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It’s your Centennial Award.  
It’s our gift to the world.

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www.TheEliminateProject.org/centennialaward
Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.

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JOHN BUTTON | KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

WHAT WE KNOW NOW
And we thought we were only eliminating maternal and neonatal tetanus. As it is turning out, we are doing so much more.

When village leaders see that newborns and new mothers are no longer dying from tetanus because of immunization, they become receptive to other health initiatives. Programs such as integrated immunization and health education are being enthusiastically embraced.

The Eliminate Project is having a far more profound impact on how whole societies function than anyone could have imagined. If a mother survives the neonatal period, 89 percent of her children live long enough to go to school. If she does not survive, that number plummets to 24 percent. If the mother survives, the family’s income is maintained, allowing her children to go to school.

This is so important for girls.

Educated girls are empowered girls. Empowered to say, “No!”

Empowered to demand access to safe health care, empowered to take control of their bodies and empowered to demand their rightful place in society.

Girls with no education are often forced by circumstance or their families into child marriage. This happens 39,000 times every day; 4 million times every year. Around the world 700 million women live in forced marriages, one-third of which took place before the girl was 15.

I recently read a UN report of a 15-year-old girl who was “betrothed” by her family to a 75-year-old man. She was in school. She said, “No!” She rallied her schoolmates, and they said, “No!” They marched on the village elder’s home and with one voice said, “No!” There was no marriage.

Empowerment.

This young woman was empowered because she was in school. She was in school because her mother had survived the neonatal period and could afford an education. Her mother had received the tetanus vaccine. We never fully knew what we would start when we took up the fight against maternal and neonatal tetanus.

We are not only making history.

We are transforming societies.

EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVE
STAN SODERSTROM | KIWANIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DUES PROPOSAL: PART II
In the previous issue of Kiwanis magazine, I described the overall financial picture of Kiwanis International and explained why, after 13 years of no change in our member dues, an increase of US$10 is needed. I’ve heard from a few of you, and I’m happy to say most responses indicate that many members agree we must ensure our operating fund doesn’t run out of money in 2017.

There is a second part to the proposal for the delegates to consider at the June Kiwanis International convention. And that is to give the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees the authority to make small, annual adjustments to the dues amounts based upon changes in inflation, currency exchange and other factors.

Our organization involves a rather complicated dues structure. We have clubs in more than 80 nations. Currencies fluctuate daily. Every nation experiences a different rate of annual inflation. When the US dollar is strong (like now), clubs in other Kiwanis nations automatically experience a dues increase since our dues are priced and paid in US dollars. Raising money globally for The Eliminate Project means a grant to UNICEF will be impacted by changes in currency exchange rates, and many uncertainties in the actual price an immunization may ultimately cost. (This is one of the reasons US Fund for UNICEF has agreed to not take any part of our grants for the purpose of administration or processing.)

In addition, the dues a Kiwanis member pays to be part of a Kiwanis club is a combination of Kiwanis International dues (US$42 for Tier A nations, US$27 for Tier B nations, US$18 for Tier C nations) plus district dues (which generally range from US$20 to US$46) plus Kiwanis magazine subscription (US$8) plus liability and director and officers insurance premiums (US$16) plus club dues plus any additional fees a club chooses to charge.

By entrusting the Kiwanis International Board to make good decisions regarding annual adjustments to dues— not to exceed a change more than 5 percent— we’re creating a mechanism by which all the variable factors can be considered in making Kiwanis affordable and economically viable at the same time.

Continued on page 42
Kiwanis Peanut Day, an all Kiwanian non-profit company, has the experience and a full-line of products to make your Kiwanis Club’s fund raiser as profitable as possible. In the last 64 years Kiwanis Clubs have raised over $75 million using our products. We will fill your every need from helping you plan your fund raiser to helping you incorporate our products into your existing primary or secondary fund raisers.

We are proud to announce our newest promotion:

Any Kiwanis Club that increases this year’s order by $500 over last year’s order or any new club that purchases $500 will be put into a drawing to win $1,000 for their club’s favorite charity. Drawing period will be from July 1st, 2015 thru December 31st, 2015. Three clubs will be chosen and announced at our annual meeting in April, 2016.

Send For Your FREE Fundraising Kit
1-888/PNUT-FUN (1-888-768-8386)

Be sure to visit our web site at www.kiwanispeanutday.com

* A non-profit, Kiwanis sponsored fundraising program exclusively for Kiwanis Clubs.
**LETTERS**
KIWANIS MAGAZINE READERS RESPOND

**ADVANCED LESSONS**
While reading “Destiny’s Children” (March 2015 Kiwanis magazine), I noticed a photo in which an algebra problem had been solved on an old blackboard in a simple classroom. I don’t know what grade met in that classroom, but obviously the students had some knowledge of advanced mathematics. Good for them and good for Kiwanis for being part of this worthy effort.

**DON PERANDER** | KIWANIS CLUB OF MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

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**ARTS’ MISSING LINK**
I would like to personally thank Chris O’Malley for his very well-written article, “Cultural Divide” (March 2015 Kiwanis magazine). The subtitle, “Nonprofits find creative ways to bring arts back to schools despite budget cuts,” caught my attention. I found that the article was engaging and in depth. Not the usual fluff.

I am co-founder of ArtsBusXpress, which underwrites transportation costs for field trips that connect children to many venues that enrich and reinforce the classroom experience.

Our city has many, many opportunities for children to experience a bigger world; however, many of these venues do not have the audiences that they are expecting because dollars for the transportation are not available. That’s why we call ourselves the Missing Link.

**PATRICIA F. SMITH** | KIWANIS CLUB OF TORREY PINES, LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA

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**IDEAS APLENTY**
Wow! Kiwanis magazine is awesome. If a club can’t find a worthy project after reading the April/May 2015 issue, they should fold their tents and sulk away into the darkness. I joined Kiwanis in 1954 and have never, ever enjoyed our magazine more! I loved it!

**JIM ROBERTS** | KIWANIS CLUB OF NAPA, CALIFORNIA

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**OUTSTANDING!**
That’s how I’d describe your March 2015 Kiwanis magazine issue. Outstanding! As a photo specialist, I like to recognize good photos.

**SCOTT BREWER**
BETHESDA, MARYLAND, KIWANIS CLUB

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We welcome your comments on Kiwanis magazine content; email your letter to magazine@kiwanis.org.
K Corps
Global Community Service Exchange

Is your club ready to go global?

K Corps is Kiwanis International’s new exchange program for Kiwanis teens (15-18). Through the two-week program, clubs, families, and youth will build global relations and intercultural communication skills. Participants will learn about their host country through a homestay experience—living with volunteer families who are members of the host clubs and by participating in club-designed service projects.

The first cohort of young, cosmopolitan Kiwanians will hail from North America (going to Europe) and Europe (heading to North America) and will be taking flight summer 2016. Would one of your members like to be on that flight? Could you see your families forming a welcome party at arrivals? Can you imagine wishing a foreign teen a heartfelt farewell after a life-changing exchange/service experience?

Start the conversation now!

