



The Medina Kiwanis Brick

“serving the children of the world”

Weekly Publication of the Kiwanis Club of Medina

www.kiwanis.org



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Arbor Day Project



2025 Third grade winners

The Kiwanis Club of Medina gave thornless honey locust seedlings to every third grader in Medina. Each student created a tree project for Arbor Day, and the winners from each class presented theirs at our April 24 lunch meeting.



The Kiwanis Club of Medina along with Breakfast Kiwanis, the Medina Shade Tree Commission and Medina City forestry staff bagged 600 thornless honey locust saplings.

Schedule

May 9 & 10

Kiwanis Flower Sale

May 12

Satellite Meeting

May 13

Flag Repair - Mike

Short's House

May 15

White Elephant Auction

May 17

Highway Cleanup

May 21

Board Meeting

May 22

Northeastern Ohio Live

Steamers - Paul Weiss

May 28

Project MUNCH

May 29

Fifth Thursday Kiwanis

Social - Das Weinhaus

June 5

Student of the Year &

Scholarships

June 9

Satellite Meeting

June 12

Service Leadership

Programs

June 18

Board Meeting

June 19

Medina Library - Tina

Sobol

Kiwanis Arbor Day History



Opening remarks by Dale Weygandt - April 24, 2025

This story would not be accurate without the driving forces that accomplished so much through the years. Harold Thoburn was instrumental in developing the "Street Tree Project." Harold told the following story, which illustrates his resolve and dedication to the project over the years.

"Following retirement from the Ohio State Extension Service, he wondered what he should do. A short while later, he awoke during the night with a vision of street lined with trees, which led up to heaven. He said he immediately knew what God had in mind for him."

This was the foundation for his many efforts over the next decade to beautify the tree lawns of Medina. Tree lawn is the area between the sidewalk and the street. For instance, Harold was instrumental in re-establishing the Shade Tree Commission, an arm of city government.

The Kiwanis Club was the second major force in promoting shade tree development, with members contributing many hours. Harold worked with City Officials and developed the plans to provide street trees in front of every new home built in Medina. This Kiwanis Club, of which Harold was a member, provided much of the labor to carry out this enormous task. Members helped to plant, prune, and mulch the trees.

For many years, Tom Lincoln, a fellow Kiwanian, provided the land and much assistance in maintaining a tree nursery. Many of the current trees on the tree lawns in our city came from this nursery. Harold spent many hours keeping track of the tree population, both on the tree lawns and in the nursery. And he was a master at getting people to help. Many Kiwanians helped to plant thousands of trees.

In 1981, Medina received its first "Tree City USA" award and has been an annual recipient ever since. This honor speaks highly of the efforts of many people in Medina, especially 'Harold'.

Through the efforts of Harold Thoburn and the Medina Kiwanis, we are proud to have supported Arbor Day in Medina for the past 44 years by providing seedlings to third graders.

The Kiwanis Club's motto is "Serving the Children of the World". So, it is very appropriate that Kiwanis members have donated more than 30 hours preparing the seedlings for you and your classmates.



Happy Dollars

- **David Gedrock** gave \$2 Happy Dollars, "What Not To Do". Dave shared his experience eating a very liquid lunch at Sully's.
- **Krista Wasowski** gave \$5 Happy Dollars, "A new grandbaby born April 25th, Erin Renee Wasowski."
- **Joan Rundle** gave \$1 Happy Dollar, "My granddaughter, Georgia, helped serve at MUNCH."
- **Brian Harr** gave \$1 Happy Dollar, "Dylan's 3rd scan cleared!!"
- **Barry Jones** gave \$5 Happy Dollars, "Nanette helped me register for the Kiwanis International Convention in June."
- **Nancy Abbott** gave \$1 Happy Dollar, "Dale Weygandt's AI interpretation of his Arbor Day report."
- **Barb Woodard** gave \$5 Happy Dollars, "I am so happy to be here with good friends where the sun always shines on Thursdays. I give thanks to those who have supported me in my absence by picking up my slack in committee duties."
- **Bob Fenn** gave \$1 Happy Dollar, "My daughter Susie was able to come to Kiwanis today."
- **Hank Waite** gave \$6 Happy Dollars, "For a fantastic bike rodeo last night, we had a great turnout and beautiful weather."
- **Rick Melzer** gave \$1 Happy Dollar, "Happy to be back! Now I get my knee replaced. 😞"
- **Keith Dirham** gave \$4 Happy Dollars (\$1 from each of his children), "A great bike rodeo!"
- **Kerry Kelley** gave \$6 Happy Dollars, "The Bike Rodeo was a blast! So many happy kids! The parents were so thankful for the helmets Kiwanis donated to them."

