After school

Programs help at-risk youth, but are they doing enough?
Inclusive playgrounds must meet the needs of all children. Landscape Structures focuses on three components—physical accessibility, age and developmental appropriateness, and sensory-stimulating activity—to bring children together and make them equals through play. Learn more about bringing inclusive play to your community at playlsi.com/ad/inclusive-play-service.

Better playgrounds. Better world."
Kiwanis

DEFINING STATEMENT: Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

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MAGAZINE STAFF
EDITOR Stan D. Soderstrom
PUBLISHER/CIRCULATION MANAGER Jack Brockley
MANAGING EDITOR Kasey Jackson
ART DIRECTOR Andy Austin
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Alyssa Chase, Jo Lynn Garing, Tony Knoderer

ADVERTISING SALES OFFICES
ADVERTISING SALES
Worldwide Mel Ulrich
3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268
317-476-4646, Fax: 317-217-6570
Email: advertise@kiwanis.org

New England and Mid-Atlantic Robert Bernbach
Advertising Representatives Inc., 677 Commerce Street, Thornwood, NY 10594, 914-769-0051, Fax: 914-769-0691
Email: Info@RBAdvertisingreps.com

KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL OFFICE
3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, IN 46268-3196
800-KIWANIS (in US/Canada), 317-875-8755
Fax: 317-879-0204
Email: magazine@kiwanis.org

FUTURE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, June 28-July 1, 2012;
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, June 26-30, 2013;
Macau, China, June 26-29, 2014;

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SEE YOU IN NEW ORLEANS

Alan and I have enjoyed traveling the world as your ambassadors and participating in many wonderful projects. Kiwanians, you are awesome! Thank you for all you do to improve the lives of children and families. You are building your legacy of service in your communities.

Thank you for embracing The Eliminate Project. Our first granddaughter, Peytyn Lynn, recently joined our family. With sanitary birthing practices and tetanus shots, our daughter protected the connection between mother and baby. What wonderful opportunities are given to all Kiwanians by honoring someone with Zeller and Mother’s Day Zeller awards.

This year, as we celebrate 25 years of women in Kiwanis, it is fitting that we focus on women in our service at our convention. Soon after Kiwanis’ founding in 1915, women were attending meetings and volunteering, but they were not permitted to be members.

In 1987, Kiwanis opened its membership and women have played active roles ever since. Many claim to be “the first” woman member, president, lieutenant governor. ... Yet today, women make up only 25 percent of our membership. Let this be the year you invite other women to Kiwanis.

Join us at our 2012 convention in New Orleans, where the welcome reception will kick off our celebration of women in Kiwanis. An exhibit hall booth will offer merchandise and information. Seminars will highlight leadership opportunities. Share the story of how your mother, daughter, sister or friend made a difference through their membership in Kiwanis.

Join us at the convention to meet and make new friends, share ideas, learn more about The Eliminate Project, celebrate 25 years of women in Kiwanis and enjoy New Orleans!

Jeri A. Penn
Kiwanis International President and First Lady
The MOST DANGEROUS room in your home... the bathroom

According to The New York Times*, the bathroom can be the most dangerous room in the home. Hundreds of thousands of falls and accidents happen each year.

FACT: 1 in 3 adults 65+ fall each year, and falls are the leading cause of injury death as well as the most common cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma.**


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WHAT THEY SAY  What advice would you give to young professionals?

“Join us. Help us form the next generation of Kiwanis clubs.”

Alan Penn
President

“You can either be obsessed by success or succeed in life by making an impact and the right connections to help Kiwanis become more dynamic in its service to the world’s children.”

Tom DeJulio
President-elect

“Through the friendships you make today, you develop interactive and leadership skills essential for your personal and professional future. Take the chance to be a long-time Kiwanian.”

Gunter Gasser
Vice president

QUOTES
Kiwanians on Facebook were asked, “What advice would you share with a young professional?” Here are a few of the responses:

“(Kiwanis) is a great way to network. ... If you form a personal relationship with other business people, they’ll feel more comfortable referring business to you. Plus it’s a great way to pay back to the community.”

Andy Whitehurst
Kiwanis Club of Warren Township, Indianapolis, Indiana

“(Kiwanis is a) wonderful way to help our children, plus you get to meet and work with some of the nicest people.”

Margaret Miller
Kiwanis Club of Rolla Breakfast, Missouri

“Kiwanians are a unique breed of people. I’ve met some of the nicest, best and brightest in Kiwanis who share my values of service and camaraderie.”

Marian Liebowitz
Kiwanis Club of San Diego, California


DUES AND DON’TS
Usually, I use this column to preview what’s in the magazine and to talk about an issue our readers might find interesting. As usual, there are some great stories about Kiwanis clubs doing great things.

This time, however, I choose to provide our readers with my overview of a dues proposal our Kiwanis International Board of Trustees approved in April for submission to our delegates at the 2012 convention in New Orleans, June 28–July 1.

First, it’s a very short time to educate—and quite frankly, sell—the dues increase proposal. When we’ve had other dues increases proposed, we’ve always had much more time to make the case to our clubs. Our board members understand that.

