

THE STAFFORD ROTARY HIGHLIGHTER

August 16, 2023



Rotary Club of Stafford  **People of Action**



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

August 16 Program Lori Knowles - Damsel in Defense

Lori is a lifelong resident of Stafford County. She retired from the Stafford County Fire and Rescue Department with 27 years of service and continues to volunteer at a local Rescue Squad.

She graduated from The George Washington University in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

After retirement, Lori joined Damsel In Defense to support the company's mission of helping people protect themselves and their families from violent crime and to help rescue young girls from sex trafficking.



August 9 Meeting



Leigh Ann presided. The television fell off the wall and wasn't working well, but some clever person put it up on two chairs, and Molly worked on it until it worked. Good work, Molly! As DG Rene reminded us - "Semper Gumby!"

Leigh Ann asked if there were

Club Calendar August Is Membership and Extension Month

- ❖ August 16 - Lori Knowles, Damsel in Defense Director, Former Deputy Chief EMS Stafford County Fire and Rescue, & Paramedic at White Oak Volunteer Rescue Squad
- ❖ August 20 – End Polio Night at Fred Nats Park
- ❖ August 23 - Farrier and Bladesmith Ben Pittman
- ❖ August 29 – Get together with potential new members.
- ❖ August 30, 6 p.m. – Club Social : BJ's Restaurant and Brewery
- ❖ September 9 - Membership Summit
- ❖ September 23 & 24 – Via Colori, Stafford Regional Airport
- ❖ September 27 , 3 pm – Social – Labeling dictionaries
- ❖ October 3 – National Night Out
- ❖ November 4 - District Rotary Foundation Seminar and Celebration Luncheon
- ❖ Feb. /March 2024 -District Grant Seminar - Feb/Mar 2024
- ❖ District Training Assembly - April 2024
- ❖ May 25-29, 2024 -Rotary International Convention in Singapore
- ❖ Fall, 2024 – District Conference

members with August birthdays. There were none present, but Maria's birthday was August 10. Happy Birthday, Maria!

Announcements:

- the club calendar for the entire year is online at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1z6e0hAJQnfQgi5_zq_l4q6keN9tDGVDsrMyrw53LOKQ/edit#gid=87426488 or can be accessed on the club website on the calendar and events page.
- Volunteers are needed for the Rotary booth at Via Colori.

Program

Our inspiring and energetic guest speaker was Kathy Miller Wilson. She introduced us to her non-profit TAGGED, dedicated to helping change the trajectory of the talented, ambitious and gifted youth in foster care.

TAGGED's Mission ~ To help to change the trajectory of the talented ambitious and gifted youth in the foster care system

Vision ~ Giving youth in foster care the tools, resources, and opportunities to become the best version of themselves

Our goal is to build future leaders by:

- Helping them to gain the skills they need to seize
- tomorrow's opportunities;
- Giving them the tools and enrichment opportunities necessary to successfully step into adulthood;
- Striving to awaken their potential and harness their strengths;
- Shining a light on the endless possibilities in front of them.



TAGGED programs include:

- **STUFF-A-STOCKING:** They host the annual "Stuff-A-Stocking" project to give youth in foster care a little extra at Christmas time. They collect and distribute donated stuffed Christmas stockings to 28 + local foster care agencies in VA.
- **BUILD-A-DREAM SCHOLARSHIPS:** They award Five (5) \$1000 scholarships for youth in foster care to pursue their TAG (Talent, Ambitious, or Gift).
- **TAGGED PATHWAYS PROGRAMS:** Transition to Independence Preparation: (9th grade and up (ages 15 - 23)



➤ **BE-TAGGED LIFE SKILLS Workshops:** A series of life skills, and enrichment workshops to prepare them for successful transition to adulthood.

➤ **STUFF-A-TRUNK:** Provide college-bound youth in the foster care system with basic needs such as items for their dorm, food, personal hygiene supplies and books.

- **The SCOOP ~** A monthly distribution of available Scholarships, Internships, Apprenticeships, Training and Certifications, Job fairs, Employment Opportunities and more.

- RE-TAGGED Boutique ~ A Thrift Store that is a source of revenue to fund TAGGED programs and activities. We collect donations of upscale items and price them to bless our community. Foster youth shop at %50 off EVERYDAY!!
- Community Outreach/Partnerships: We establish partnerships with our community to fill unfunded gaps in the foster care system. We currently work with 28 local Department of Social Services (DSS) Foster Care agencies, and a host of other non-profit organizations.



International Youth Day

International Youth Day was August 12, established by the United Nations in 1999 to spotlight youth issues and celebrate young leaders as essential partners in addressing the world's challenges. [Learn more about Rotary youth programs.](#) With over 350,000 young leaders participating globally in Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), and Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) each year, Rotary's youth champions have a lot to celebrate this International Youth Day! At Rotary, we are committed to empowering young leaders as critical partners in driving meaningful and positive change across local and global communities.

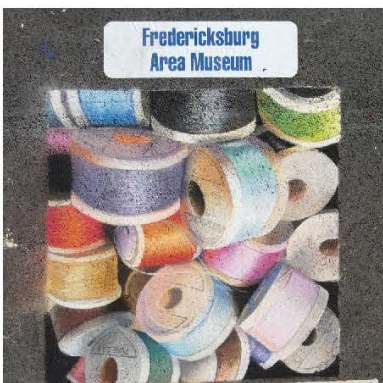
Stafford Rotarians Meet RI President Gordon McNally



September 23 & 24, 2023
10:00am-5:00pm
Stafford Regional Airport
Artist Square Sponsorship Application



Join us ! *Via Colori® Stafford* is a 2-day free community festival that showcases the street painting wonders of 75 local artists. Over the weekend, there will be food trucks, a children's creative area, music and performers, non-profit partners, sponsor booths, and thousands of guests. Businesses, groups, families and individuals are invited to sponsor an artist square. **Your sponsor name will be posted above an artist's creation and on the *Square Sponsors* board. A Sponsor Table will be available for your promotional materials inside the Artist/Sponsor tent, to which you will be welcome. A receipt for your 501(c)(3) donation will also be provided.**



Contact Name: _____

Business/Group/Family Sponsor Name : _____

Sponsorship: \$250 - 4'x 4' ft \$500 - 6'x 6' ft

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Use the below QR code to reach the ***Become a 2023 Sponsor*** link, or complete this form. make your check payable to ***Stafford County Historical Society Inc*** with ***Artist Square Sponsorship*** noted in the memo section, and provide both to a team member. Email : ViaColoriSales@gmail.com with questions.