800.721.7474 • youthexange@kiwanis.org

In cooperation with PAX Eurasian Exchange
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
TRENDS, TIPS, FACTS AND FIGURES FROM KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

CUBA BOUND
Kiwanis is proud to launch Kiwanis Travel, an exclusive partnership with AHI Travel, a respected group tour operator. The first trip will take Kiwanians to Cuba, offering an opportunity to explore a country that only recently has become much easier for U.S. travelers to visit.
Learn more at kwn.is/kicuba.

CKI & MNT
“More than 50 percent of CKI clubs have donated to The Eliminate Project in the past two years, and we hope to continue our fundraising efforts well into 2016.”
Kathy Le, president, Circle K International
Read more about CKI’s support of The Eliminate Project at kwn.is/ki0615le.

VOTE SMART
What do you want to know about the proposed dues increase?
How about the proposal to allow greater flexibility in club meeting frequency? Be an educated delegate. Get all the facts before you vote; visit kiwanis.org/convention/business.
DID YOU KNOW?
The Canadian government announced it will match every dollar raised by UNICEF Canada and Kiwanis Canada—up to CAD$2.5 million—making Canada the largest government donor to The Eliminate Project with what is essentially a CAD$5 million commitment. Learn more at kwn.is/kicanadamnt.

See Indy
Need ideas for what to see and do while in Indianapolis for the 100th Annual Kiwanis International Convention and Centennial Celebration? We’ve got you covered.

ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Patrice Hart Cunningham on Facebook
“It was an honor to serve our community on #KiwanisOneDay. The Fort Myers Metro-McGregor (Florida) Kiwanis funded and manned a mobile food pantry feeding over 300 families in the area.”

Circleville HS TigerTrack on Twitter
Thanks to all the volunteers and the Circleville (Ohio) Kiwanis Club for making the 2015 Circleville Kiwanis Relays a success!

See Indy
Need ideas for what to see and do while in Indianapolis for the 100th Annual Kiwanis International Convention and Centennial Celebration? We’ve got you covered.

Don’t miss out on any of the great attractions. Make plans now. Learn more at visitindy.com/kiwanis15.
CELEBRATE STRENGTH

Spreading the good that Kiwanis does is truly something that should be done year-round. That’s why The Formula recognition program rewards members who open, strengthen and support Kiwanis clubs.

- Members who left a legacy in another community by opening a new club have joined the Legacy Circle. As of April 9, 132 club openers have become members of this exclusive society—129 at the Bronze level for opening 1-4 clubs, two at the Silver level (5-9 clubs) and one at the Gold level (10-19 clubs).

- Members who gave the gift of service by inviting someone to join them in Kiwanis service have been awarded The Gift of Kiwanis Award. As of March 31, 10,838 members have received the Bronze level award for sponsoring 1-4 members, 254 the Silver (5-9), 61 the Gold (10-19) and 11 the Platinum (20+).

- Clubs that worked together to increase their impact by adding more hands and hearts to their ranks became members of the Impact Circle. As of January 31, 2015, 2,074 clubs added a net total of 1-4 members last year, earning them Bronze level membership, while 506 clubs earned Silver (5-9 net members added), 181 clubs earned Gold (9-19 net members added) and 26 earned Platinum (20+ net members added).

For more information about these awards, please visit kiwanis.org/formularrecognition.

GLOBAL EXCHANGE

Kiwanis International announces the launch of K Corps—a new international exchange program for high school-age (15-18) Kiwanis teens. In partnership with PAX (Program of Academic Exchange) and Laurasian Institution, the program will provide safe, simple and affordable two-week international youth exchanges. If you’d like to get involved or want to learn more, visit www.kiwanis.org/youthexchange.

SNEAK PEEK

Kiwanis will once again have its place in the annual Rose Parade in Pasadena, California next January 1. The theme of the 2016 parade is “Find Your Adventure,” which will highlight the partnership between the Pasadena Tournament of Roses and the U.S. National Park Service. Learn more about the history of Kiwanis’ role in the parade at kiwanisrosefloat.com.
Coming soon ... Kiwanis Travel

TAKE THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

Inspired by core principles of integrity, value and excellence, AHI’s expert group travel planners design programs that bring you face to face with iconic monuments, historic sites and world-famous landscapes, and they also introduce you to the secret gems prized by locals. In addition, itineraries provide blissful breaks for you to realize your own plans.

Kiwanis Travel proudly offers an exciting program in Cuba, the enigmatic Caribbean island nation—November 1 - 9, 2015.

Additional travel opportunities are available in 2016:
• Experience Barcelona, the jewel of Spain’s Mediterranean coast.
• Admire the breathtaking scenery of Italy’s Lake District.
• Journey along the waterways of Holland and Belgium during the tulip season.
• Explore Ireland’s rugged western coast and Dublin.
• Travel to eight countries on a cruise of Europe’s most important waterway, the mighty Danube River.
• Cruise the scenic Alaskan coast.
• Discover the pristine landscapes of Switzerland.
• Immerse yourself in the glamorous Italian Riviera.

Visit kiwanis.ahitratavel.com or call our travel experts at 877-572-5159.

Stop by the AHI Travel booth at the Kiwanis World Showcase in Indianapolis, June 24 - 27, 2015. Learn about our travel programs and gain insider access to a vast array of savings opportunities and travel benefits.
EXPLORE BONUS CONTENT

Dig deeper into Kiwanis magazine’s June/July issue by downloading the Kiwanis app to your iPad or Android tablet. This interactive and entertaining publication expands the experience of reading Kiwanis magazine through videos, slideshows, audio and other exciting content.

Experience the stories in a dynamic new way and enhance your Kiwanis magazine reading experience. There are also back issues available to download.

To download the Kiwanis magazine app to your iPad, launch Newsstand and search for “Kiwanis.” Then follow the instructions to download the current issue—and past issues—right to your device.

For Android tablets, visit the Google Play Store and search for “Kiwanis.” Follow the instructions to download the app.

The Kiwanis magazine app is free. Enjoy.
Is managing club tasks driving you nuts?

Make it easier with Portalbuzz. For service organizations, Portalbuzz is the best public-website and club-management system. You get simple tools for club tasks—such as event and meeting management, volunteer signup, billing and member directories. You get design templates for Kiwanis-club websites. Best of all, you get more time for the service and fellowship you love.

Come hear what the buzz is all about.
Try the demo or sign up for a free trial at www.portalbuzz.com.
the Life of Riley
Through the past 90 years, Kiwanis has witnessed many miracles that have saved lives at this Indianapolis children’s hospital. The Currys’ is one such story.

Story by Kasey Jackson  |  Photos by Kasey Jackson, Curtis Billue, Tom Russo/Greenfield Daily Reporter

The inception of the 12:34 dance party says a lot about the Curry family’s positivity and perseverance. In their darkest days, they always found the silver lining. They spent time together. They laughed together. They prayed together. And when the clock struck 12:34, they danced together.

Through it all, they were never alone. Nurses and doctors danced with them. People around the world prayed with and for them and followed along for updates on social media. And that spiritual backing and love could be felt all the way into Katie Grace Curry’s room at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health in Indianapolis, Indiana. She was blessed beyond measure.

