



Kiwanis

CLUB OF EASTON, PA

NEWSLETTER

May, 2024 Edition



President's Letter

Fellow Kiwanians,

Thank you so much for being a member of the Kiwanis Club of Easton and for taking the time to read our Newsletter. As you will see as you move through this month's issue, it is packed with information about all the wonderful things our club is doing and what we have planned to come.

This month has been one of the highlights of the year for our Club. On May 15th we held our annual Easton Police Officer of the Year Award and celebration. This is an honor our club has bestowed upon our community and police force for 43 years, since 1981. It is a wonderful opportunity to honor not only the entire Easton Police Department for the service they provide to our community, but especially to honor one individual who has distinguished himself and gone above and beyond his normal level of superb service. Officer Jeff Crosson was selected by his peers for the work he has done in recognizing the needs of the homeless population in Easton. He has worked tirelessly in making connections, offering opportunities for shelter, as well as arranging help for the issues they face. Through his work he has built a team of fellow police officers and found housing and assistance for a substantial portion of the homeless population.

This time of year is truly a special time to be involved together in our Kiwanis activities. As we move into the summer season, we can enjoy more time outdoors. We had a wonderful time at an evening "social" meeting at Wanderlust on May 22nd. It was so well received we are looking for new opportunities to meet at times other than Wednesdays at noon so members who work during the week can join us. We are planning a Club picnic on July 17th to celebrate our Club's 106th birthday.

The next two meetings highlight how we make a difference in our community. We will honor our CIT Scholarship recipients on June 5th and our Foundation Grant recipients and Nazareth Key Club Scholarship Recipients on June 12th. Join us for some or all. We value your membership and engagement and we strive to become even more effective in our community.

In Kiwanis Service,

James Owen

MONTHLY WRAP UP



May 1st Meeting

Our meeting was a field trip to the Sigal Museum arranged by Scott Fisher, with support from Ken Wildrick (see below Ken's role in helping to make this happen). The exhibition is highlighted below, and we were given a tour by Tim Betz who is this exhibit's curator.

Easton Kiwanis Club was a donor to this project!

Forged by Fire: The Heroism, Honor, and History of Firefighting*

September 21, 2023 – July 7, 2024

Forged by Fire: the Heroism, Honor, and History of Firefighting explores the history of firefighting in Northampton County. It is a story of heroism, honor, community, and technology.

From early colonial era town planning, technological innovations for moving water, the bucket brigade, the horse-drawn steamer engine, and the formation of volunteer fire fighting companies, to the modern equipment and tactics of today, the communities of Northampton County worked to ensure that their towns and the people in them were safe.

Visit this exhibition to enjoy Easton's first pumper truck (1797) as well as other amazing firefighting tools throughout history. Learn about the importance of making wood pipes in the 1740s and use a drill to make one! Families will have a chance to try on turn-out gear and experience what it takes to be a fire fighter. Everyone will love learning about Easton's hero fire dog, Frank!

This exhibition will pay tribute to the brave firefighters who have served and continue to serve in the Northampton County's fire companies, then and now.

We are pleased to share *Forged by Fire: The Heroism, Honor, and History of Firefighting* won the 2024 "Institutional Achievement Award" from PA Museums. The exhibition is one of twelve selected from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

This exhibition is supported by our friends at:

Fire Commissioner Sponsor:

County of Northampton

Deputy Chief Sponsor:

Ken & Lois Wildrick

District Chief Sponsor:

Brown-Daub Foundation

Captain Sponsor:

Kressler, Wolff & Miller, Inc.

Finegan Funeral Home

*Parts of the information in this article are from a previous Easton Kiwanis newsletter and the Sigal Museum website.



May 8th Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Elect Scott Fisher. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and God Bless America was sung. Barb Walters shared words of wisdom on servant leadership.

Election of Club Officers for 2024-2025

Neil Gallagher presented the nominations:

Immediate Past President – James Owen
President-Elect – Suzanne Gallagher
Secretary/Treasurer – Rosemary Kocher
3-year Board Position – Neil Gallagher

President for 1 year - Scott Fisher
Vice-President -Terry Thomas
3-year Board Position – Kathy Presto
1-Year Board Position* – Kathy Heller

*Fills remaining term for Suzanne Gallagher

No other nominations from the floor. Skip Fairchild moved that nomination be closed. Bill Walters seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Barb Walters moved that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for all positions. Skip Fairchild seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Foundation Nominations and Elections

The nominating committee consisting of Skip Fairchild, Suzanne Gallagher and Rosemary Kocher recommended Roger Conners and Terry Thomas for two 3-year Trustee Positions and Susan Bartels for Watson Hart’s 1-year position.

