Happy New Year
Wow! What a wonderful end to the year! November and December were extremely busy but very productive and rewarding. I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas.

So many to thank, and I fear I might miss someone . . .

I can't say THANK YOU enough for all of your hard work—each of you played a role in our success. Pancake Day was a huge success. I’m sure the numbers (Continued on page 8)

### Upcoming January Birthdays!

- Willie Shoemaker 6-Jan
- Stephen Pettit 7-Jan
- Siona Escoto 22-Jan
- Mark Hillyard 24-Jan
- Willie Murphy 24-Jan
- Helen Zebarth 24-Jan
- Rob Bronson 25-Jan
- Ross Knee 25-Jan
- Al Sibert 30-Jan

### Happy Birthday!

### Upcoming Calendar

- Biz Meeting 2-Jan
- Lynnette Embree, Life Couch 9-Jan
- Bright Futures Food Pack! 9-Jan
- Interclub Old Town Winchester 14-Jan
- Law Enforcement Appreciation 16-Jan
- Social 15-Jan
- Pancake Day Wrapup 23-Jan
- Board Meeting 24-Jan
- Doug Green Exchange Program 30-Jan

### Happy New Year!
On Thursday, December 13, we attended the Kiwanis Club of Blue Ridge West Virginia's Christmas gathering at the Anvil Restaurant in Harper’s Ferry, WV. Kiwanians attending included: (1) Dennis Grubbs; (2) Ann DeLorme; (3) Pat Haislip; and (4) Tim Anderson. We returned the Kiwanis interclub key that was presented to us by Dan Lutz on November 29th.

Watch for next month’s Kourier on a report for December’s Blood Drive!

For details, contact Tim Anderson!

Kiwanis Club members gather socially each month at Piccadilly’s Public House & Restaurant located at 125 East Piccadilly Street in downtown Winchester, VA.

Next Social: January 15, 2019: 5:30pm

(L-R) John Westervelt (sponsor) with Holly Good; Helen Zebarth (sponsor) with Roger Zebarth; Brenda Sue Dodd with her sponsor, Al Sibert.
Christmas Party 2018!
This Month’s featured Kiwanian is:

Dominick Halse-Aktion Club

Dominick’s own words explain his selection for this spotlight.

Hello, my name is Dominick Halse and I’m the lead facilitator of Aktion club. Aktion Club is a branch of Kiwanis specifically created to support individuals with disabilities who are interested in giving back to their community. It’s just like any other service club in that it’s a group of likeminded individuals coming together to create change. Aktion club in Winchester has been around for more than twenty years, many of our current members were among its founding members. For most of its years Aktion Club was located and facilitated through NW Works. NW Works is a training facility where individuals work to overcome their barriers to employment and work to be empowered to find a job in the community.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is changing how disability service organizations can support individuals in the community and Aktion club is a perfect way for people with disabilities to get involved and meet new people and develop natural support systems. The goal is to increase involvement of community members in the lives of people with disabilities. Think about how many of you have friends that are paid to be around you? People with disabilities are often surrounded by staff that are paid to have a relationship with them. These staff are wonderful people that want their work to impact the community but for folks with disabilities they deserve to make friends naturally with people who spend time with them because they want to and not because they are paid to.

This year marks an exciting new chapter for Aktion Club as it is now a community group with a meeting space separate from NW Works. We are extremely grateful for Winchester Kiwanis’ support of paying for our meeting space, it’s changing how our group serves the community in such a positive way. We meet twice a month at the YDC and participate in a variety of activities to learn about how to interact with members of our community. We currently have four volunteers who support our members with no affiliation to NW Works, we are all unpaid supports who want the best for our members. As a group we practice role playing to improve how we communicate with others, we have discussions about volunteerism so we can improve our vocabulary to share why we serve, we have brainstorming sessions to explore how we want to serve and we also work on group projects to pre-
pare supplies to donate to local community groups. We are currently doing an ongoing spinner fundraiser which is a tool to help make seeking donations fun and engaging.