But she was also sick. Very, very sick.
It all started around May 2013. Katie’s third-grade year was coming to a close. Like other children her age, she should’ve been excited and making plans for summer break. Instead, she wasn’t feeling so great. She had started to feel a lump in her throat. Soon, that “lump” was making her gag, oftentimes causing her to vomit.

“We thought at one point she was having food allergies,” says her father, Danny. “We even restricted her diet to try to help with all of that. There was really a lot of ‘Oh, it’s something digestive. We’re gonna figure it out.’ We kinda lived with it for a little while. Then she was getting lethargic and a number of things had us concerned. Really, what prompted the discovery was pursuing this digestive thing—thinking it was food-related. Then they ran some tests, and that’s when they began to discover things that weren’t anywhere on our radar screen. We had no way of processing this. We were like, ‘She has food allergies, right?’ I would say we processed it in little bites along the way. It was overwhelming at first.”

Katie and her mom, Jen, spent hours at Riley, going through a battery of tests while Danny, who is a minister, was at a church conference in Nebraska. Jen updated him regularly throughout the process.

“I get a phone call that says, ‘They want to admit us to the hospital,’” Danny recalls. “And I remember my response was, ‘They want to admit us for food allergies? I didn’t know you needed to go to the hospital for food allergies.’”

There were all sorts of specialists. Numerous tests. Blood work. Doctors were sure something was wrong, just not quite sure what. Danny remembers it as “chaotic, but for me, I was a thousand miles away. So that was hard.”
And then, the doctors had answers. It turns out that lump Katie was feeling in her throat was actually her heart. One of Katie’s kidneys had never fully developed and the other was giving out. And since kidneys help regulate blood pressure, Katie’s heart had become enlarged from working so hard. And she could feel it.

“As they began to say words like ‘kidney failure’ and ‘heart failure,’ which was a lot to hear about your 9-year-old, it was shocking,” says Danny. “I remember where I was standing. I was at the University of Nebraska for a conference. I was standing outside of their auditorium. There was a bench right there and I felt my legs buckle a little bit and I sat down and kinda just melted, emotionally, a little bit.”

Katie initially spent two weeks at Riley to get her blood pressure back to a safe and normal range. But this was just the beginning of her journey. In September 2013, Katie would have her underdeveloped kidney removed and by June 2014, Katie was becoming so ill from the toxins in her body that the search for a kidney donor began in earnest.

Her mother was tested first, but it was determined she was not a good match. Dad was next.

“I remember those days of waiting to hear about the results, to see if it was a go or not,” Danny says. “And, it was ….”

At this point, Danny’s voice trails off. Tears well up in his eyes. Katie, who is sitting next to him, giggles as she looks at her dad. He looks at her and smiles through his tears.

“It was awesome getting that call.”

**Letting kids be kids**

All along the way, a team known as Child Life specialists talked with Katie to explain to her exactly what was happening. They used medical play to show her what it was like to have a kidney removed and a new one put in. They had fun in the Child Life Zone, a new area within Riley that houses games, a working TV studio and even a display ambulance that opens in the back for exploration and explanation. The entire zone is bright, colorful and, most of all, fun. And there’s a different Child Life specialist for each step of the journey—so Katie made many new friends.

“I remember Maggie (Kirles) told me what it was going to be like,” says Katie about her surgery. “She gave me a doll that we did surgery on. First, we cleaned it. Then we cut her open. Then we took a packing peanut and stuck it in there for the kidney. (Katie named her new kidney and her doll’s new kidney “Kinedy,” which she “spelled to look a little like kidney.”) Then we sewed it back together. Then we brought it back to the room with a little bed and IV pole.”

The experience wouldn’t have gone as smoothly as it did without the Child Life specialists, Danny says.

“You have doctors who can be intimidating, and the nurses do a great job of trying to translate that there’s this other level of care. They’re special friends who come in and say, ‘Let’s do something fun today.’ For the kids, it doesn’t feel like they’re in a stressful situation. They do a good job of keeping it fun and light.”

Maggie Kirles is the Child Life specialist who worked with Katie to prep her for her nephrectomy, the surgery she had to remove the bad kidney. She’s also the one who did the “surgery” on the doll with Katie.
“We have a mantra in Child Life,” Maggie says. “We say: ‘Kids need more than just medicine to get well.’ And we are that extra part of their care. We are there helping to normalize the environment. It’s kind of like coming in to a new world with a new language. Lots of big terms. So we help them understand. Make the environment fun. Give them things they know how to do. A kid’s job is to play. So we’re here to help make sure they can still do their job while they’re in the hospital.”

A long partnership

And here to make sure Child Life specialists have the support they need is the Indiana District of Kiwanis. In 2013, the district continued its ongoing support of Riley with a US$450,000 pledge to support the Child Life program. Without this pledge, the program would have suffered loss of staff and resources.

Kiwanian Denny Yoder is chairman of the Riley K.I.D.S. committee.

“Child Life is a super project,” he says. “The people who work in Child Life make it seem like all they do is work with kids, but the knowledge they have about each and every different type of surgery and how they can take that down to, say, a five-year-old and make that five-year-old feel like they can’t wait to get into surgery is phenomenal. And so it may appear they’re just playing with kids, but their knowledge and background and what they’re actually doing—making those kids feel comfortable—is just amazing.”

Danny and Katie went in for their surgeries on December 15, 2014. Danny went in first, at Indiana University Hospital. Once his kidney was removed, it was rushed through several walkways to Katie, who was waiting in a Riley operating room next door.

The procedure was a success. When Katie went in to have her operation, her kidney filtration rate had dropped to a life-threatening nine. (A healthy filtration number—which tells how much blood is circulating through the kidney—is above 100.) On December 26, Danny posted to Twitter that Katie’s level had hit 109.

And they were going home.

“From a parent of a Riley kid,” says Danny, “what people do in their generosity to support a place like this … I think sometimes when people give they give to a hospital, they see a structure, they think, ‘Oh, there are doctors and nurses.’ But when you’re giving to support a place like this, behind all of those dollars and behind every one of those numbers is a name. And a family. And a story. So, what you do matters. A lot. We’re certainly grateful.”

Katie Curry with Child Life specialists Maggie Kirles (left) and Abigail Rainey. Katie’s dad, Danny Curry, models his “Got Kidney” T-shirt (below). The shirt is designed to raise awareness of the living donor program.
Indiana District Kiwanis and Riley Hospital for Children: A timeline

1919
Indiana District Kiwanians begin fundraising for the hospital.

1924
Riley Hospital for Children opens its doors. 1,200 children were treated in the first year.

1926
Indiana District Kiwanis raises US$150,000 for the Kiwanis K-Wing to be built. The original cornerstone can still be seen in the Kiwanis courtyard.

1958
Kiwanis Diagnostic & Outpatient Center opens.

1975
Kiwanis K-Wing remodeled.

1991
Indiana Kiwanis clubs make US$1 million pledge.

2004
Kiwanis' first MICU (Mobile Intensive Care Unit) released to fleet of ambulances.

2009
Kiwanis pledges US$1 million for “Path to a Cure” for diabetes research.

2013
Kiwanis pledges US$450,000 to support Child Life program.

What is Child Life?