There were no nominations from the floor. Bill Walters moved those nominations be closed and Neil Gallagher seconded the motions. All were in favor.

Skip Fairchild moved that all three candidates for the positions be elected to those positions. Scott Fisher seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Foundation Annual Report

The Foundation Annual Report was published in the April; Newsletter. Ken Wildrick also reported on some highlights from the report. He also noted with regret Watson Hart’s resignation from the Foundation Board.

Business

- Rosemary Kocher presented a report on club activities from April 2023 to March 2024.
- Walt Howell reported on Shawnee and St. Jane’s SLPs. He also reported on the Police Officer of the YEAR award and the CIT Scholarships

- Bill Walters reported on the Super Raffle
- Neil Gallagher stated that the info number and emails for the membership account are active.

May 15th Meeting

Police Officer of the Year Award Ceremony

Easton Kiwanis Club awards the 43rd annual Easton Police Officer of the Year Award

On May 15, 2024, the Kiwanis Club of Easton presented the 43rd annual Police Officer of the Year award to Officer Jeff Crosson at a luncheon at the Pomfret Club in Easton, PA. It was a great celebration with almost 50 police officers, the recipient's family, Easton Kiwanians and state and local officials present.

James Owen, President of the Kiwanis Club of Easton, opened the meeting by ringing the bell. The *Pledge of Allegiance* was said and *God Bless America* was sung. Barbara Walters read "A Prayer for Police Officers." Walter Howell was Master of Ceremony and gave a brief history of the award. Walt is retired police officer and he was a former recipient of this award. The determination of the award recipient is made by fellow police officers. Walt then introduced Captain of Field Services Salvatore Crisafulli who explained the concept behind National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day.

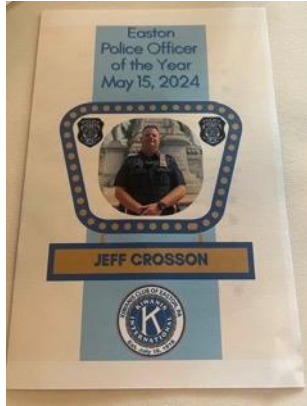
Captain Crisafulli then introduced Jeff Crosson this year's Police Officer of the Year. He told of Officer Crosson's background and how he enlisted in the Army in 1998, then joined the Philadelphia Police Department in 2006 serving there until 2010 when he joined the Easton Police Department. As an Easton Police Officer, Crosson was a training instructor, a firearms instructor and a crisis negotiator among other responsibilities.

Last year Officer Crosson took on another responsibility spearheading the homeless outreach program. "Through this program Crosson has actively engaged with dozens of homeless individuals, offering support, care and services via direct interaction with those in need," said Crisafulli.

Crosson was also honored by State Representative Bob Freeman, PA State Representative Joe Emrick and Stephen Baratta, Northampton County District Attorney, who spoke on his behalf. Mayor Sal Panto commended Officer Crosson and the Easton Police Department for working with a population that is often overlooked. Also present were council members Ruggles, Edinger, Pintabone and Rose.

Officer Crosson said he was honored to be recognized by his peers for a "whole different way of policing and looking at things." Upon receiving the honor, he thanked his colleagues, his wife, Jen, and their children, Mayor Panto, Chief Scakzo, Chief Crisafulli, and the Kiwanis Club of Easton for honoring him with this award.

Thank you, Officer Crosson, for your outstanding service to the community and for your outreach to the homeless population in the community.





From an Interview which aired on WFMZ



May 22nd Meeting

This was an evening meeting held at Wanderlust Beer Garden in Forks Township, PA. It was a fun social event attended by members and their families, guests and even pets. It was a great time and an opportunity to socialize outside of an afternoon meeting. Thanks to Neil Gallagher and Terry Thomas for making arrangements for this very fun evening.





May 29th Meeting

James opened the meeting as we said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang *God Bless America*. Barb provided us with some inspirational passages.