Our group decided that its goal for the year is to hold a community dance by late spring/early summer. We will be taking our spinners out into the community in warmer weather to raise money and we hope to increase our visibility in the community by volunteering our time at Kiwanis activities and also with other community groups with similar missions to Aktion club such as Civitan and the ARC. We look forward to helping set up for the Kiwanis Pancake Day and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Bowl A-Thon is something club members look forward to. We are scheduled to meet with local business networking groups to connect with local businesses that would like to sponsor our group and our planned community dance. I will bring Aktion club members with me to these meetings to put a face to our club and for them to advocate for what their group needs. We are planning a town hall meeting for community service businesses such as Grafton, Rescare, Access Independence and Shenandoah Community Residences to share what Aktion Club can do and increase our club membership. Big things are happening for Aktion Club this year.

There are so many individuals in our community that want to be known, that want to serve others and want to make new friends. We are here and we are proud of all the gifts we have been given in this world. Our members are proud of who we are and happy to serve. Aktion club meets the first and third Monday of every month (occasionally a Tuesday when National Holidays fall in a Monday) from 3:30pm-5pm at the YDC.

THANKS FOR BEING AN UPSTANDING MEMBER OF OUR KIWANIS FAMILY, DOMINICK!
will be exciting to hear in January. Everyone pitched in on a tough day and what a great job done by our Pancake Day Committee as well as all our many volunteers, Key Clubbers, and family. I think the day went extremely well. A special Thank You to Allen Knotts, Debbie Knotts, John Eye, and the Body Renew crew for bringing their help and equipment to assist.

We had a great turnout at Bright Futures, too. It is always a wonderful time of fellowship there while providing a much needed community service.

Winter came in pretty harsh and cold in December, but the Christmas Party warmed everyone's hearts. For me, this is the best day of the year. A wonderful program was enjoyed by all. Thank you to all who shopped, wrapped, escorted, sang, took pictures, or just sat with our young visitors. The planning was great as always. Very impressive Kay and Ginny! Nut sales were great and we even helped out our sister club, Hagerstown by selling over 25 dozen roses.

A big Thank you to Pat Haislip for organizing Salvation Army Bell ringing. It was a wonderful day and I greatly appreciate all the members who came out!

Thanks also to Pat for taking on the role of club coordinator with our Aktion Club.

There are so many others who jump in and drive our success time after time, like Pat Snapp, Craig Organ, John Conrad, Bud Good, Ginny Grant, John Westervelt, and so many more. Thanks to the Board, our Committees, and all our K-family, too.

We brought in three new members last month with another one joining in January. Let’s keep getting people interested in the good we do. Our strong membership helps us carry out our mission of improving the world, one child and one community at a time.

Thanks to Tim for setting up wonderful interclubs along with the scheduling of members for the Christmas Eve Blood Drive. I don't know how much blood was collected, but when I showed up, there was a two hour wait.

Thank you to Dennis for taking such good care of our books and setting up the socials along with the round table, which was actually rectangle. :-)

I’m looking forward to 2019. We have several more projects planned beginning with Bright Futures Food Packing on the 9th at 5:30pm. John Hess has set up great speakers in January along with our
(President’s Corner Continued)

Pancake Day presentation and our salute to law enforcement. Make sure you are at the Pancake Day presentation so you can see the fruits of your labor.

What an outstanding finish to the 2018. Great job everyone and let’s carry this momentum into 2019. May God Bless and keep each of you in the coming year.

Isaiah 6:8

TRIVIA!

What is the name of the Grinch’s Canine Companion . . .

A) Ralphie  B) Sam  C) Max  D) Cindy Lou

Happy New Year!

Kiwanis Club of Winchester, VA
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Kiwanis Club of Winchester meets each Wednesday for lunch at the Clarion Inn & Conference Center Banquet Room from 12:00pm until 1:00pm. The Clarion Inn is located at 711 Millwood Avenue, Winchester, VA (at the intersection of Routes 50 & 522 by Apple Blossom Mall) Newsletter submissions may be emailed to editor@winchesterkiwanis.org, no later than the 20th of each month.

Visit our Website: www.winchesterkiwanis.org  //  Find us on FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/winkiwanis