The Key

November 2026 **239th Edition**

A Newsletter for the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport

Email: kingsportkiwanis@gmail.com Website: www.kingsportkiwanis.org

"SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD"

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Matthew Quay
Phil Richards
Bill Sumner
Sharon Tidwell





COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT OPPORTUNITY

Each year there are two work days scheduled for maintenance to Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground. These workdays are hosted by Friends of Warriors' Path State Park and the Park Staff and sponsored by local businesses. **The 2026 Fall Day of Caring is set for Nov 14**, with a rain date scheduled for Nov 21. Individual volunteers and groups from civic organizations, schools, churches, and businesses tackle the monumental tasks of pressure washing, repairing and maintaining equipment, cleaning and repairing signage and interactive exhibits, and much more. In addition, landscaping, herb garden, rain garden, wildflower walk, creek and the entire complex's grounds are maintained. This is a great opportunity for all Kiwanians and family members to volunteer to improve this wonderful part of our state park. Submit the required "Volunteer Release Form" at this link: https://friendsofwarriorspathstatepark.com/day-of-caring-volunteer-form/



2026 KINGSPORT KIWANIS GRANT INVITATION

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation is pleased to make available $17,486 in grants for organizations which focus on assisting the disadvantaged in the Greater Kingsport area.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be a registered nonprofit organization.
- Must support programs or projects that improve the quality of life for children and families and/or programs focused on assisting the disadvantaged in the Greater Kingsport area.
- Must provide a complete application form and support documentation by 12/31/26.
- Grants can be for special projects or general operating expenses.
- Priority will be given to groups that are not primarily supported by government grants.

Grants typically are $5,000 or less; however, larger grants may be made in cases of a compelling need and as Kiwanis revenues permit.

The grant application will require the following: history of the organization including its mission and vision; documentation of 501(c)(3) status or other federal tax-exempt status; a statement of need for the grant; a description of the project, goals, timeline and expected measurable outcomes and the names of the board chair and director of the organization.

ALL GRANT REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM AVAILABLE AT THE WEBSITE: www.kingsportkiwanis.org BY DECEMBER 31, 2026. NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Decisions on the 2027 grants will be made by January 31, 2027, and all applicants will be notified of the decisions.

Submit questions or completed application by email to www.kingsportkiwanis.org.

The Endowment Fund

The mission of our local Endowment Fund is to supplement the efforts of Kiwanis to "serve the children of the world" both now and in the future by establishing and managing a fund intended to provide income to the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport Foundation into perpetuity. The Endowment Fund's beginning balance 10/01/2025 = $303,399.17; Ending balance 09/30/2026 = $339,639.34. The endowment account value increased $36,240.17 (net). During the year, we received contributions of $11,040. The amount transferred during 2025 to Kiwanis Foundation account was $11,486. Thanks for your support!

Reminders: Do you have IRA Required Minimum Distributions? Please consider contributing to the Kingsport Endowment Fund before the end of the year so it can grow to provide additional income to our Foundation and allow us to help with more projects to improve the lives of the children in our community.



The 2026 Kiwanis "Spirit of Kingsport" Award was recently presented to Mayor Paul Montgomery for his outstanding community service and leadership.

The Spirit of Kingsport award is an annual honor from the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport given to a non-Kiwanian who has made a significant, positive impact on the quality of life in the Kingsport community. The award recognizes individuals who actively volunteer, lead initiatives, and contribute to improving safety, youth development, and overall community well-being. The inscription reads: "A special person who goes about making Kingsport the best place to live, work and raise a family." The award was presented by Brent Mullins, president and John Campbell, past president of the Kiwanis Club of Kingsport.

2026 Honoree — Paul Montgomery, Mayor of Kingsport: Paul's contributions include service as chairman of the Northeast Tennessee Regional All American City Committee, chairman of the 2001 Fun Fest, president of the Kingsport School Board, Kingsport Regional Planning Commission, president of South Kingsport Optimist Club, president of the Kingsport Rotary and District Governor of Rotary, served six years Tennessee Board of Regents. He has been a deacon at Central Baptist Church. He currently serves on the King University Board of Trustees, works with stewardship at Christian Medical and Dental Association and is also a very active mayor of Kingsport.

Past Honorees: 2025 - Johnnie Mae Swagerty; 2023 – Jeanette Blazier (former mayor); 2019 – Bob Schrader (Boys & Girls Club); 2018 – Mary Steadman (Friends of Warriors Path); 2017 – Bonnie Booher (Girls, Inc.); 2016 – Liza Harmon (Meals on Wheels)



November:
1 Kim Frederick
8 Ted Hagen
15 Tom Parham
19 Scottie Burkhalter

December:
4 Pat Brose
10 Waylon Jenkins
15 Wes Combs
17 Ken Marsh
18 Bill Anderson
28 Jim Dickert



CLUB CALENDAR

(Program updates will be posted on our website (https://kingsportkiwanis.org/ upcoming-events) and on the Facebook page.)

DID YOU MISS A PAST PROGRAM?

10/2/26: Jennifer Ritter – The Magnolia Project (video link: https://youtu.be/LplFhbUab80?si=yn1IHn0nfebAFvfn)
10/9/26: Tim White: About Bluegrass Music and Radio Career (video link: https://youtu.be/sLHNNIj6dNQ?si=qc8-W1jvth6YWv3S)
10/16: Miles Burdine, USMC Col (Ret), NETVETS Update (video link: https://youtu.be/EaSPfejEdqE?si=JrvbdRkc6k-N0L
10/23 /26: Fred Sauceman: About Edith Wilson (video link: https://youtu.be/xJ6BSUXB904?si=JDis7czbLB_IRKBi
10/30 /26: Mike Battenburg: Back2Basics Adventures (video link: https://youtu.be/kYoAuwK3k0g?si=DeKlXjjlLJnMIGrS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: ➔ INVITE A PROSPECTIVE MEMBER

NO FRIDAY LUNCH MEETING ON NOVEMBER 26**

Nov 06, 2026	Zach Green, Cirrus Aircraft The Press Room (Food City)
Nov 13, 2026	Chris Poore, Head Coach DB Basketball The Press Room (Food City)
Nov 14, 2026	Fall Cleaning at Darrell's Dream Playground Darrell's Dream Boundless Playgr...
Nov 20, 2026	Chris McCartt, Kingsport City Manager The Press Room (Food City)
Dec 04, 2026	Jennifer Henry, History of Allandale, Kingsport Parks and Recrea... The Press Room (Food City)



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