The Riley Child Life Program at IU Health seeks to minimize the stress and anxiety children often experience by using therapeutic and art activities that address patient and families’ societal, emotional and educational needs during hospitalization. Child Life supports patients and families in the following ways:

- Activities at the bedside
- Activities presented in special Child Life playrooms on each floor
- Pre-surgery programs
- Comfort and distraction during painful procedures
- Educational approach with patients
- Special art and music programs
- Holiday celebrations/performances, seasonal/event celebrations

Information courtesy of Riley Children’s Foundation RileyKids.org

Kiwanis projects at Riley Hospital for Children

- Kiwanis K-Wing
- Kiwanis courtyard
- Kiwanis helipad
- Kiwanis elevator
- Kiwanis torch
- Kiwanis Red Wagon Corral
- Kiwanis MICU
- Kiwanis helicopter
- Kiwanis Parent Comfort Cart
- Kiwanis Reach Out Program
- Kiwanis Reach Out and Read
- Kiwanis Child Injury Prevention
- Kiwanis Adapted Bike Safety
- Kiwanis Magic Castle Cart
- Kiwanis Jump Kids Jump Movement

Information courtesy of Riley Children’s Foundation RileyKids.org
Over the glittering Tonle Sap River. Beyond the hustling noise, dazzle and construction rebirth of capital city Phnom Penh. Past rice fields, faded sentinel temples and the schoolyards where row after neat row of bicycles lean in anticipation of their owners. Across roadways that mesh patches of sleek highway with rut-pocked red-dirt paths. This is the way to Cambodia’s future.

Six hours deep into the drive, Phnom Penh has disappeared into vague memory. Gritty towns give way to verdant pepper, coffee, cashew and rubber farms. Farms fade to a dustier savannah-like scrub-and-shrub landscape, long stripped of its timber. This is the way to Cambodia’s Mondulkiri Province, one of the nation’s last holdouts for validation against maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT).

This is the way to the village where Phalla Srey Lin and her sparkle-eyed daughter Nget Snet live.

Nget Snet is just shy of two years old. She clutches a yellow balloon as she snuggles into her mother’s protecting arms. Phalla Srey Lin is 18 years old. She and her husband farm rice and cassava, scratching out their living on a small patch of land. They are part of Poutert village where, as far back as she knows, they and their extended family have always lived.

Steeped in the global hope of mothers everywhere, Phalla Srey Lin has big dreams for her daughter. She wants Nget Snet to become a doctor.

“I want her to study, graduate and become a doctor,” the young mother says without hesitation. It’s clearly not the first time she’s thought about her...
daughter’s future—or that of her community. “Being a doctor could have a lot of advantage in our village. We have a health center, but we still have a lot of people who need help.”

Nget Snet could grow up to be that help. She could grow up to be the person who creates a new cycle of health and hope in her village. In Cambodia. In the world.

That’s what happens when people invest in human potential. And it’s already happening in countries like Cambodia because of Kiwanis and The Eliminate Project. For Nget Snet, the investment began when her mother received her series of tetanus toxoid vaccine, protecting Nget Snet and any future brothers or sisters from tetanus.

On the brink of being validated for MNT elimination by the World Health Organization, Cambodia is an example of how funding is put to work on the ground by UNICEF. It is also a study in the intricacies of communication and health strategy in a poor nation’s most remote reaches—and how tetanus vaccination has opened doors for other vital health initiatives.
According to UNICEF Cambodia, as of 2010 about 85 percent of pregnant women were vaccinated against tetanus—up from 69 percent in 2005. The most recent validation work shows the bulk of the nation to be MNT-free. Yet there are pockets—remote areas, like Mondulkiri Province—that cannot yet make that claim. Mondulkiri has a high ethnic minority population; creating linguistic and cultural barriers to immunization and health education. The population is spread thin over a vast, tough-to-navigate geography. High migration rates make it difficult to reach new, sometimes transient residents. Despite these challenges, UNICEF, Cambodia’s health ministry and a network of health volunteers have put on the full-court press to change “almost” to “done.”

“It’s about working at the local level to ensure women are going to health centers, that they’re attending their antenatal visits, that all the community members are aware of how to avoid tetanus and that all the community members are demanding that they’re vaccinated and protected from tetanus,” says Rana Flowers, the UNICEF Representative in Cambodia.

In Pourchrei Commune in Mondulkiri Province, 52-year-old Ya Tharin has seen babies die of tetanus. Among them, those of his own mother and sister.

“The child would be shaking,” he recalls. “It wouldn’t want milk. But we didn’t know it was tetanus. I was scared when I saw this. I didn’t understand it.”

What Ya Tharin and others now know was MNT was then attributed to the belief that the baby’s “original mother” had come to reclaim her child. When a newborn no longer wanted to nurse and took on a far-away look—as though looking beyond everyone—villagers believed a “previous,” unearthly mother had come for her baby.

That was, however, 30 years ago, says Ya Tharin. Now, MNT is becoming rare. He’s seen many improvements in antenatal care in the village, including introduction and regular distribution of the tetanus toxoid vaccine, umbilical cord care education, increased use of the health clinic and, critical to the whole operation, a growing network of volunteers from the community to promote it all.
“When I realized (tetanus) was preventable, I wanted to spread the word quickly,” he says. “I’m happy to spread the message and make sure women are informed.”

Ya Tharin is part of an education and messaging strategy. He is a health volunteer within a network of volunteers.

“Volunteers are used to communicate with the women, because the health-care workers simply can’t talk to every pregnant woman,” explains UNICEF Cambodia health officer Chum Aun.

“The value of the health volunteers and the way they combine with the (local) health centers in terms of communication is a crucial element,” Flowers adds.

The provincial-level maternal and neonatal child health (MNCH) ministry recruits one man and one woman from each village. Like Ya Tharin. The health ministry has guidelines for who is best to serve a village as a health volunteer.

“The volunteers are nominated during a recruitment process, and they receive respect from the other villagers,” Aun explains. It’s set up as a part-time volunteer position, as both men and women often work on their farms together. The volunteers receive a small stipend to attend regular training.

Once a month, the volunteers and village leaders—including the village chief—gather with other villages’ volunteer network teams to learn new antenatal care information, refresh their knowledge of best practices—including the importance of tetanus vaccination—and set goals. Representatives from the provincial-level MNCH ministry lead the sessions. Then, the information goes back to the villages where the volunteers convene women once a month to teach them, as well.

“It’s a slow process but it moves, and it makes a change,” says Bin Ratana, MNCH chief for the provincial health ministry in Mondulkiri. She leads the once-a-month training sessions for the volunteers and village leaders. “We’re seeing an increase in antenatal care, and more people are receiving their tetanus toxoid vaccine. Before, only five to six women a year would come to the health center for antenatal care. Now, it’s more than 100.”

She says that with more volunteers in villages to carry the message, she believes Mondulkiri Province also will declare MNT elimination. It works, she says, because everyone is hearing the same message about tetanus, umbilical cord care and antenatal care—and the message is being reinforced by “top down” messaging from the village chief, as well as peer-to-peer from other health volunteers.

