

# GEAR POST

Waynesboro  
Rotary Club  
5780

February/March 2023

*Acting President:* Rebecca Shin  
*Secretary:* Sarah Paiste  
*Treasurer:* Laurie Landes  
*President Elect:* Vonda Lacey  
*Directors:* Tracy Straight, Troy Hamilton, Jim White and Meg Huebeck  
*Gear Post:* Francine Johnston & Michelle White



## Dates to Remember

**Saturday, March 25:** From 9 a.m. until 12 p.m., we will be beautifying Serenity Garden in Ridgeview Park. Bring your green thumbs for weed pulling, dividing plants and more. Contact Betty Karol at 540-325-9529.  
**Saturday, April 22:** Save the date for the South River cleanup!

## February 2<sup>nd</sup>



For our February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, Isaac Izzillo from Augusta Medical Group joined us to speak about the Augusta Health Mobile Primary Care Clinic. The clinic helps vulnerable individuals get the medical care they need. The clinic visits the Grace Community Center, Plaza Apartments, Valley Mission, Craigsville Community Center and more. They offer services such as primary care, vaccines, screenings, labs and etc. About 65 percent of the individuals they see do not have insurance. Visit [augustahealth.com/service/mobileclinic](http://augustahealth.com/service/mobileclinic) for more info.

## February 9<sup>th</sup>

Amy Tillerson Brown and Jeannie McCutcheon presented about the History of Port Republic Road.

## February 16<sup>th</sup>

We learned more about new members Marcie Mader and Captain Alan Grimes from their new member talks!

## February 23<sup>rd</sup>



We learned about the nonprofit Elk Hill, their programs and their schools in Staunton, Charlottesville and Goochland. Elk Hill provides mental health services, individualized education, special enrichment and workforce development. Students are referred to Elk Hill Schools due to their serious emotional and/or behavioral challenges that have prevented their success in other schools. They are also now in 3 Waynesboro schools and will move into more when they have more staffing. Website: [elkhill.org](http://elkhill.org)

## March 2<sup>nd</sup>



Susan Versen, Director of the Waynesboro Public Library, joined us to talk about what all the WPL has to offer. With physical collections, they have magazines, books, local history, databases, seed libraries and more. With digital collections, they have eBooks, eAudio, TV shows, digitized yearbooks and more. Soon, they expect to have STEAM Kits. Susan shared the WPL had more than 158,000 physical items and almost 18,000 eResources circulated in 2022; they are on track to surpass these numbers in 2023. The WPL can be followed online.

## March 9<sup>th</sup>



Meghan Swanson, with the Waynesboro Economic Development & Tourism Office, spoke with us about current projects. They recently received a \$10,000 tourism grant for outdoor amenities in the community; they are using this for picnic tables and bike racks at Sunrise Park. The new park is scheduled to open in the fall. GROW Waynesboro will have a pitch night in April. During this event, people will pitch their business ideas for Downtown Waynesboro. Tour of the Town will also be returning. If you are not signed up for the “Visit Waynesboro” email newsletter, visit [waynesborobusiness.com](http://waynesborobusiness.com) to sign up to receive the emails about upcoming events happening in Waynesboro!



Tom Brown proudly pinned his niece Leslie Tate

### ***New member: Leslie Tate***

Welcome to Leslie Tate, nominated by her uncle Tom Brown. Leslie is Director of Community Development for the City of Waynesboro. She grew up in Augusta County, graduated from Fort Defiance High School, and attended Virginia Tech for both an undergraduate degree and a masters degree in Urban and Regional Planning. She previously worked as the Senior Planner for Augusta County. Leslie resides in Staunton with her husband and two daughters. She is excited to meet new people and impact her community through service before self.



### ***District Conference March 3-5 Salem Convention Center***

Club members had a wonderful time at the District Conference on the first weekend of March. Pictured in the photo to the left are members of multiple clubs in Area 4. Vonda Lacey, Nancy Whitlock, Sarah Paiste, Margaret Hersh, Tracy Straight, Erica Sayers and Doris Hulvey attended from our club.

At the District Conference, our club was recognized for Gold Club and for sponsoring a bed to be built, etc.

During the memorial service, Branch Hammock and Charles P. Rufe were remembered. A representative from each club lit a candle after the names were read from their club. Thank you to Vonda Lacey for lighting the candle for the Club of Waynesboro.

They've already set a date for the conference next year — March 15-17. We can't wait. Mark your calendars!

### **Notes from the Board**

Guest meals are now being billed at \$20.00 effective immediately. The board is going to begin meeting in person again starting in April. There are no new applicants at this time.