The last time we raised our dues (and thus the overall revenue for Kiwanis) was 2003. Using a U.S. Federal Reserve Bank online calculator (www.minneapolisfed.org), I learned our US$42 dues, which was set in 2003, would require more than US$53 in 2012 for the same buying power. Add an overall decrease in Kiwanis clubs matched with all-time highs for the Key Clubs, Builders Clubs, K-Kids Clubs and Aktion Clubs they support—well, it’s pretty easy to understand the math.

So, put yourself in the seat at the Kiwanis Board table. You have two choices. Continue to reduce expenses (which we do every year), or ask the delegates to consider paying another US$15 annually. We presently have a hiring freeze in our office, which translates into reduced services for our adult and youth clubs. Before we make any further cuts, our board members felt they should inform our clubs and give them the option.

We’ve tried to be good stewards of the organization’s financial resources, and I feel we have been that. Kiwanis has benefited from careful financial management, with an operating surplus every year since 2003 except 2010–11. And, we’ve built a reserve that anchors our liability insurance, building and magazine funds. But we cannot maintain that for very long.

No one likes higher prices. But, it might be time to raise our dues. I hope you’ll carefully consider what’s at stake for Kiwanis.
IMPRESSIVE WORK
I received the February Kiwanis magazine yesterday and was riveted by the cover story on the “The Hidden Hungry.” I appreciated the fact that the story gave examples from both Canada and the U.S. and pointed out that some “common knowledge” notions are, in fact, not true. For example, the concept that hunger is a developing country problem and that affluent areas of the U.S. have no poverty has been shown inaccurate. If anything, the U.S. is moving closer to the classic developing country circumstance of an increasing disparity between the rich and poor. Likewise, the perception that Canada’s social support systems are well functioning and adequate are far from reality, even more so among the aboriginal communities, as the recent summit between the federal government and the leaders of the aboriginal peoples were trying to address.

All to say, I am always impressed by the work of Kiwanis!

Lucie M. Bohac
Coordinator, Network for Sustained Elimination of Iodine Deficiency
Ottawa, Ontario

CAN-DO SERVICE
I read with great interest two February 2012 Kiwanis magazine articles that are relative to urban and rural area issues: “The Hidden Hungry” and “Cultivating Community.”

As an advisor to three Aktion Clubs, I see great opportunities for Kiwanis to spread our compassion of caring for hungry youth, adults and elders living right in our local urban and rural neighborhood. Feeding them, we can do.

Our Aktion Clubs stand ready as a united effort to creatively work side by side with our Service Leadership Programs—K-Kids, Key Clubs and Circle K—to utilize our talents to address the needs of those hungry in our community who want to join our ranks as community volunteers and enjoy more aspects of a quality life.

Thank you for these two relevant articles concerning how we may help as Kiwanians.

Frank X. Werner Sr.
Kiwanis Club of Wilmington, Delaware

THE GROWING PROBLEM
In response to the February 2012 Kiwanis magazine article, “The Hidden Hungry,” I’d like to point out two things:

1. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 2,000 to 3,000 older Americans die from malnutrition each year. While this sounds alarming, it does not mean they were the victims of hunger or starvation. In fact, researchers note that nearly all of these deaths are the result of a normal loss of appetite as we age. Your article, however, implies systemic hunger among older people in North America. There is zero proof of this.

2. In focusing on a nonexistent problem, you ignore a true threat to health: We eat too much! In fact, 62 percent of adult Americans of all ages—including Meals on Wheels recipients—are considered overweight or obese, making the U.S. the fattest nation the world has ever seen. Our excess calories have led to millions of new cases of diabetes and heart disease.

Bottom line, the “growing problem” involving food isn’t senior hunger, but our waistlines.

Cliff Hadley
Kiwanis Club of Huron, South Dakota

Send your letters to magazine@kiwanis.org or Kiwanis Magazine, 3636 Woodview Trace, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268, USA.
Make sure you’re in New Orleans, June 28-July 1, because the 2012 Kiwanis International convention will celebrate 25 years of women in Kiwanis. Here are just a few things planned to mark this important milestone:

- Workshops and forums
- Welcome reception
- Legion of Honor recognitions
- Onstage event during closing session
- A “Women in Kiwanis” booth in the exhibit hall
- New merchandise

Make plans now to join us in the Big Easy as we celebrate how far we’ve come and where we plan to take the organization next! Be sure to send two delegates to represent your club in the House of Delegates. Visit www.KiwanisOne.org/convention for more details.

Kiwanis

Celebrating women in Kiwanis

IT’S BEEN 25 YEARS SINCE KIWANIS OPENED ITS MEMBERSHIP TO WOMEN, SO NEW ORLEANS IS THROWING A PARTY WITH EXHIBITS, MERCHANDISE AND MORE

Women have always been a part of Kiwanis activities, such as these 1933 convention guests, but it wasn’t until 1987 when they officially became members. The 2012 convention will celebrate the 25th anniversary of that decision.
Dues proposal set for vote

The Kiwanis International Board will propose a US$15 dues increase when the House of Delegates convenes at the 97th Annual Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans, June 28–July 1. Kiwanis dues have remained unchanged for nearly a decade. Several factors impact Kiwanis’ financial status, including:

Inflation: With today’s dollar, Kiwanis would need more than $53 to continue doing business at the same level as 2003 when delegates set dues at $42.

