

The Abingdon Kiwanian

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We meet at 7:00 this morning at the Senior Center



Extreme weather this winter cancelled a breakfast meeting and caused hazardous driving other mornings. This prompted the Board to unanimously extend the noon/morning meeting rotation another

three months. The test was due to end in April, but it now will continue through July. Club members still will decide if breakfast meetings should continue, but that vote will come in June.

A weekly publication of news, information and images from the Kiwanis Club of Abingdon, Virginia

Last Week

Developing the Heartwood Center Proves Disheartening

Dr. French Moore, Jr., past club president and 50-year member, last week gave us an insiders' view of the planning process for the new **Heartwood Artisans Center** that now is under construction on the community college campus.



French Moore, Jr.

Speaking as part of the new series of members telling stories from their lives, Moore said he was disturbed by state insistence that more than 20 localities be given seats on the governing body, with equal votes, although none except the Town of Abingdon and Washington County contributed money to the project. Moore represents the town, which gave \$1 million; the county gave \$500 thousand.



The Center was designed to look like a barn sawed in half. When Moore complained that Abingdon wants a different image, the chairman did not care.

noteworthy

With our help, the co-presidents of the Emory & Henry CKI Club attended the recent 50th Anniversary Convention of CKI in Arlington. It was held along with the Capital District MidWinter Conference.. Dave Jordan from our club attended and reported that the Capital District had not held such a joint event in 50 years

You stepped up to the plate and a 14 of our members volunteered to deliver chili orders this afternoon, helping the local Red Cross chapter with its big annual fund raiser. The Bristol Kiwanis Club is delivering orders in and around its city, while we deliver the orders in and around Abingdon.

This Week's Program

Blitz and his handler will teach us about K9 law enforcement

Two law enforcement officers and a dog will present our program at this week's Tuesday breakfast meeting.

The ranking officer will be Captain Mark Anders of the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

The dog is Blitz and his constant companion and handler

is Deputy Noah Horn. Blitz even lives at Horn's residence.

As a member of the Department told us, Noah is the only sheriff's officer who can handle this dog. He is not a cuddly pet, but has been bred and trained to deal with the some of the most challenging law enforcement situations.

What situations? Drug offenses are among Blitz's main duties, detecting the presence of drugs on people and in cars and other places. We were told Blitz also is good at Hot Tracking. That is following the scent of a person who has fled a crime scene or maybe a vehicle.

Blitz, who rides in Deputy Horn's car all day, is a Belgian Malinois Shepherd. One of four breeds of

Belgian sheep dogs, the Malinois has been described as very bright and obedient, as well as determined and observant with strong protective and territorial instincts.

Today's breakfast meeting should be one of the year's most interesting. The buffet opens at 6:50 am and the meeting will adjourn by 8:00 am.



Deputy Horn and Blitz

Upcoming

MARCH 16, our next lunch meeting, the Swiss-born musical director



Cornelia Kodkani-Laemmlli

and conductor of **Symphony of the Mountains** will talk to us about her orchestra. She is **Cornelia Kodkani-Laemmlli**.

MARCH 23 our next breakfast meeting, **Barbara Farmer**, Assistant Minister of **Pleasant View United Methodist Church**, will discuss the free **Wesley Medical Clinic** that her church operates with the help of local doctors and other healthcare providers.

