

the official newsletter of the
Kiwanis Club of Frederick, MD
FrederickKiwanis.org | info@frederickkiwanis.org
Chartered May 23, 1922



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2022-2023 OFFICERS

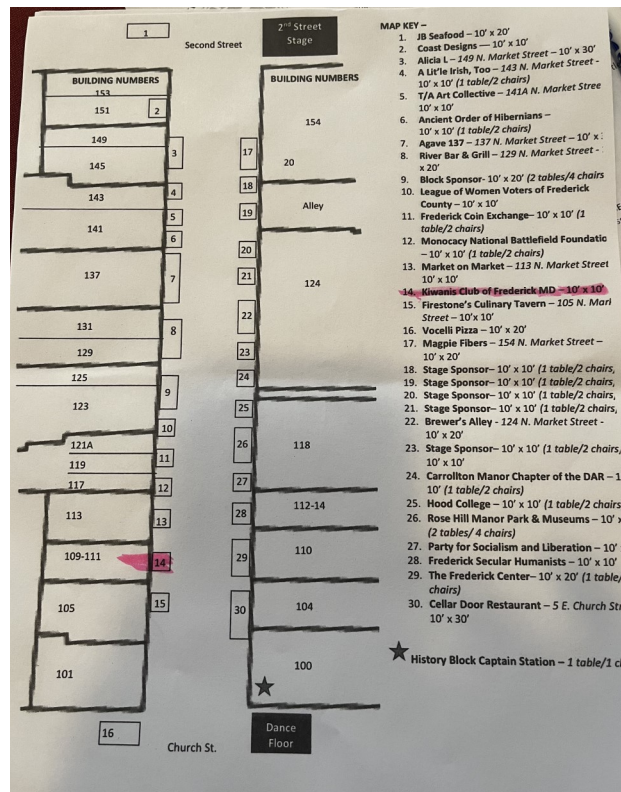
- Pres. Richard Cutting
518 593-9672
- Pres Elect. Ron Williams
301-874-4866
- Sec . Lauri Cutting
518 593-3164
- Treas. Bob Failor
301-698-9425
- Past Pres. Sue Vona
301-898-9032

DIRECTORS

- Clara Thompson (thru 9/30/23)
240-397-3749
- Allen Byrne (thru 9/30/23)
301-401-0043
- Ray Ediger ('21-'24)
301-788-2250
- Carlos Graveran ('21-'24)
240-994-5679
- Colette Baker ('22-'25)
301-514-9144
- Vacant ('22-'25)

Meetings

Regular meetings are held every Tuesday at 12:15pm in the Garden Room, Elks Lodge, 289 Willowdale Dr., Frederick, MD 21702



Join our Club at In The Streets

Promote Kiwanis at our club booth. Explore historic downtown Frederick, sample the diverse food, entertainment, and art. Saturday - September 9, 2023. Downtown Frederick. Rain or Shine.

- 9 AM - Market Street Mile
- 11 AM - 5 PM - In The Streets Festival
- Noon - 5 PM - Craft Beverage Experience
- 5 - 9 PM - Up The Creek Party

Club located at the red dot.

Background Checks

Sue wants to remind members to get their Background Checks done through Kiwanis. This is required by those who work with, or near children. It is for the protection of you and your fellow Kiwanians at any time they may be in need of the Kiwanis insurance group. This is required by those who work with, or near children. [For specifics, click Here.](#)

Member Dr. Ray Ediger (below, left) featured in a recent Aug. 26, 2023 Frederick News Post article. (right) Steer to be offered for sale at upcoming Great Frederick Fair.

Lewistown Ruritan Club sponsors essay contest

For THE FREDERICK NEWSPOST

The Lewistown Ruritan Club sponsored an essay contest for the students at Catoctin High School and Thurmont Middle School on "The Importance of Volunteerism" with the hope that this subject would spark a renewed interest in volunteerism for the students in our community. Miss Zoe Wetzel, a student at Thurmont Middle School, was awarded first prize of \$100 during the dinner/meeting of the Lewistown Ruritan Club for her essay on "The Importance of Volunteerism." In her essay, Zoe wrote that "volunteer groups strengthen the communities they belong to and that few services are more honorable than volunteerism."