That’s how Phalla Sey Lin learned about the tetanus vaccine, the health center and other antenatal care services.

“And I went, because I wanted to be healthy as a mother,” she says.

Changing Ways

Educating families about safe umbilical cord care is vital in Cambodia’s MNT-elimination efforts. Through practices passed down generations, some believe that placing substances—such as cow dung, wasps’ nests, spider webbing and ash—on a newborn’s umbilical cord, will protect the child. In fact, those substances can transmit tetanus, among other diseases. Proper cord care is a strong educational message that’s getting through, and women are demanding it. One mother of three noted that after she learned about proper cord care, she informed her husband that she would not put wasps’ nest on the baby’s cord—though he was insistent. She prevailed, and one more family is informed and protected.

Continued on page 46
Recently, Steppingstone Scholars Inc. cosponsored the annual Step Into College Conference, which provides college readiness and access workshops for parents and students across the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. With hundreds of parents and students present, Mayor Michael Nutter spoke about the importance for students to get involved in their communities and make a difference. He charged them with aspiring for more than volunteering but being unswervingly dedicated to their passions.

As the director of programs for Steppingstone Scholars, I work with a variety of students representing diverse ethnic, religious and national identities. The mission for this Philadelphia-based organization is centered on creating academic access opportunities for students from underserved communities. While the students may all have clear differences, they are bound by their desire to defy the odds of their cir-
However, it can be difficult to hear these scholars speak about their experiences in their classrooms and their communities. They talk about the lack of acceptance for their differences in both settings. However, their school environment is the most difficult to navigate. When we met with high school young men during one of our male affinity group sessions, we asked them about their background. Unfortunately, they often did not see their school setting as a location where they could be themselves or where they were supported to grow into who they hoped to be. Considering the abundance of news cycles detailing celebrity gossip and congressional gridlock, it becomes difficult to find the discourse about our students and opportunities for them to determine their own identity. Too often, our differences are used to divide us, rather than being seen as an opportunity to unite us.

FINDING ACCEPTANCE

When asked to define identity, one of the scholars described it as “who I am when no one else is around.” When asked to explain, he said that much of his identity in school is a mask consisting of learned responses and behaviors. Ultimately, he hoped he could be himself whenever he got to college. As I reflected on his comments, I thought about my own experiences of school, and honestly recognized how often I too went through the motions or buried whom I was to assimilate or hide.

As I facilitated the conversation, I witnessed the vital importance of acceptance. The men of the group were offering their time on a Saturday afternoon to connect with high school young men from a variety of Philadelphia’s schools, who were unified by the circumstances of their backgrounds. When given voice, the scholars spoke about their passions to achieve their aspirations. They received advice about potential pathways to achieve their dreams and pledges of support for mentoring along the way. This discourse is only a step toward creating the vision for a society where students with the potential and a community of support are prepared for academic success and social mobility, regardless of their financial circumstances.

They also described how their identities were constantly barraged by media perceptions, peer pressure and family messages. They detailed powerful stories about overcoming disparaging remarks about who they were from a variety of sources, including members of their various identity groups. From micro-aggressions to ambivalence, they recounted their experiences and how they aspired for more acceptance within their communities.

When asked to speak about their identities, nearly every scholar present asked, “My identity or the one others think I have?” This appears to be at the core of the problem. Too often they were saying that they needed space like the ones on that Saturday afternoon to have these conversations where they could recognize where messages from others stopped and their identity began. When asked how they would fix this, they said that they needed more acceptance of others and their identity groups. They also described how they felt supported to achieve their dreams and pathways to achieve their goals by their mentors and supporters, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Respecting the identity of others, rather than imposing one’s views or perceptions on them, can be difficult. When pressed, most of us can rattle off a myriad of stereotypes and perceptions about different races, ethnicities and identities. Even young children can recite many of these messages and too often internalize them.
BREAKING THE CYCLE

We must continually challenge our perspectives and be willing to admit that we do see difference. Too often, we shade our biases by not being honest with ourselves regarding our views of “other.” We need to turn these internal dialogues into peer-to-peer or group discussions to allow ourselves to overcome the limiting perspectives of indulging others rather than accepting or even celebrating them. Teaching equity rather than blindness respectfully embraces our differences instead of mistakenly pretending that they do not exist.

Reflecting on the words of the scholars, they spoke about how rarely their peers from their various schools entered each other’s homes or interacted authentically outside of school. Rather, they simply shared classroom space. This issue must be addressed, and pathways for expression have to be provided for students to express and celebrate their identity in a variety of ways. Rather than a multicultural day or volunteering at a soup kitchen, students need authentic, ongoing experiences where they are in classroom discussions about themselves and how they relate to their texts and after-school programs that allow them to follow their passions.

Adults need to engage at a level deeper than dropping in, imparting wisdom and returning to their work and families. Ongoing engagement that includes their families is key to exacting community change and growth. Steppingstone Scholars Inc. works to facilitate those experiences with workshops, mentoring and tutoring opportunities. How are you engaged in these conversations and turning them into action? How powerful of a society would it be to have individuals be the same individual they hope to be even when others are around?

Chris Avery is the director of programs for Steppingstone Scholars, a nonprofit dedicated to creating college access for students from underserved communities. Avery brings an extensive understanding of the challenges that Steppingstone’s Scholars and families face every day, and knowledge of how to navigate Philadelphia’s complex landscape of school choice while working to build high-quality academic enrichment programs that prepare students for college success and leadership in society. He also serves as the vice president of Strategic Planning for TurningSTONE choice, a nonprofit that focuses on building choice making and critical thinking skills in students. He serves as a facilitator for the (US) National Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) Project and has authored several works including “Angst,” a novel about navigating high school. Recently, Avery was a recipient of the Teaching Tolerance: Teacher of the Year Award due to his dedication to improving education and better preparing students for the diverse world they face. He earned his BA at the University of Virginia in both Foreign Affairs and African Studies and went on to earn a Masters of Education in School Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania.
“I’m always willing to see what I’m capable of,” says Crystal Armstrong of San Diego, California, who has mastered snorkeling, scuba diving, sky-diving and—in 2014—snow skiing.
Blonde hair whips around Crystal Armstrong’s helmet. Her eyes concentrate intensely on each maneuver as she slaloms down the mountainside. Beneath her goggles beams a smile as bright as the pristine snow that blankets the tree-lined San Juan Mountains on this sunny afternoon in Durango, Colorado.

Thirty days after her 20th birthday in 2003, Armstrong was thrown from a car crashing down an embankment. Her body landed on a tree branch, breaking her back. She now uses a wheelchair. But the self-proclaimed “semi-adrenaline junkie” vowed not to let her injury hold her back from enjoying her youth. “There’s still plenty of stuff for me to do and get out there to do,” she says.

Adventurous stuff, like skiing, compliments of the Kiwanis Club of Torrey Pines, La Jolla, California, and its annual Festival of the Arts.
Durango and the Narrow Gauge, Durango, Kiwanis clubs also support Adaptive Sports Association programs on the San Juan Mountains. Find video and more content on the Kiwanis magazine iPad and Android app.
Crystal Armstrong was one of three San Diego-area women sent in 2014 to Colorado for ski lessons with the Adaptive Sports Association. Dana Selles (left) and Celina Toves were both injured while on duty in the Middle East with the U.S. military. Selles completed a double black diamond—a very advanced trail—that weekend.
Art with a Heart

A San Diego Art Festival Raises Funds to Support Multiple Charities.