Program

Today’s meeting was presented by Tim Mulligan, President and CEO of Communities In Schools, and Michael Raymond, Communications Manager. We learned a bit of history as to how CIS came about.... Communities In Schools Founder, Bill Milliken began CIS in New York City in the 1970’s. He came up with the idea of bringing community resources inside public schools-where they are accessible, coordinated and accountable. “It’s relationships, not programs, that change children,” Bill once said. “A great program simply creates the environment for healthy relationships to form between adults and children. Young people thrive when adults care about them on a one-to-one level, and when they also have a sense of belonging to a caring community.” The mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. The policies and principles of CIS are, at our core, an advocate for equity. Our founder, Bill Milliken, dedicated his life to advocating for disenfranchised youth. His direct work with the Carter, Reagan, H.W. Bush and Clinton administrations helped grow CIS into the national organization it is

today. Since our local affiliate incorporation in 1983, CIS of Eastern Pennsylvania (previously CIS of the Lehigh Valley and before that Cities in Schools of Bethlehem) has advocated for strong investments in our young people.

The model of Integrated Student Supports (ISS) is shorthand for how we bring together the various kinds of resources and services that our students and families need. One point person, the Site Coordinator, works directly with teachers, families, service agencies, local companies, and more to create a network of support that is easily accessible and all in one place. Through school-wide, small-group, & individualized support, our Site Coordinators do whatever it takes to keep kids coming to school ready to learn.

The results show that CIS is helping students achieve goals in attendance, academics & more...

88% of students graduated; 89% of students were promoted to the next grade; 60% of students made progress in attendance goals; 70% of students made progress in behavior goals; 83% of students made progress in academic goals; 80% of students made progress with social emotional goals.



Business

- Reminder from James to let him know as soon as possible about tickets for July 14 Pig's baseball game.
- We have a new member joining us today! Jeremy Clark. Our club was recommended to him by Victor Scomillio from the Palmer Club. Jeremy....we are delighted to have you join us....WELCOME !!

MEMBER NEWS

Shawnee Elementary SLP

October 10th was the final meeting of the Shawnee K-Kids for this semester. The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the K-Kids Pledge to begin the meeting. Mr. Ellison then asked the members to recall what activities they did during the previous meetings. After reciting several of the activities the member submitted, Mr. Ellison read the letter of appreciation that Easton Kiwanian Christopher Paltz sent for the well wishes the members made while Chris was recuperating from his recent surgery.

Since the rain lightened up a bit, we went outside to the Learning Garden so that Mrs. Frances Kennedy could present a plaque to President Aliviah West, Vice President Marc Titus, and Mr. Ellison in memory of her husband John to be placed in the garden. The plaque was placed

alongside a bush that our Kiwanis member Janet Owen purchased for the garden. We returned back to the classroom and Rosemary Kocher, Mrs. Kennedy, Mr. Ellison and I treated the members to a snack of donut holes, sliced strawberries, and sliced apples. Towards the end of the meeting Mr. Ellison told the members what to expect as they began 6th grade in the Middle School next semester. He also fielded questions they had about their concerns with entering a new school. The last thing he asked of the members was to write to him the things the incoming 5th graders should be ready to do when the fall semester begins for the new Shawnee K-Kids.

Respectfully,
Walt Howell



St. Jane's Elementary School SLP

St. Jane's K-Kids had their final meeting for this semester. They began by reciting the K-Kids pledge and then the officers were seated at tables situated in front to the other member who sat in a semi-circle facing them. The Faculty Advisors guided the members in doing some problem solving from questions in the member workbook they each had. The members were to present ideas of what they could do as a club to benefit their school and the surrounding community. Towards the end of the session the advisors handed out donut holes which were brought in by Rosemary Kocher. Neil Gallagher took photos of the activities, and I made the notes for this report.

The Faculty Advisors said they would discuss the scheduling of meetings with the club officers for the fall semester.

Walter Howell



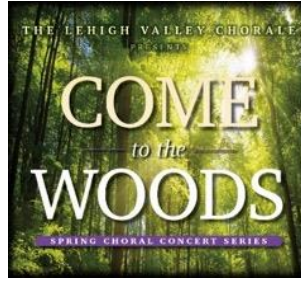
Readers at Forks Education Center of the Greater Valley YMCA

Kathy Heller and Judy Fisher were volunteer readers recently at the Forks Education Center of the Greater Valley YMCA. The children really enjoyed the story times.



COME TO THE WOODS

Lehigh Valley Chorale
Spring Concert
May 17 & 28, 2024



It was another outstanding performance by the Lehigh Valley Chorale led by Artistic Director, Nicholas D. Sienkiewicz with Collaborative Pianist, Kimberly Poloni. The varied musical selections centered around moving from the bustling city out into the woods. Innate in choosing the selections was Sienkiewicz's concern for our planet by caring for the "health of the earth" and tending "to the well-being of its inhabitants." He feels that for him "music and advocacy are inextricably linked."