Kiwanis membership: The primary source of Kiwanis International revenue is members’ dues. Since 2003–04, our membership has declined from 264,464 to 226,929 at the end of the 2010–11 year, and revenue from dues and fees has fallen from $10.6 million to $8.7 million.

Stewardship: Every year, Kiwanis has cut expenses in various ways, including measures that have reduced services to our adult and youth clubs. As a result, the organization is operating efficiently and lean and has maintained an operating surplus every year since 2003—until last year. In order to return to fiscal stability, a dues increase is needed.

Kiwanis also would like to take advantage of additional opportunities, such as:

Education: New technology is available to improve the member experience through online education and club administration and support.

Program growth: For each of the past four years, Aktion Club, Key Club and Builders Club set all-time membership records. K-Kids also has set membership records in all but one of these years. Kiwanis needs to maintain financial stability in order to continue its investment in these youth and adult programs.

Nations with a per-capita income between US$5,000 and $10,000 would see a $10 increase to their dues, and nations with a per-capita income below $5,000 would see a $7 increase.

To learn more about the proposed amendment, visit www.KiwanisOne.org/dues.

Proposed amendments

The 2012 House of Delegates will keep busy in New Orleans with 17 proposed amendments on the agenda. In addition to the dues amendment (left), delegates will consider proposals that would:

• Redefine the age requirement for membership.
• Allow a club to determine “good standing” status for its members.
• Expand the membership classes.
• Separate provisions about regular vs. special meetings of the Kiwanis International Board.
• Set minimum standards for districts regarding government and financial reporting.
• Set minimum standards for federations regarding government and financial reporting.
• Allow clubs to schedule regular meetings once per month.
• Align reporting duties for Kiwanis International finances.
• Clarify provisions about the role and purpose of districts.
• Include the vice president on the Kiwanis International Board Executive Committee.
• Provide that clubs will investigate and discipline for “conduct unbecoming.”
• Clarify discipline of Kiwanis International officers.
• Extend the freeze on tiered dues.
• Add a new Kiwanis Object.
• Establish a new Kiwanis International standing committee of past trustees.
• Require a minimum of 15 members to form a new club.

Twelve other amendments were adopted this past January by the Kiwanis International Council. For more details, visit www.KiwanisOne.org/amendments.
Announced candidates
Here are your announced candidates for 2012–13 Kiwanis International Board positions:

- President (one to be elected): Thomas E. “Tom” DeJulio, New York District
- President-elect (one to be elected): Gunter Gasser, Austria
- Vice president (one to be elected): John R. Button, Eastern Canada and the Caribbean; Jerome E. Peuler Jr., Capital; Stewart Ross, Minnesota-Dakotas
- Trustee for United States and Pacific Canada (three, three-year terms to be elected): Kevin Dean, West Virginia; Dennis M. Oliver, Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee; Tom Ramiccio, Florida; James M. Rochford, Illinois-Eastern Iowa; Ronald E. Smith, Southwest; Elizabeth M. Tezza, Carolinas
- Trustee for the Canada and Caribbean Region (one three-year term was filled at the 2011 Western Canada District convention): Colin Reichle, Western Canada.
- Trustee for the Europe Region (one three-year term will be filled during the 2012 Kiwanis International-European Federation Convention, June 8–9: Óskar Guðjónsson, Iceland-Faroes
- The Asia-Pacific Region and At-Large Seat do not have a guaranteed trustee seat open for the 2012–13 administrative year.

For the most up-to-date list of candidates and their biographical information, visit www.KiwanisOne.org/candidates.

Bear reunion
There’ll be a teddy bear reunion in New Orleans this June. During the past year, Kiwanians have photographed Kiwanis bears in locations around the world. (See for yourself on Page 61.) Now, President Alan Penn and First Lady Jeri Penn are calling all Kiwanis bears to the 2012 convention.

So bring your Kiwanis bear to the welcome reception in the Family Lounge, Wednesday, June 27, at 5 p.m. for a Kiwanians-with-bears photo.
Real Cajun, Real Close.

Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. It’s real Cajun and it’s real close.

While visiting New Orleans for the 2012 Kiwanis International Convention, make time for the short trip to Lafourche Parish, Louisiana’s authentic Cajun Country. Lafourche Parish is everything Cajun that you’ve heard and seen so much about. It’s swamp tours where you’ll travel by boat to be among Louisiana alligators in their natural habitat, bed and breakfasts where conversations shift effortlessly from English to French, dining on incredible Cajun cuisine, and fishing in some of the most productive fishing grounds in the world.

Start your journey at the Lafourche Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. It’s located right along US 90 at Louisiana Highway 1, exit 215. In addition to a warm smile and a hot cup of coffee, you’ll find all the information you’ll need about the best spots for dining, overnight accommodations, cultural attractions, swamp tours or connections to the area’s incredible fishing. Or check out what’s happening online at diginlafourche.com for a complete listing of local events, happenings, and places to see while you are here. You can also get the latest updates directly from locals at the Dig In Lafourche Facebook page. Ça c’est bon! (Man that’s good!)

It’s the authentic Cajun experience, and it’s an easy drive during your visit to New Orleans.

Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Real Cajun, Real Close.
Give your feedback on proposed new club bylaws

The Standard Form for Club Bylaws states each club’s agreement with Kiwanis International on basic standards to belong to the organization and to use the Kiwanis names and marks.

The current document often includes a high level of detail that, for the most part, probably is no longer helpful or necessary in modern society. The club bylaws have been reviewed by a special multinational task force and a new version proposed. The proposal reduces the rules prescribed by Kiwanis International and provides greater flexibility and autonomy to clubs. It also simplifies the language, increases global applicability and applies to traditional and nontraditional clubs.

The Kiwanis International Board would like to know what members think about the proposal. Read the proposed bylaws and frequently asked questions at www.KiwanisOne.org/proposedclubbylaws.

Comments can be sent to bylawsspecialist@kiwanis.org. There also will be two forums on this topic at the 2012 Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans.

Before the proposed bylaws can be adopted, some provisions of the Kiwanis International Bylaws would have to be amended. The Kiwanis International Council adopted some necessary revisions in January 2012. Other amendments will be considered at the convention in New Orleans. Review those also at www.KiwanisOne.org/proposedclubbylaws. All clubs are encouraged to send two delegates to the 2012 Kiwanis International Convention to vote on the corresponding changes to the Kiwanis International Bylaws.
Wes Bartlett: a leader who touched Kiwanis

By Anton J. “Tony” Kaiser, 1987–88 President, Kiwanis International

On October 1, 1971, I embarked on one of the most exciting years of my Kiwanis career, as governor of the New York District. I consider it a great privilege to have served with that team under the guidance of our Kiwanis International president, Wes H. Bartlett. So, it was with great sadness that I learned of his death this past April 1.

Those years were pivotal times for our organization. Less than a decade earlier, our organization had opened its doors to international extension, and every year, we were building clubs in new nations with new languages and vastly different cultures. Also, the “Baby Boom” generation was filling our universities with students who questioned the status quo. As a result, our youth organizations, especially Circle K, were calling for change.

Into this age stepped a furniture and flooring merchant from Algona, Iowa, seen by all who knew him as a gentle man among gentlemen and an effective leader. With a theme, “Unite for Progress,” Wes called for cooperation among all segments of society and members of the Kiwanis family. While training us as governors and speaking to Kiwanians worldwide, he repeatedly stressed the importance of communication. “Kiwanis, Key Club, Circle K—it’s just like family as far as I’m concerned,” he would say. “What we all have to do … is sit down jointly and lay everything on the table.”

In that spirit, he adopted two Major Emphasis Programs—Operation Drug Alert and Project Environment—partly because these were issues that could bring together Kiwanis clubs and their sponsored Circle K and Key Clubs. To help CKI address its membership challenges, he called for a “new beginning” of the program. One result was offering CKI clubs the option of allowing women to be members—truly a historic decision for our family.

Wes, who was born the year Kiwanis was founded, joined the Algona club in 1946. Rising through the ranks of leadership, he joined the Kiwanis International Board of Trustees in 1964. He also served as world secretariat and Kiwanis International Foundation Board trustee and treasurer.

He has now joined his beloved wife, Mary, his steadfast supporter in all his Kiwanis travels and endeavors who predeceased him by many years.

Wes Bartlett, your Kiwanis family will miss you.

Oscar Knight: servant leader

Leader, teacher, hero, champion … friend. These and other tributes were expressed via social media as the Kiwanis world learned of the April 1 passing of Kiwanis International Trustee Oscar E. Knight III.

His wife, Gladys, three children and two grandchildren survive.

Knight first joined the Kiwanis Club of San Diego in 1979 and transferred to the La Mesa Kiwanis Club in 1988. He served as club president, lieutenant governor and 2007–08 governor of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District. In 2010, he was elected to a three-year term as Kiwanis International trustee.

A mortgage banker, he also served his community through the American Red Cross, YMCA, and the Girl Scouts of America.

An “In Memoriam” Facebook group was established soon after Knight’s death, prompting Hemet, California, Kiwanian Jennlyn Laughlin to write: “A true gentleman and a true leader among his community and around the world.”
Kiwanis has made it easy for you to create your own personal schedule for the 2012 Kiwanis International Convention in New Orleans. “My Convention Schedule” (KiwanisOne.org/myschedule) offers a list of all convention events, including sessions, ticketed events and workshops.

If you’ve already registered for convention, log in (using your KiwanisOne email and password) from the schedule dashboard and access additional features to customize your itinerary. First-time users will be given an option to register.

For registered attendees, any paid ticketed events will automatically populate your personal schedule when you log in. You can then browse and add the sessions and workshops you plan to attend, note any guests attending with you and create additional events, such as district dinners or tours.

Your schedule can be printed or exported to your personal calendar.

Event details, such as start times, are subject to change at any time. Please check your itinerary again close to the convention’s start dates.

Please join the Kiwanis International IT/Web team for the following international convention workshops:

- Creating a club website using KiwanisOne, Thursday, June 28 or Saturday, June 30
- Find what you’re looking for on KiwanisOne, Thursday, June 28
- Online reporting 101, Friday, June 29
- Online reporting 102, Friday, June 29
- Best practices for your website, Saturday, June 30

For a list of all convention workshops, go to www.KiwanisOne.org/myschedule and click on “All Events.”