Story by Nicholas Drake

Artists have long been drawn to La Jolla, California. Pretty much everywhere you look is a view worthy of a picturesque rendering. Bluffs, beaches, sunsets, canyons, palms. The place is loaded with inspiration. And if beautiful landscapes do little for your creative juices, there are galleries, museums and mucho cultural hotspots galore to lap up.

The hilly seaside San Diego neighborhood is an ideal home for the La Jolla Festival of the Arts, which annually showcases the works of some 200 artists for nearly 10,000 patrons. The gathering has been a staple of the West Coast art world since 1987, when the Kiwanis Club of Torrey Pines, La Jolla devised a tony event to fund outreach programs for San Diegans with disabilities.

“We wanted to create something beyond the typical art fair,” says Ted Peña, executive director of the La Jolla Festival of the Arts and a member of the Torrey Pines, La Jolla Kiwanis Club. “We wanted an event that attracted top artists as well as attendees willing to purchase premium pieces. And we wanted something sustainable to support programs for individuals with disabilities.”

The Kiwanians have toiled diligently over the years to achieve their goal. Today the juried art show ranks high among artists who promote their creative wares at festivals across the United States. More than 80 percent of artists who display at the event report a desire to return.

“Artists find out about it predominantly through ZAPPlication, an online

Continued on page 48
showcase

Playground on Wheels

Fun and Fitness Make a Comeback After a New Zealand Earthquake.

Story by Karen Pyle Trent

It will take a long time for life to get back to normal following earthquakes near Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2010 and 2011. The quakes and their aftershocks left thousands of people homeless, neighborhoods damaged, schools temporarily closed and children without a sense of security and routine.

When disaster-relief funds poured in from Kiwanis clubs around the globe, New Zealand Kiwanians wanted to use them for something ongoing to provide normalcy for children in the quake-stricken area. One of the projects they selected was Sport Canterbury’s Top Team Challenge, a traveling trailer that takes team-based activities and equipment to schools where the earthquakes had damaged school grounds and made many outdoor activities hazardous.

In areas that had seen friends separated and many students transported to new schools, the games and activities delivered by the Top Team Trailer provide stress-relieving and team-building opportunities for kids to simply have fun. From 2012 through 2014, the trailer and its equipment were used by 36,343 participants from 285 schools. Students can look forward to seeing the Top Team Trailer for years to come.

“Teaching staff reported immediate and even unexpected results,” says David Gower, a member of the Christchurch Kiwanis Club and the club’s representative on the committee selected to administer the quake relief funds. “Children who were bunking (skipping) school and headed for problem truancy suddenly wanted to become involved again.”
"CHILDREN WHO WERE BUNKING SCHOOL AND HEADED FOR PROBLEM TRUANCY SUDDENLY WANTED TO BECOME INVOLVED AGAIN."
LIFE-SAVING ART
BUYING ART IN BELGIUM MAKES A DIFFERENCE FOR CHILDREN NEARLY 6,000 KILOMETERS AWAY IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

STORY BY ARIANA GAINER | PHOTO BY EKKOW

There is a health clinic in Popokabaka, Congo, Central Africa, with a dilapidated pediatric wing and outdated equipment. It has become an unusable facility and the clinic no longer is equipped to provide the children of Popokabaka with the treatment they need. But, thanks to the efforts of a group of Kiwanians in Belgium, this clinic now has the funds to rebuild its pediatric wing, taking the first steps toward improving the health of youth in the area.

Every three years, the Brugge, Belgium, Kiwanis Club organizes an exhibition of artwork called INproject, with the purpose of donating the proceeds from the art sold to children in need—in Belgium and around the world. The 2012 exhibit benefited an organization called Bednet, which uses the Internet to connect hospitalized kids with their classrooms. In March 2015, the club hosted its fourth exhibit, which supported the reconstruction of the clinic in Popokabaka.

Gino Debruyne, a member of the Kiwanis club, is an architect by trade and curated the art exhibit. Six artists participated, displaying their paintings and sculptures. In addition to the exhibit, the club hosted a dinner to share the mission of Kiwanis and its commitment to support children’s health in the Congo with the proceeds from the event.

Selling 20 pieces of art and raising enough money to rebuild the pediatric wing of the clinic, the event was a great success. One painting was even purchased by Mu.ZEE, a well-known museum in Ostend, Belgium. The event also gained coverage on Focus TV, a local television station in that region.

The Kiwanis club was introduced to the clinic in the Congo by Memisa, a Belgian nongovernmental organization that aims to provide basic, essential, quality healthcare for underserved people. The Kiwanians collaborated with Memisa to complete this project.

President of the club, Carlo Vande Casteele, says he is proud of the work his club has accomplished toward the mission of Kiwanis.

“We are happy that we fulfill the Kiwanis motto, ‘Serving the children of the world,’ with our project,” he says.
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In our research using the American Society of Association Executives, we’ve learned that most US-based membership associations elect their board members and then entrust them with the authority to make decisions like dues pricing. Our Kiwanis International Bylaws stipulate the amount of member dues, and thus require a vote of the annual House of Delegates to make a change. This proposal is somewhere in the middle. It would allow for small, incremental adjustments on an annual basis if the board feels an adjustment is needed. The delegates would retain the authority to make any significant changes.

“Encouraging a new club to carry out a few projects well is better than trying to do everything at once,” Munford says. “If you have a clear goal, like mentoring an active Key Club, it convinces people to say yes to projects and be successful.

“With a clear purpose, a Kiwanis club can pass the test of time.”

**STAY FOCUSED**

**KEY CLUB ADVISOR LEADS EFFORT TO BRING KIWANIS BACK TO LIBERTY.**

**STORY BY ANDREW MCLAUGHLIN**

Kiwanian Mike Munford drew members to the newly launched Kiwanis Club of Liberty, Pennsylvania, as if he were launching a business. Says Mike: “I invited people who were creative, organized and knew how to successfully complete projects.”

Munford, a teacher and faculty advisor at Liberty Jr/Sr High School, was uneasy when the Key Club’s sponsoring Blossburg Kiwanis Club shut down after membership dwindled.

Little time passed before Munford spearheaded a full-on drive to open a new Kiwanis club and become its charter president. He recruited Key Club members’ parents, community leaders, church friends and others interested in supporting teens. He promised a focused approach to community service.

“Encouraging a new club to carry out a few projects well is better than trying to do everything at once,” Munford says. “If you have a clear goal, like mentoring an active Key Club, it convinces people to say yes to projects and be successful.

“With a clear purpose, a Kiwanis club can pass the test of time.”

**Dues Proposal: Part II | continued from page 4**

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Here’s the real benefit: Kiwanis can become more nimble and make better business decisions as an organization. It costs to be a member of a premier organization. We’re proud of the positive impact our clubs and members deliver to their communities. I hope you’ll consider the proposal from our board of trustees as an opportunity to strengthen Kiwanis and make our community service even more impactful.