During the concert *Metropolis* took us through the sights and sounds of New York City to *Wildflowers* and *Boat on Tai Lake* finally to *Come to the Woods*. The amazing acoustics of the First Presbyterian Church in Allentown provided an atmosphere where the beautiful voices the chorale, the soloists and the accompanying musicians could fill the air with extraordinary music.

Nicholas D. Sienkiewicz is a multitalented conductor and musical director based in New York City. He is also a composer and his work "Nearer" was featured in this concert. He also holds several positions in choral and musical theater fields. The Lehigh Valley Chorale is a non-auditioned, non-profit community choir of over 130 members based in Eastern PA.

Our own Easton Kiwanian, Barbara Walters, is member of the chorale as well as former member, Sarah Panovec. It a great evening filled with beautiful music!



Director Nicholas Sienkiewicz



Barb Walters, Sarah Panovec



Jennifer, Barb and Bill Walters

SURV Curbside Fundraiser



Our April Curbside Charity, in collaboration with [Kiwanis Club of Easton, PA](#) raised \$335! Thank you to all who participated, indulged in the delicious meal, and helped support the Club and the work they do in our community.

Presenting the check to Kiwanis Club of Easton President, James Owen, is Aleksandra Miljkovic.

Our thanks to **SURV Restaurant!!**

[PennAEYC Pennsylvania Association for the Education of Young Children](#)



[Rep. Carol Hill-Evans](#) toured [Crispus Attucks York Early Learning Center](#) to learn about how state investments will help in recruiting and retaining early care and education professionals. She learned how the child care and pre-k teacher shortage is impacting families being able to return to work. She was greeted by some enthusiastic Pre-K Counts students. They each received Pre-K Counts drawstring bags, which they'll use when they go to kindergarten next year. [#PreKforPA](#) [#Budget2024](#) [#workforcebehindtheworkforce](#) [#childcare](#) [#StartStrongPA](#)

[Pre-K for PA](#)

[Pennsylvania Child Care Association](#)



Sonya Sue Geisinger was one of many family child care providers who traveled today to the Capitol. She shared with [PA State Rep. Milou Mackenzie](#) the impact home-based programs make on the lives of children and their families. [#Budget2024](#) [#childcare](#) [#workforcebehindtheworkforce](#)

Thanks so much to Jan Schwartz , Director of Outreach for PennAEYC’ and Kiwanis Club of Easton member, for all you do advocating for young children.

It’s Coming!!!
Kiwanis Club of Easton
SUPER RAFFLE



Sept. 7th, 2024

Get Ready! Our big fundraiser of the year is coming! It will be held at the **Brown and Lynch American Legion Post 9** on **Sept. 7th**. More information to follow.

Birthdays

Sarah Wassell	June 3
Anthony Cappellano	June 3
Sarne Brewster	June 3
Scott Fisher	June 10
Barbara Walters	June 10
Sue Gallagher	June 20

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Anthony Cappellano	June 1
Neil Gallagher	June 29



“In the Spotlight”

At the last Shawnee K-Kids meeting for this 2023-24 school year a special ceremony took place. The Kids planted a Learning Garden a number of years ago and it was decided by our Kiwanis Club to honor our member John Kennedy who passed away on October 16, 2023. John was passionate about the environment, and it seemed fitting to remember him by putting a plaque in his name in the Learning Garden. So, after a morning rain lightened up, everyone attending the K-Kids meeting went outside to the Learning Garden so that Mrs. Frances Kennedy could present a plaque to President Aliviah West, Vice President Marc Titus, and Mr. Ellison in memory of her husband John to be placed in the garden. The plaque was placed alongside a bush that our Kiwanis member Janet Owen purchased for the garden.



Around Town

Freddy Awards Celebration

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024 – 7 PM
STATE THEATRE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Although you may have missed this year’s Freddy Awards there is always next year to be entertained by a very talented group of high school students.