If you’re a Twitter tweeter, help build up the Kiwanis name and make your posts known to the Kiwanis world by using a hashtag (http://kwn.is/wd5QFP).

As explained by Twitter, the # symbol, called a hashtag, is used to mark keywords or topics in a tweet. It was created organically by Twitter users as a way to categorize messages. By clicking on a hashtagged word in any tweet, you’ll see all other tweets that used the same hashtag. Hashtagged words sometimes become very popular trending topics online.

Use the #kiwanis hashtag to connect with Kiwanians from around the world. Don’t forget to use The Eliminate Project hashtag too: #elimin8.

Kiwanis
There’s still time! From now through June 15, you can honor a special woman with a Mother’s Day/International Women’s Day Zeller Fellowship. Make a gift to The Eliminate Project in the name of a woman—or any person who has been an inspiration. When you give a Zeller Fellowship, you’ll save or protect more than 690 lives from maternal and neonatal tetanus.

Learn more at www.TheEliminateProject.org/mothersday.
This past April, Kiwanis One Day united our family of volunteers for a global day of service. Here are just a few examples. Read more about these and other One Day projects at www.KiwanisOne.org/OneDay.

A day of Kiwanis service

ONTARIO, CANADA
Kitchener-Waterloo Kiwanis-family clubs
Clean up of trails along the Grand Valley River
Photos by Matthew O’Rourke
NEBRASKA, UNITED STATES
Fremont Kiwanis-family clubs
Repair and clean senior citizens’ homes
Photos by Matt Miller

FLORIDA, UNITED STATES
Florida District Kiwanis-family clubs
Plant sea oats at Fort De Soto Beach as a defense against shoreline erosion
Photos by Jack Brockley
LAKE CITY, THE PHILIPPINES
Lake City-area Kiwanis clubs
Clean the community’s seven lakes

ZOTTEGEM, BELGIUM
Zottegem Kiwanis Club
Collect and sell clothing to benefit The Eliminate Project
Photo by Hans Scherlippens

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES
Syracuse Kiwanis-family clubs
Spruce up high school grounds
Photo by Michael Okoniewski

MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES
Cape Cod-area Kiwanis-family clubs
Watch the video at www.KiwanisOne.org/OneDay
Photo by Jo Lynn Garing
LAKE CITY, THE PHILIPPINES
Lake City-area Kiwanis clubs
Clean the community’s seven lakes

ZOTTEGEM, BELGIUM
Zottegem Kiwanis Club
Collect and sell clothing to benefit The Eliminate Project
Photo by Hans Scherlippens

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES
Syracuse Kiwanis-family clubs
Spruce up high school grounds
Photo by Michael Okoniewski

MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES
Cape Cod-area Kiwanis-family clubs
Prepare Camp Na-Ke-Rafe for Dream Day, which serves families of children with life-threatening illnesses
Photo by Jo Lynn Garing
HAWAII, UNITED STATES
Maui Kiwanis-family clubs
Organize and run the Valley Isle Keiki Fest for more than 7,000 attendees
Photos by Kasey Jackson

OHIO, UNITED STATES
Geauga Kiwanis clubs
Installed a fence at Santa’s Hideaway Hollow, where seriously ill children can experience Christmas year-round

CHORRILLO, PANAMA
Panama Kiwanis clubs with UNICEF and area government offices
Help organize a walk to promote peace, security and development
Do after-school programs work?

AFTER-SCHOOL INTERVENTION PROGRAMS BENEFIT TROUBLED KIDS, PARENTS, COMMUNITIES AND SOCIETY—DON’T THEY? THE SHORT ANSWER FOR THE KIDS IS “YES.” A MORE TROUBLING ANSWER FOR SOCIETY IS “NOT NEARLY ENOUGH.”

Story by Scott Pemberton

Six-year-old Nicholas Foley ran from his Boston, Massachusetts, classroom one day nearly 10 years ago and waited outside for his mother to pick him up. She never came.

As it turned out, chance had freed Foley from a home where his mother’s boyfriend beat him. But, for the next two years, he moved from guardian to guardian.

Fast forward to September 21, 2011. A high school senior intent on a career in civil engineering, Foley stood at a (U.S.) National Press Club microphone in Washington, DC, to explain how he came to be recognized as a 2011–12 U.S. “youth of the year” in recognition of his accomplishments, his character and his courage.

What happened? For starters, his aunt and her partner adopted him and committed themselves to ensuring his well-being. At least as important was the after-school program to which they introduced him—“my second family,” Foley says now. “It helped me develop into the person I am today, the person I will become tomorrow.”

Caring communities have long sponsored valuable “swim and gym” programs intended at the most basic level to “keep kids off the streets.” But beginning in the mid-1990s, after-school programs have proliferated, most with the expressed goal of improving academic performance.

Have they succeeded in boosting academic achievement? In general, the reviews are mixed, though they lean toward a qualified “yes.” Too many other benefits flow from well-run programs to measure success by a single yardstick.

“Programs with a whole-view approach to engaging young people (so they) get excited about their future work better,” explains David DuBois, a professor of community health sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago. “If you make an after-school program (simply) extended tutoring, you don’t see a lot of benefits in non-academic areas, and you don’t even see them in academics.”