Miss Joanna Genemanse from Catoctin High School was also awarded first prize for her essay on "The Importance of Volunteerism." In her essay, Joanna stated that "Volunteering is not only beneficial for the community, but also adds to the volunteer's quality of life and well-being." Unfortunately, Miss Genemanse was unable to attend this dinner/meeting. The Lewistown Ruritan Club was proud to present these awards to two of our local students.

The Lewistown Ruritan, also known for their famous chicken BBQs, has served the Lewistown/Thurmont Community since 1960. The club members work to enhance the quality of life through community service and to make our community a better place in which to live and work.



Pictured left to right: Ray Ediger, Essay Committee; Harold Staley, Essay Committee; Zoe Wetzel, essay winner; Loberta Staley, Essay Committee; Patty Golf, Essay Committee; and Frank Warner, Lewistown Ruritan President.

Courtesy photo



Dear Frederick Kiwanis,

My name is Kailee Wiles, I am 18 years old and this is my fifth year in 4H. I just graduated from Middletown High School. My parents are Sadie and Charlie Wiles. I am a member of Paddock Pals 4H Club.

This year I am showing 3 steers and a heifer. I started showing cattle my third year in 4H and absolutely fell in love with it. My favorite part of showing cattle is the bond you are able to create with your cows. They each have their own unique personality that you get to watch, learn, and grow with. Showing cows has taught me to be determined, strong willed, and to never be afraid to be myself.

My steers will be shown and sold at the Great Frederick Fair. Beef fitting and showing is on Monday September 18th at 9 a.m.. The beef market show is on Wednesday September 20th at 9 a.m.. I invite you to come watch me show! To end the week of fair on Saturday September 23rd I will be selling my steer in the youth livestock sale. The sale starts at 10 am with turkeys and rabbits. Around noon beef, sheep, swine, and goats will be sold. I invite you to come support myself as well as other 4H and FFA members who have worked hard with their projects. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Kailee Wiles

2023 CAPITAL DISTRICT KIWANIS CONVENTION



Sue Vona, Capital Foundation Board, and Bryan Bell, former Capital District Governor, and his Wife Diana at the Capitol District Convention in Richmond Virginia August 18-20, 2023. (photographer Dr. Bob Kaufmann)



A group of club members gathered recently at 40W Auto Repair to inventory the contents of our Giftwrap trailer. Joining in on the fun was Jackson VanCleaf, son of club member, Ashley VanCleaf.

Picture L to R are Ray Ediger, Ron Williams, Bob Kaufmann, Dave Maloney and Jackson VanCleaf.



Member Allen Byrne recently presented a fascinating travel log of his journey across country following the route of Route 66 from its beginning to end.



New business helps parents of special needs children

By CLARA NIEL
cniel@newspost.com

Ashley VanCleaf and Stephanie Knapp both have experience with special education and children who have disabilities.

They each have businesses that aim to help parents trying to find the best education for their children.

This month, the two women joined forces and opened the Parent Resource Center at 6 North East St. in downtown Frederick as a hub for families to easily find and access resources for children with disabilities.

For example, the center could connect parents to a speech pathologist, a dentist who works well with kids with autism or a special tutor for a child with dyslexia, they said.

The center can also connect parents to attorneys if legal help is necessary, they said.

"The Parent Resource Center is kind of this bigger entity that can connect families with resources, whether those are our

resources, or whether those are resources in the community," VanCleaf said.

VanCleaf, a special education attorney, is the founder of the firm Law for Parents, which helps parents legally when it comes to their children's education. She used to be a special education teacher, an administrator and a school attorney.

Knapp, a paralegal, is the founder of Advocates in Education, a conduit for parents who are trying to figure out what is best for their children in the school system.

State records show Van-Cleaf owns the Parent Resource Center. Both companies are in-house partners, VanCleaf said.

She does not offer legal services, but supports parents and teaches them how to handle things like the Individualized Education Program — specialized instruction and services for students with disabilities — with the school system.

As a parent of two children with disabilities, she said, she knows what it's like to feel lost, alone and confused when trying to work with administrators to find the best educational

plan for a child.