The FREDDY© Awards program is designed to recognize and reward exceptional accomplishments in the production and performance of musical theatre in local high schools. The 3-hour LIVE broadcast includes a stellar opening number, performances by nominated musicals, actors and actresses, and presentation of the 2024 FREDDY© Awards in 23 award categories. *The State Theatre’s FREDDY© Awards is the only high school musical awards program in the nation that produces a live television show. The telecast has received numerous broadcast awards, including Mid-Atlantic EMMY©s in 2005, 2011, & 2019**

Some of the information for this article comes from the State Theatre's website

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS ↓↓↓↓

June 1 -- Miracle League, contact Janet Owen if you can help

June 1 – ProJeCt Highmark “fundraising walk” at DeSales University

June 5 – Scholarship presentations to C.I.T. & Nazareth Key Club graduating students

June 12 – Foundation Grant Presentations

June 13 – Meeting at Nazareth Library 6PM w Lt gov Bob Moran and a “new Nazareth Area Kiwanis Club”

June 14 – final date to order tickets for July 14 Iron Pigs event

June 19 – Dr Tom Lubben, member & author

June 26 – Board Meeting

July 3 – No meeting

July 10 – Round Table meeting

July 17 – Club Anniversary Picnic (in planning stages)

July 24 – Easton’s Mayor, Honorable Sal Panto will be our speaker

July 14 – Iron Pigs vs Buffalo Bisons, Sunday afternoon, Club Level seating & Buffet, \$39/seat, James Owen-Chair, only 30 seats available

July 31 – Board Meeting

Aug 7 – (open)

Aug 14 – Easton EMS Member Award @ SURV

August 15-18 – PA+NJ District Convention at Reading

Aug 21 – (open)

Aug 28 – Board Meeting

Sept 4 – (Probably no meeting but planning for Super Raffle)

Sept 7 – **Annual Super Raffle @ Brown & Lynch American Legion Post 9, 12-3PM, great pasta meal, Super Raffle, Tricky Tray fundraisers.** More details will be coming.

Sept 11 – Round Table

Sept 18 – (open)

Sept 25 – Board meeting

Oct 2 – Easton Firefighter of the Year, Pomfret Club

Oct 9 – Round Table

Oct 16 – (open)

Oct 23 – Board Meeting

Oct 30 – Evening Social Meeting, time/location TBA

Nov 6 – Arthur Kney, PhD, Professor Environmental Engineering Lafayette College, “Wastewater Technology - Who Knew That Was Important and How Does It Affect Your Life?”

Nov 13 – Round Table

Nov 20 –

Nov 27 – Board Meeting

Dec 4 –

Dec 11 – Round Table

Dec 18 --

Dec 21 – Sat. Christmas Party

Dec 25 -- CHRISTMAS

Bill Walters, Manager of Special Projects

610-533-4709

EastonKiwanis@gmail.com

www.EastonPaKiwanis.org

[@easton.kiwanis](https://www.instagram.com/easton.kiwanis)

[EASTON KIWANIS YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

PENNSYLVANIA BACKGROUND CHECKS (free for volunteers)

ONLINE APPLICATION

Welcome to Pennsylvania Access To Criminal History (AKA PATCH)

<https://epatch.pa.gov/home>

The PATCH unit will no longer mail out any PATCH check that is requested on the EPATCH web site. It will be the responsibility of the requestor to print out the No Record or Record response.

Volunteer. <https://epatch.pa.gov/TandCVolunteer>

There is no charge for requests made for the purpose of volunteering. The volunteer record check can be made via the PATCH website or by mail using form SP4-164A, "REQUEST FOR CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK, VOLUNTEER ONLY". The SP4-164A form may be downloaded from the home page of this website under the "HELP" drop down menu. The name of the agency or organization for which you will be volunteering must be listed. You must also read and accept the legal disclaimer affirming that the purpose of this record check is for volunteer purposes only and is not authorized for any other use.

A Notarized Copy of a Criminal Record Check is NOT available for Free Volunteer Checks.

Volunteer Acknowledgement Section

By checking this box, I verify that I am submitting this request for criminal history record information in connection with my status as an unpaid volunteer. I understand

that the \$22 fee is being waived because of my status as an unpaid volunteer. I also understand that any false statements made on this form are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities and can be punishable by fine or imprisonment.

Check the small box and then ACCEPT/DECLINE the box below and it will take you to the page to complete your PERSONAL INFORMATION.

This form you may download and then you will need to mail it in.

https://www.psp.pa.gov/Documents/Public%20Documents/criminal_history/CRC%20Request%20Volunteer%20Only%20SP%204-164A.pdf

11/30/2022

Editor's Note: Members, please feel free to submit any news about you or your family that you would like to share with the club. Our email addresses are below.

KIWANIS CLUB OF EASTON meets every Wednesday

www.eastonpakiwanis.org www.kiwanis.org

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Newsletter: Sue Gallagher sue2300@aol.com Terry Thomas terryathomas@rcn.com