Kiwanis
Well-run, professionally staffed, structured after-school programs can have significant impacts on the lives of “at-risk” children and society at large. The operational words here are “well run.”

In agreement is a 2009 Columbia University study. Participation in after-school programs, the study reports, “may lead to small gains in academic performance,” especially in those programs that offer “both youth-development activities and an academic component.”

For community leaders, however, the key to understanding the value of after-school programs seems to lie in understanding just why academic achievement might improve, even if minimally. It’s not necessarily what many of us might think—more intense study and repetition with one-on-one adult assistance. “What really comes out of the research is the relationship between the staff and the young people,” DuBois says. “The staff members play a pivotal role by helping kids feel encouraged and by giving them practical skills to cope with life in general.”

When asked about adults in their lives, DuBois says, the kids rank program staff above teachers: “In after-school settings where they can go every day, sometimes over many years, there’s really potential for deep relationships and connection to the setting itself.”

Foley would no doubt agree. “We saw kids everywhere, just having fun,” he says, recalling his first visit to the program that so influenced his life. “As we left that night, I looked up to my newest guardian and said, ‘I feel brand new.’”

Well-run, professionally staffed, structured after-school programs can have significant impacts on the lives of individual, “at risk” children and society at large. The operational words here are “well run.” Programs that perform to the gold standard can produce ripple effects that benefit society in a big way.

For example, how much do the rescues of tens of thousands of kids—like Foley—save society financially? Running the numbers we find that an “at-risk” youth who …

• Drops out of high school costs taxpayers between US$268,133 and $428,130.
• Becomes a “career” drug abuser deprives society of between $408,268 and $1,070,324.
• Makes a career out of crime instead of, say, civil engineering in effect steals $1,434,455 to $1,655,140 from other, more beneficial uses (source: The Costs and Benefits of After School Programs).

This study reported the outcomes of California’s After School Education and Safety Program Act of 2002, which covered children in the first through ninth grades.

A key takeaway is that the financial benefits come overwhelmingly from preventing just 1 percent of program participants from turning to crime.

Finally, since parents average eight days of lost work annually because they have no one to watch their kids after school, the estimated, related loss in business productivity runs as much as $300 billion per year, according to the Afterschool Alliance.

Low-income parents especially must choose between working or staying with their kids. Their concern is justified: “The hours between 3 and 6 p.m. are peak hours for juvenile crime and experimentation with drugs, alcohol, cigarettes and sex,” according to a 2002 study reported on by the Afterschool Alliance.

Consider Kim Brathwaite, a single mother of a nine-year-old daughter and a one-year-old son. She was about to leave for her job as a newly promoted assistant manager at a Brooklyn, New York, McDonald’s when she realized her babysitter was not going to show up. Urgent calls to usually available sources went unanswered.

Feeling she had little choice, Brathwaite left her kids home alone and kept in touch by phone. Within hours, a fire, believed to have been set by an arsonist, had ravaged her apartment and killed her children.

Would a convenient, low-cost, high-quality after-school program have prevented this tragedy? For her nine-year-old, no doubt. But not enough programs meet all of those standards.

Too many after-school programs just aren’t as effective as they could—and should—be. Some provide too little value for the time, energy and money communities invest in them. In rare instances, they can even be harmful.

“Poor quality programs can actually have negative effects on participants,” notes a report from the
Institute of Government & Public Affairs at the University of Illinois. “For example, children who spend more unsupervised time with peers demonstrate more problem behaviors. Simply making facilities available for youth is inadequate. Ignoring other quality factors, especially staffing, can actually create trouble.”

Organizations, such as Kiwanis, can perform an important role.

“Strong relationships (of sponsoring organizations) with the schools improved student attendance and outcomes,” notes IGPA. “Such linkages are fostered through shared space, shared staff, shared leadership. Community linkages can also support community ownership of after-school programs, supporting local investments to supplement state and federal funds.”

The Kiwanis Club of Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia, is a prime example. The club supports a nonprofit program, The House of Bread, through a combination of financial contributions, active participation on the board and after-school mentoring and tutoring. The enterprise serves children age five to 11 living in single-mother households.

“The section of the city has lots of conflicts, and the kids must live with the pressures of criminal gangs that have taken over,” says Dario Gomez, a past club president. “The conditions make it very easy for a child to get involved in the gangs.”

The Kiwanis program purposefully strengthens families by providing parenting classes on Saturdays—and requiring mothers of kids in the program to attend. “Some mothers did not worry about the progress their children were making,” explains Gomez, who estimates the club has helped some 450 children. “The classes make them better educators when raising their children.”

And the Kiwanis Club of Albany, Georgia, has partnered with the Boys & Girls Club, to implement Kiwanis’ Bring Up Grades program.

“For the kids, having a complete stranger come in and care about them and their grades is very special,” says past Kiwanis club President Dorene Parker. “We stress setting goals and how to achieve them. We’ve had a 69 percent success rate in helping kids to bring up their grades.”

Despite earnest, widespread efforts, however, some 15 million school-age children in the U.S. (26 percent) remain so-called latchkey kids who fend for themselves after school. About 8.4 million are in after-school programs. And an additional 18.5 million would participate if good quality programs were available and affordable. But they’re not.