Thanks for being a Kiwanis member. I hope to see you in June in Indianapolis.
When you love Kiwanis, you let people know. That means making it a part of your life. Do meaningful service. Wear Kiwanis apparel. Invite people to join your club. Share Kiwanis by *living* Kiwanis. Go strengthen what you love ... every day.

Share what you love by living it out loud.

**THE FORMULA**

[kiwanis.org/theformula](http://kiwanis.org/theformula)
BIRTHDAYS

These clubs celebrate their 25th, 50th and 75th anniversaries in July and August 2015. For a more complete list, visit kiwanis.org/birthdays.

75TH—1940
Rocky River, Ohio, July 2
Hawthorne, California, July 5
Greater Haines City, Florida, July 15
Adrian, Michigan, August 13
Arvada, Colorado, August 14
Amherst, New York, August 16

50TH—1965
Amador County, California, July 13
Central Little Rock, Arkansas, July 28
Brewton, Alabama, August 20
Lake City, Minnesota, August 31

25TH—1990
Bilthoven, Netherlands, July 4
Del Tirreno-Messina, Italy, July 14
Peloro-Messina, Italy, July 14
Owatonna, Minnesota, July 18
Wacoka of Cashmere, Washington, July 23
Garden Parish (The), Ocho Rios, Jamaica, July 24
Key Biscayne, Florida, July 24
Damansara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, August 1
Gold Country, Grass Valley, California, August 2
Farmersville, California, August 3
Tiel E.O., Netherlands, August 13
Canlubang, Philippines, August 20
North Macon, Georgia, August 22
Eger, Hungary, August 23
Central Azucarera Don Pedro, Nasugbu, Philippines, August 30
Reykjavik-Hofdi, Iceland, August 31

CENTENARIAN

Before Kiwanis opened membership to women, Mary M. Wagner was among the charter members of a Kiwaniann club in Mayfield Heights, Ohio, where she was a teacher. Wagner now conducts the 50/50 drawing as a member of the North Port, Florida, Kiwanis Club. She turned 101 this past April 9.
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Pushing Potential | continued from page 27

On a shaded porch, women with young children nestled in their laps and at their feet, sit on the floor in a circle. Volunteers Phally Heap and Trouy Veth lead the monthly discussion. The topic is antenatal care and umbilical cord care.

The shade and a gentle breeze make for a comfortable afternoon on the porch. As the volunteers finish their presentation, many of the women remain to continue talking with one another, laughing and corralling children while they enjoy sweets the volunteer leaders distribute. It could be the end of a parent-teacher-association meeting or neighborhood coffee klatsch. The sessions are as much social gathering as they are educational—and this is important in drawing the women.

“If this activity continues, there will be more women who understand,” says Phally Heap, a 26-year-old mother of one. “What makes me happy about being a volunteer is that when they come here, they learn and follow (what we tell them). It makes me feel satisfied. But I also feel discouraged that not everyone comes.”

“We just keep trying, keep telling them all the time,” adds Trouy Veth, 43 and mother to six.

And it’s important that they continue to come. One of the women participating in the day’s session explains that she is not vaccinated against tetanus. She was working in the field when vaccinations were offered. She understands now how critical the vaccine is and has made plans to get her vaccinations.

It’s working. As Kiwanians around the world rally to raise US$110 million by December 31, 2015 for The Eliminate Project to help eliminate MNT, Cambodia is an example of how funding provided to UNICEF is already making its mark against the horrific disease. And more. It’s not only providing the tetanus toxoid vaccines themselves, but also education in antenatal care and other health services, safe delivery practices and cord care. It’s building networks like the one that connects Cambodia, UNICEF and local volunteers to make sure the message breaks into even the hardest-to-reach regions.

And because of the successful inroads made through Cambodia’s MNT-elimination program, the door is open for UNICEF and Cambodia to address other critical health concerns, such as nutrition, clean water and sanitation, as well as child protection and education.

“We’re looking at integrating our approach so that when we are doing the outreach, we’re combining other really important interventions,” says UNICEF Cambodia’s Rana Flowers. “So we combine with the vaccination for tetanus an approach to nutrition and information on other health issues and really promoting those to come together so that the whole health management starts to really protect the communities in a more efficient and effective way.”

As the people of Cambodia have become aware of the dangers of tetanus and the need to have the vaccine, Flowers notes, that success has seeded trust and the opportunity to infuse other health initiatives into the mix and into health volunteer messaging.

“When women go for their vaccines, they should also be asking for other services while they’re there,” she says. “It’s about ensuring wives, mothers and daughters get the right antenatal care and also that they follow up with their newborn babies to protect them.”

That’s the way to Cambodia’s future as a nation that invests in the human potential of children.

“Having a partnership that is focused and that is supporting an important element in the program—a life-saving element of the program—is absolutely vital,” Flowers says. “We can’t do this unless we have the support of Kiwanis.”

The support is an investment in the potential of children like Nget Snet and all the possibilities that lie ahead for her and the legacy she will leave.

“A service like this helps people understand,” says mother Phalla Srey Lin. “I would just like to say thank you.”

*At the time of this article’s publishing, Cambodia has not yet been validated by the World Health Organization as an MNT-free nation. The validation survey is scheduled to be conducted in late June 2015.

Elimination

Globally, The Eliminate Project is raising US$110 million to help eliminate MNT in the 38 nations where the disease remained a public health threat. Each year, more than 49,000 newborns die from tetanus—134 deaths each day or about one every 11 minutes. The disease is caused by bacteria found everywhere in soil and animal excreta. Tetanus infection in a newborn baby causes severe spasms and an excruciatingly painful death. Any physical contact exacerbates the baby’s pain, so a mother’s touch hurts, leaving the baby to writhe in agony—unheld—for days until he or she dies. It costs about US$1.80 to immunize a woman against tetanus with a series of three doses, which provides an immunity she passes along to her future babies during childbirth.

Funding through The Eliminate Project supports UNICEF and its partners who have already eliminated MNT in 35 countries. With Kiwanis’ global volunteer network, along with UNICEF’s field staff and technical expertise, The Eliminate Project serves those who live in some of the most underserved areas where healthcare is limited. As of this past April, The Eliminate Project had raised more than US $75 million in cash and pledges to support UNICEF’s MNT elimination program.
You’re part of our history. Be part of our celebration.

In 2015, Kiwanis celebrates its 100th anniversary. A celebration this important requires preparation. Is your club getting ready? Add your inspiration to our global celebration. Get ideas and information on the 100th anniversary website!

application and adjudication system,” explains Kiwanian Donald Ludwig, director and artist liaison for the festival. “Artists know about our festival. We’ve set it up for a select audience. It ranks among the top five in California.”

The 2014 Experience
Bella’s Crepes, Ohana Café, Finest City BBQ, Stone Brewing and The Cookie Lady are among the food and beverage stops dotting Restaurant Row at the west end of Warren Field on the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) campus. In the middle of the sprawl is the Art Is Living Plaza, where a Whole Foods Cheese Shoppe mingles with a wine and beer depot while a band plays “Wild Horses” by The Rolling Stones.