Annual Meeting Nominations

At our Annual Meeting on May 1st, President Marty Gaska shared the report from the Nominating Committee, outlining proposed leadership for the upcoming Kiwanis year beginning in October.

The nominated slate is as follows:

- President: Aaron Harrison
- President-Elect: Ashley Krause
- Vice President: Kerry Kelley

Nominated Board Members: Cheryl Short, Ed Zackery, and Kimberly Gaska

These nominations will be brought forward for a vote on Thursday, May 15th.



New Kiwanis Merchandise Vendor: Shop Local with USA Custom Apparel!

We're excited to announce a new vendor for our Kiwanis merchandise—USA Custom Apparel! This Medina-based, family-owned business has been serving the community since 1984 and is now helping us look our best while supporting local.

When you shop for Kiwanis gear, you'll have the option to choose between two logos. From shirts to hats and everything in between, USA Custom Apparel offers a wide range of customizable options to help you show your Kiwanis pride.

Browse their catalog at www.usacustomapparel.com. When you place your order they will need to know Style Number, Size, Color and which logo. Also, provide your name and a contact number.

For assistance with orders or product questions, contact the owner, Shawn Wode at usa@zoominternet.net or Narrah Gibbs, Sales Manager, at usa.narrah@gmail.com and you can reach them both at 330-722-0818. You can also visit their shop at 229 Harding Street, Medina.

Let's support this longtime Medina business as they help us represent Kiwanis in style!

Logo #1 - Kiwanis Logo



Logo #2 - Kids Logo



The 'No Prize' Prize

Dave Gedrock's legendary "No Prize" Prize is back—because who needs trophies when you've got bragging rights and brainteasers? From the silly to the stump-worthy, these riddles put our members to the test. Some triumphed. Others... well, gave it their best shot. Here are the riddles and those bold enough to earn a title:

1. I can be short and sometimes hot. When displayed I rarely impress. What am I?

Sass Master of the "Hot & Short" Mystery: Linda Hoffmann

2. What tastes better than it smells?

Scent-sational Solver: Krista Wasowski

3. What four-letter word can be written forward, backward, or upside down and can still be read left to right?

No winner – Officially Riddle-Proof

4. What type of a band doesn't play music?

The Band of Brilliant Minds - Everyone

5. What is the most racially pure Caucasian country?

No winner - Too tricky for the masses

Got stumped? Flip to the last page for the answers. Still no prize.

Kiwanis Promotes Bike Safety with Helmet Giveaway

The Medina Kiwanis Club was proud to sponsor the Medina Bike Rodeo, held on a picture-perfect sunny afternoon at Ray Mellert Park. Hosted by Medina City Schools in celebration of National Bike to School Day, the event brought together a strong network of partners, including local police departments, the Medina County District Library, Cool Beans, Eddy's Bike Shop, Drug Mart, and others—all working together to promote bike safety and healthy habits for kids.

Kiwanis members Hank Waite, Barb Woodard, Rick and Kerry Kelley helped distribute over 80 free bike helmets, many funded by Kiwanis and others donated by Walmart. Families were deeply appreciative, with one parent sharing how grateful they were to receive helmets for their children who had outgrown theirs and couldn't afford new ones. It was a joyful day of service and smiles, and a great reminder of the positive impact Kiwanis has in our community.



Service Project with Replay



Pictured:

Top Left: Dale Weygant, Keith Dirham, Joe from Replay

Top Right: Russ Fanello, Colleen Swedyk

Bottom Left: Susie (Bob Fenn's daughter), Bob Fenn, Terry Shuman

Bottom Middle: Rick Kelley, Mike Short, Chery Short

Bottom Right: Aaron Harrison and Joe from Replay

**Cheers to our
May Birthdays!**

**Keith Dirham
David Gedrock
Dale Weygant**



**Cheers to our
June Birthdays!**

**Joshua Nehls
Mike Short
Anna Slepecky**



From the Kiwanis Mailbox

Dear Medina Kiwanians,
Thank you for your time and effort
in bundling 1,200 Pinwheels and
Chopsticks for our Pinwheel Garden
Project. Your support helps bring
awareness to Child Abuse Prevention.
We appreciate your willingness to
assist with this project and look
forward to working together again
in the future!