Experts generally agree three things are needed to make after-school programs fulfill their promise. The Harvard report calls them “critical” factors:

• **Access and sustained participation:** “Youth experience greater gains across a wide variety of outcomes if they participate … with greater frequency and in a more sustained manner.”

• **High-quality programming:** Successful programs share key features, including “appropriate supervision and structure, well-prepared staff, intentional programming and opportunities for autonomy and choice.”

• **Strong partnerships:** Effective programs “develop, utilize and leverage partnerships with a variety of stakeholders, especially families, schools and communities.”

After years of “keeping kids off the streets” after-school programs are themselves growing up and attempting to ensure that those kids become true, contributing members of society. In fact, they are poised to enable many, many more at-risk children to experience that same “brand new” feeling Nicholas Foley recalls so vividly. The question is “Will they?” KM
Though they couldn’t be members until 1987, women have made their mark on our history.

Story researched by Eileen Dennie

The face of Kiwanis International changed forever in the summer of 1987 when delegates at the 72nd annual convention voted to allow women to join the organization. Lagging behind its student programs, Circle K International and Key Club International—which had female members since 1973 and 1977, respectively—Kiwanis finally had the chance to invite wives, mothers, sisters, granddaughters, nieces and daughters to serve the children of the world as official “members.”

It was a historic vote. And it changed everything.

Now, as we celebrate 25 years of women in Kiwanis, we look back at how we got where we are, who we met along the way and how these and countless other women shifted this organization’s course and left a legacy of giving.

The early years

While the amendment to allow women into the organization as official members would come up—and fail—year after year, that didn’t stop women from taking on numerous roles.

Phyllis Sawyer was a fixture at Kiwanis club meetings in Barstow, California, for 58 years, starting in 1953 when the 24-year-old was invited to her first meeting. But she wasn’t a member. She played piano during meetings. She was the only woman to regularly at-
tend the club’s meetings for the first 34 years. She retired from her role as club musician in 2011 having never been a member.

Women not only helped at meetings as musicians but were the center of many Kiwanis social events as well. Ladies nights became very popular in the early years of Kiwanis, and many clubs continue the tradition today. These social events allowed members to invite their wives and significant others to experience Kiwanis fellowship while sometimes incorporating women into momentous events. The Morgantown, West Virginia, Kiwanis Club made its charter night event in 1922 a ladies night, and the Mobile, Alabama, club included ladies at its 50th anniversary celebration.

And it was at a Kiwanis ladies night event in Buffalo, New York, in 1918, when five women were inspired to form their own service club. Similar to Kiwanis, Quota International focuses its service efforts and funds on children’s needs and community-enriching projects. Today, Quota operates nearly 300 clubs in 12 countries with a membership of more than 6,000. It was proof that women had a desire to serve—just as their male counterparts.

FACING CHALLENGES

It was May 1921. Leah Slaughter had just been given honorary membership by the Kiwanis Club of Goldsboro, North Carolina, because she had “so successfully assisted with its musical and social programs.” According to the Goldsboro News-Artist, Slaughter was “the only lady Kiwanian in Goldsboro.”

There was only one small problem. Slaughter was a woman.

Clearly, Slaughter and the Goldsboro Kiwanis members were ahead of the times. But membership was open only to males, so Slaughter technically was not a Kiwanian—no matter what the newspapers wrote.

Members of the Las Vegas Strip Kiwanis Club say that in 1976, club President Neil Slocum, who was known for championing women’s rights, submitted an application for a member named “Shelly,” who supposedly was a friend of Slocum’s. Nobody ever met her, but club members to this day like the idea that they had a female member before the historic vote.

And they weren’t alone. Many clubs were bending the rules or finding ways around disclosing the new members’ gender. Frank Persinger, the club secretary for the Kiwanis Club of Clinton Forge, Virginia, used such a tactic sometime prior to 1987 when club pia-
nist Millie Hardy asked if she could join. For years afterwards, she received mail from Kiwanis International addressed to Mr. M. Hardy, but Frank never disclosed to her exactly why. Hardy served as a Kiwanian for more than 22 years—becoming a life member—before her death in 2009.

Before women were full-fledged members, many wives took active roles supporting their fathers, grandfathers and husbands in a variety of ways, many serving side-by-side with the men.

Kiwanis International saw and heard of the interest women had in joining. As a compromise to allowing women to join Kiwanis clubs, a separate club option was created in the mid-1980s: Kiwanianne clubs. Any Kiwanis club could sponsor and charter a Kiwanianne club, inviting community businesswomen and especially wives and widows of Kiwanians to join. Within the

LEAH SLAUGHTER
On May 6, 1921, Leah Slaughter was given honorary membership by the Kiwanis Club of Goldsboro, North Carolina, prompting Kiwanis magazine to suggest that it is "inadvisable" to give honorary membership to women "for obvious reasons."

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1946
Women in the Philippines gained the right to vote.

1955
CKI joined the Kiwanis organization.

1961
Kiwanis delegates voted to establish clubs outside the U.S. and Canada.

1963
Russian cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space.

1967
U.S. ambassador Shirley Temple Black became the second recipient of Kiwanis' Decency Award for significant contributions to the well-being of society.