Basking in the SoCal sun at white linen topped tables and atop high back bar stools are art lovers of all stripes on a respite from checking out dozens of artists booths surrounding the plaza. Paintings, sculptures, photographs, metal works, mixed media and more make up the modern creatives on display.

“It’s fascinating to see all kinds of art in one location,” says Daryl Bowen, who joined the Torrey Pines, La Jolla Kiwanis Club after moving from Northern California, where he served as lieutenant governor of California-Nevada-Hawaii District’s Division 43 from 2011 to 2014.

Daryl’s heading up the Volunteer Check-In Booth at the festival entrance with Roy Warfield, a club alum who has done ticket sales, silent auctions, parking lots and information booths over the years, not to mention being an artist ambassador. “Ambassadors watch over the booths when artists need to take coffee and bathroom breaks,” Roy explains. “We really try to accommodate them so the experience is good.”

In 2013, artist Erin Hanson won Best of Show in the painting category. This year marks her fifth as a participant. “It’s such a beautiful venue,” Hanson says. “It’s spread out nice, easy to ac-

cess, and people actually come to buy art. The promoters are amazing.”

Funds for Folks with Disabilities
Dee Bartsch suffered a stroke in November 2000. The Acquired Brain Injury Program at Mesa College and the San Diego Brain Injury Foundation helped her and her husband, Vinnie, survive the ordeal. Stationed alongside the copious art displays, Bartsch hands out literature and discusses her experience at one of the many booths represented by organizations receiving funds from the Torrey Pines Kiwanis Foundation.

“The festival helps promote organizations such as ours,” Bartsch says. “Some of the funds raised go into programs to help survivors such as me. Getting the message out about brain injury is part of what my life is about now.”

The 2014 La Jolla Festival of Arts cleared more than US$45,000, bringing the total funds raised to nearly $2 million since its inception in 1987. Over 30 organizations are supported by the event, particularly those with adaptive sports, recreation and education programs for San Diegans with disabilities — everything from golf outings and horseback riding to wheelchair rugby and skiing adventures.

“It’s our legacy,” says Ross Ehrhardt, who encouraged the club to support adaptive sports after his wife, Sue, lost a leg in a 1977 water skiing accident. “We are very well known in the disabled community. … We outreach to 2,500 people a year. Over the years, we figure we’ve helped 35,000 people.”

As the club’s commitment to adaptive sports increased, members began looking for a new fundraiser with higher returns. Coincidentally, photographer/artist Dallas Clites joined the club, suggested an art show, wrote a business plan for the fundraiser, enlisted Kiwanians and other community volunteers and, in 1987, helped establish the originally-titled Golden Triangle Festival or Arts. It was an instant success. (For more about the adaptive sports program and its connection to the arts festival, get the Kiwanis magazine iPad/Android app and see “How It All Began: The Sue Ehrhardt Story” at LaJollaArtFestival.org.)

“We’ve definitely had to work to get where we are today,” Peña says. “We’ve undergone some growing pains, but those helped us get to where we are right now. From a business standpoint, we’ve tried to brand the festival as top of the line.” ⑦
A new club president earns respect by putting knowledge into action. Get it with Kiwanis International’s education for club presidents. Be the leader who improves the club experience—and takes members’ energy to new heights. Learn to use tools such as member surveys. Find ways to stabilize or increase membership. Increase participation at international and district events.

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WE’RE IN THE MOVIES NOW

IF THE ACADEMY AWARDS HAD A CATEGORY FOR BEST PROP IN A PLOT-SUPPORTING ROLE, A KIWANIS MEMBERSHIP BADGE MAY HAVE BEEN OSCAR-WORTHY.

In its earliest years, Kiwanis had dabbled in the cinema, but in 1941, the “K” became a major player in the plot of one of the year’s best films. Written by Billy Wilder and Charles Brackett, “Hold Back the Dawn” earned six Academy Award nominations.

It’s the complicated story of European Georges Iscovescu (Charles Boyer) who schemes to marry school teacher Emmy Brown (Olivia de Havilland), “borrow” her life savings and abandon her after gaining entry into the United States. Boyer’s rogue, however, grows a heart and falls in love with his bride. To repay his debt, the reformed cad attaches himself to a group of Seattle, Washington, Kiwanians on a tour of Paramount Studios with hopes of selling the movie rights to his life story.

Learning of their club’s connection to the film, the real Seattle Kiwanians decided to make Boyer an honorary member. The studio loved the idea and sent Seattle actress Frances Farmer to serve as the club’s proxy and present Boyer with his membership badge.

“Boyer beamed all over at the nickname ‘Charlie’ lettered on his button,” wrote the picture’s unit publicist John del Valle. “He seemed like a mighty regular fellow, just the sort who under normal conditions would make a fine active member,” wrote club Secretary Don Stewart. “We are proud of him.”

Read the story about Kiwanis and its role in “Hold Back the Dawn” as published in the July 1941 issue of The Kiwanis magazine. Go to kwn.is/kiboyer.
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- Cincinnati / Ohio District
- Cool Springs-Williamson County / Kentucky-Tennessee District
- Dartmouth / Eastern Canada & Caribbean District
- Delray Beach / Florida District
- Dover / New Jersey District
- East Cobb County / Georgia District
- Edmonton / Western Canada District
- Elizabethtown / Pennsylvania District
- Ft. Lee / Capital District
- Juppiter Reggio Calabria / Italy-San Marino District
- Kuala Lumpur / Malaysia District
- Lancaster / Pennsylvania District
- Lincoln-Northeast / Nebraska-Iowa District
- Linz-Stifter / Austria District
- Lipsius Druivenstreek / Belgium-Luxembourg District
- Northmount, Calgary / Western Canada District
- Northside Naples / Florida District
- Palo Alto / Cal-Nev-Ha District
- Ridgetown / Eastern Canada & Caribbean District
- Rio Rancho / Southwest District
- Rockville / Capital District
- San Antonio Army Residence Community Golden K / Texas-Oklahoma District
- Tai Feng / Taiwan District
- Waverley, Victoria / Australia District

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- Acadiana-Lafayette / Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District
- Avalon Park / Florida District
- Bandaraya Ipoh / Malaysia District
- Bowling Green / Kentucky-Tennessee District
- Chinatown, New York City / New York District
- Chueh-Miao / Taiwan District
- Coldwater / Michigan District
- Columbus / Ohio District
- Conroe Texas / Texas-Oklahoma District
- Delaware County / Ohio District
- Denville / New Jersey District
- Downey / Cal-Nev-Ha District
- Elgin / Illinois-Eastern Iowa District
- Fordham, Bronx / New York District
- Forest City-London / Eastern Canada & Caribbean District
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- Narbonne, Carrefour Du Sud / France-Monaco District
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- Rockford / Illinois-Eastern Iowa District
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- Wascana, Regina / Western Canada District

*Cash and pledges as of April 14, 2015
WHAT’S YOUR STORY
If your club has a success story, simply email a summary and a few photos to shareyourstory@kiwanis.org to be considered for possible future use in Kiwanis International publications.

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