

Coffee with the Mayor

Ser 29 (2025-3) Service organizations

Nothing special about the coffee this week. I did notice the coffee shop had a flavored coffee with the word Romance in it. I assumed that was because of Valentine's Day. Probably should have tried it. Next time I see it offered I'll give it a try.

The week of February 16-22 has been officially proclaimed Tri Kappa Week! I signed the Proclamation this morning (Monday) with several young Tri Kappa women looking on. This organization is special to our community for several reasons. One in particular, they were the first organization to donate funds to the Veterans' Hall of Honor organization. This came at a time when I was losing hope of getting any support for relocating the veteran photos from Shields Hardware. Over time, their donation was the first of many donations received from individuals as well as other organizations. The focus of this philanthropic organization says much about their community involvement.

The Tri Kappa organization is unique to the state of Indiana, a fact I did not know. Statewide there are over 7,000 members that promote three main areas: charity, culture and education. They support many projects statewide that very few in this area are aware of. Locally they provide scholarships for graduating high school seniors in addition to other funding support. It's good to know this service organization is very active and part of our community.

Another service organization active in our community is the Civitan Club. This club is known for their fundraising around Thanksgiving and the 4th of July. Their biggest fund raiser is probably the Greene Eggs and Ham breakfast served the morning before the parade. I highly recommend this breakfast not only for the food (ham specifically) but for socialization! The way I understand it, Ed Greene returned from the service (Navy) with the experience of cooking hams in the ground. He did this on his farm for several years to support private and church events before going public with the Civitan breakfast! His family continues cooking hams in this fashion today. But, enough about hams! Civitan uses the funds received for two main programs at Christmas, clothe a child and toys for tots in addition to other community support throughout the year. In addition, there's also an active Junior Civitan Club in the local high school. It's good to have the youth engaged in the service club!

There are other organizations in the community as well. Not sure what the distinction is between a service organization and a service club. Some have dedicated buildings and some don't. The clubs I'm aware of are the Elks, Moose, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. These all have specific areas of community support and engagement and are important to the community.

Over the last few years there have been some clubs that have disappeared from the community landscape. There are two that come to mind, the Rotary and JayCees. Both very active in the day. Membership in many clubs doesn't seem to be as popular as it once was which probably leads to the disbandment. I've been asked about the possibility of starting a Lions Club in Linton. I think this is a good idea! What is needed is a local champion to spearhead the effort in establishing this organization. If interested, please let me know at jpreble@cityoflinton.com or 812 847-7754.