Best Regards
The Children's Center Team
Kristen Menichello



PETER VERY MUCH
APPRECIATED ALL THE
FRIENDSHIP & GOOD WORKS
PROVIDED BY KIWANIS BOTH
WERE IMPORTANT TO HIM.

THANK YOU
FRAN HANSEN

TO ALL OF PETER'S FRIENDS
AT NOON KIWANIS -

THANK YOU FOR THE LOVELY
FLOWER ARRANGEMENT. THEY
BRIGHTENED THE ROOM.
RATHER THAN WATCH THEM
DIE AT HOME - I TOOK THEM
TO WINDWOOD WHERE PETER
WAS STAYING. THEY LOOKED
VERY CUTEFUL ON THE
CHECK IN DESK.



**The Chippewa Lake
Water Ski Show Team
thanks you for your
generosity and support!**

Thank you for your donation and for having
us at your meeting. Sincerely,

Kodak Moments™
Chippewa Lake Water Ski Show Team

CVS
pharmacy
Photo
Team

RE: Kiwanis Hams

From Greg Brown <gbrown@ohmedinaco.org>

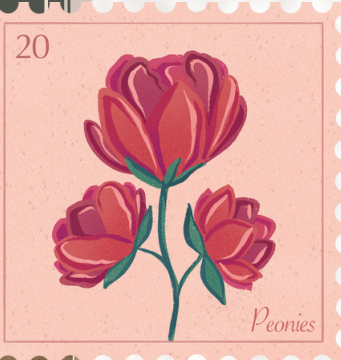
Date Thu 4/24/2025 9:08 AM

To Brian K. Harr <brian.harr@csb1.com>

Brian,
I waited on Good Friday for the ham delivery.
I apologize for missing the photo opportunity.
The residents enjoyed eating the ham for Easter.

Respectfully,

Greg



Kiwanis Club of Medina,
Thank you so much for having me inspired
at your meet! Thank you for all
you do for our community! You all were
so welcoming! I was so shocked at
your generosity! We are so thankful!
Your gift will help us really.

- * Distribute Free books
+ top
- * 2 visits per week w/
family
- * Quality time spent
having a great time
with visitors

- * Help family prepare
for children for
K. Indicate

Again, we cannot thank you
enough for your generosity.
Thank you for making Equal Possibilities
the start possible in
Medina Cong!

Brian
K. Harr

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."
Frederick Douglass

From Live Inspired



KIWANIS CLUB OF MEDINA BAKED
GOODS AND

WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION

MAY 15, 2025

Bring a Friend

- * Collect your trash/treasure
- * Bake your signature treat
 - * Bring your \$\$\$\$
 - * Donate
 - * Bid/buy, buy, buy!

Auctioneer: Chuck Stiver

Questions? Contact Linda
Phone: 330.603.9690

Email: lhoffmannjoseph@zoominternet.net

White Elephant Ideas

Find items in your...

Storage Unit

Garage

Basement

Junk drawer

Tool Box

Random unused gadgets

Bookshelves

Cabinets

That one weird gift you never used!

Kiwanis blazer from the 80s

Your challenge:
This isn't just an auction -
it's a comedy competition! Only one
can win the laugh crown - will it be
you?



No Prize answer key:

1. A temper
2. A tongue
3. Noon
4. A rubberband
5. Croatia - 99.3% white

Board of Directors

2023 - 2025

Krista Wasowski
Curtis Perkins
Tim Nelson

2024 - 2026

Joan Samkow
Tracy Kappins
Russ Fanello

Mailing Address:

The Kiwanis Club of Medina
P.O. Box 903
Medina, OH 44258

Club Officers

President	Marty Gaska
President Elect	Aaron Harrison
Vice President	Ashley Krause
Immediate Past President	Hank Waite
Secretary	Nanette Waite
Treasurer	Brian Harr

Kiwanis Defining Statement

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers
dedicated to improving the world one child,
and one community at a time.