"You go through these reports and assessments and they ask if you have any questions and you might ask one or two, but then, eventually, you kind of stop asking because, whether they're doing it intentionally or not, you feel like you're supposed to know," Knapp said. "And you feel a bit ignorant when you don't know, so you stop asking questions."

Many of her clients are (See LEGAL A10)



Stephanie Knapp, left, principal advocate for Advocates in Education and in-house partner for the Parent Resource Center, and Ashley VanCleaf, principal attorney of Law for Parents and owner of the Parent Resource Center, sit inside their Frederick offices.

Staff photo by Katina Zentz

Member Ashley VanCleaf opens new office which will advocates for the needs of children.

(LEGAL from A1) children who were a part of the U.S. Department of Justice investigation and settlement into the Frederick County Public Schools' misuse of seclusion and restraint on students with disabilities, she said.

Knapp said she filed her own complaint against the Frederick County school district in 2011 because she found that one of her sons was being secluded and restrained. The complaint was settled outside of litigation, she said.

Her constant battles on behalf of her sons inspired her to become certified in special education law, she said.

Brandon Oland, a spokesman for the school district, wrote in an email on Monday that the school district doesn't comment on legal matters.

Plans for the center

Knapp and VanCleaf worked together closely prior to the founding of the Parent Resource Center.

They realized that a lot of their work included referring clients to other resources, including each other. They figured having resources and referrals under one umbrella would be easier for parents, so they moved their individual businesses into the same office and are starting to gather community partners.

With a network of partners, Knapp and VanCleaf want to help parents who have children with any disability, and connect them to people they need. They hope to hire a program coordinator to help streamline that process.

Knapp and VanCleaf also hope to host events like a sensory friendly Santa in December or sensory friendly haircuts.

Sensory-friendly environments and events take into account the sensory sensitivities people with autism may have, and try to create an environment in which they can feel comfortable, according to The Place for Children with Autism, an Illinois-based organization.

Knapp and VanCleaf hope to host training sessions for parents and other community members to learn about Individualized Education Programs, so they can feel prepared when they talk about it with schools.

As the Center gets more connected, Knapp and Van-Cleaf hope to reach more parents outside the county.

"I think it should hopefully provide relief for a lot of people in the community," Knapp said.

Follow Clara Niel on Twitter: @clarasniel



Frederick Kiwanians attended the Grand Opening of the Parent Resource Center in Frederick. Kiwanian Ashley VanCleaf proudly showed off her new venture "Connecting parents to community resources. Supporting parents through support groups, trainings and services for their children. Empowering parents!"

Shown left to right: Richard Cutting, Dr. Bob Kaufman, Lauri Cutting, Sue Vona, Ashley VanCleaf and Jeremy Polling.



At a recent meeting, club member Dr. Ray Ediger, after presenting several short and entertaining stories about animals (below), introduced us to his newly-published book "Living, Loving and Laughing with Animals." (right)



Save the date

FSK Mall Christmas Giftwrap will be Friday, December 8 through December 24. Setup will be the evening of Thursday, December 7th.



Click here to read the latest edition of [The Capital Kiwanian](#)

Upcoming Birthdays!

Kaili Van Waveren	9/1	kailivanwaveren@gmail.com
Colette Baker	9/5	cbaker@legacyfa.com
Clara Thompson	9/17	clararosehompson@gmail.com
Carlos Graveran	9/22	cgraveran@frederick.health
Drex Ryberg	9/22	Dryberg@comcast.net
Sue Vona	9/28	Vonas@verizon.net

Member Monthly Volunteer Hours: July 2023

by Colette Baker

Here are volunteer hours for the month of July 2023. Be sure to report your monthly hours on the first of each month for the preceding month. Go here to do so:

<https://davidmaloney.com/machform2/embed.php?id=18517>

SLP	1 member	2 hours	
Steadfast Standing Firm			
Against Youth Homelessness	1 member	2 hours	8 youth
Bedbuild	1 member	7.5 hours	40 youth
CTC Beekeeping Mentoring	1 member	20 hours	12 youth
Cub Pack 285/Boy Scout 796	1 member	5 hours	2 youth