McDonald House Charities of West Michigan](#). Our Aktion Club advisor, Pat Newcombe, is an amazing person to mentor this club.



Congratulations to the lifelong scholars!



Thank you to all who joined in the 2026 end of year festivities. It was an amazing and joyous event.

You can see a slideshow of the celebration at the link below.

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1678827670032643>

We are on the web: kiwanisgrandrapids.org
Facebook:: [Kiwanis Grand Rapids North](#)
Twitter: [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 2025](#) edition of the newsletter. **There are a total of 16 in the series.** Look for more in the coming months.

“Frasier” (1993-2004)

Earlier in this newsletter series, we learned that Niles Crane (David Hyde Pierce) is a former Key Club member — but that is not the only Frasier connection to the Kiwanis family. In season five, episode 20, Frasier Crane (Kelsey Grammer) learns that his godfather’s brother was not only a member of a Kiwanis club in Seattle, Washington, but was so beloved by his fellow Kiwanians that they celebrated his life via a keg party following his wake. In the episode Frasier says **“Everybody's heading over to the Kiwanis club for a post-wake kegger.”**



CLUB SERVICE RECAP

Terrific Kids Awards

Hours Total — 7

Members Involved — 7

“QUOTABLE NOTABLES”

“Never, ever give up. You’re never too old to chase your dreams.” - Diana Nyad

“We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done.” - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

“Compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it...he who doesn’t...pays it.” - Albert Einstein

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” -

“FCA HONORS BRUCE OOSTERHOUSE”



Money Donated

**Supper House
Kitchen Items**
\$1,000

FCA Camp
\$750

**Embracing
Imperfections**
\$250

We Do Care
\$3000

Bruce Oosterhouse just came back from Kansas City where the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) gave him a great honor.

They added his name to the “Hall of Champions”. <https://www.fca.org/.../fca-hall-of-champions-2025-inductees>

Bruce started with FCA in 1964 and worked with students and coaches during his 60+ years with the organization.

June



3 Bruce Oosterhouse 17 Chris & Pat Newcombe
22 Bill Weitzel 20 Priscilla & Ron Karelse



Kiwanis Trivia

Aktion Club is a community-service club for adults living with disabilities. Aktion Club allows members to develop initiative and leadership skills in serving their communities while enabling their integration into society.