Late 1960s
Along with the "down with the establishment" mentality permeating campuses, the equal rights issue became a hot topic, and CKI male members became concerned membership came under fire.

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Kiwanis
On Tuesday morning, July 7, 1987, during the House of Delegates session, Amendment 2 was introduced by Kiwanis International Trustee Wil Blechman: "Gentlemen, the purpose of Amendment Number 2 is to permit women to become members of Kiwanis." With 14 clubs sponsoring this amendment, including his own Kiwanis Club of Olympia, Washington, Rex Derr moved for its adoption. An amendment to that amendment was then introduced, changing the wording of the amendment to include all countries, not just the United States, in offering membership to women. The amendment to Amendment 2 passed: 2,855 for and 2,406 against, making the women's amendment uniform throughout Kiwanis countries, and debate on the issue resumed. After more points of order and debate, Amendment 2 passed by a 2/3 majority taken by standing vote.

THE 1987 KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION VOTE

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For many, the Kiwanianne clubs were a good compromise: Women served their communities and their projects were supported by Kiwanis resources, including insurance. And men “got to keep their sanctuary,” according to Susan Williams, a Kiwanianne member in Molalla, Oregon. “Women did their thing, while men did theirs.” Susan’s husband, Charlie, was an active member of the Kiwanis Club of Molalla, Oregon, and Susan served right alongside him for years.

Kiwanianne clubs popped up all over, and soon women were getting their hands dirty with service on a larger scale. On April 18, 1984, 66 women from Glendora, California, became charter members of the Glendora Kiwanianne Club. Sponsored by the local Kiwanis club, both groups served the community of 50,000 people for more than a decade, with Kiwaniannes remaining as a women-only group even beyond the 1987 vote. With the elimination of Kiwanianne charters in September 1996, this Kiwanianne club became a full-fledged Kiwanis...
club known as Glendora Kiwanianne Kiwanis Club.

But joining Kiwanianne clubs wasn’t an option for everyone. With membership in Circle K and Key Club already open, Kiwanis was behind its student groups. And that was about to take a turn.

**CHANGING HISTORY**

The subject of opening Kiwanis membership to women was brought up in spirited debates in front of the House of Delegates at each international convention for over a decade, starting in 1973. Each year the amendment gathered more momentum, but the board of trustees was not supportive of this effort until 1986 when the writing was on the wall—or at least in the court documents.

In the years leading up to the vote to allow women to join, four state courts and four federal courts ruled against Kiwanis, Rotary and Lions. Court costs were adding up. After carefully considering the unfavorable judicial record in similar cases, the Kiwanis board decided to take a stance and issued its own amendment. There was a lot of debate.

Many men felt women shouldn’t join because they could have their own separate organization. Some felt that having women would bring too much change.

One member said: “My primary reason for opposing this amendment is that its passage will change the character of our organization. The atmosphere of our club meetings will change. Some of our traditions and ceremonies will change. We can argue whether or not these changes will be good or bad, but there can be no argument that the admission of women will change Kiwanis.”

Others had more positive thoughts about the possible changes women could bring.

“I am distressed to know that our spouses, which support us in so many ways, must remain second-class persons, doing much of the work while not being able to have the opportunity of the distinction of being a full-time Kiwanis member.”

In the 1980s, amidst all the debate, many clubs began to defy Kiwanis International Bylaws by bringing women into their membership. By 1986, an estimated 40 clubs had asked women to join. Some clubs’ charter were revoked because of this decision.

Stephanie Pearlman Pangaro

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**We have wisely changed Kiwanis to meet the demands of an international organization in the closing decades of the 20th century.**

— Then-president-designate Anton J. “Tony” Kaiser, in his closing address of the 1987 convention.
was acknowledged as an “associate” active member by her club, the Passaic, New Jersey, Kiwanis Club, in October 1984, and when the vote passed in 1987, Pangaro was already serving as the club’s vice president. She remains an active member of the Randolph Kiwanis Club in New Jersey.

The Iowa City, Iowa, Kiwanis Club added newspaper editor Marlene Perrin and librarian Lollie Eggers to its roster. “At first we got congratulation letters from Kiwanis International, welcoming us to Kiwanis,” recalls Perrin, “but then two or three weeks later, we received a letter saying they don’t take women.”

Despite the organization’s stance, the club felt a pretty strong commitment to keep Perrin and Eggers on board. By the time the 1987 decision was made, the women already were involved with several club projects and fundraisers.

By the 1985 Kiwanis International convention, things were really heating up. The Mankato, Minnesota, club proposed an amendment that would allow clubs the option of receiving women into full Kiwanis membership. Men spoke about concerns that the atmosphere of their meetings would change, while others were disheartened that their club couldn’t invite the local university president or bank managers—women—to join. The amendment failed: 1,145 to 3,164.

At the 1986 Kiwanis International convention, debate continued with many speakers citing the expense other service organizations had incurred fighting legal battles about this issue, others imploring delegates to vote down the amendment and uphold the club’s freedom to choose its own members. In the end, 62.3 percent voted for the amendment, just short of the 66 2/3 percent needed for it to pass. (Watch a related video at www.KiwanisOne.org/women.)

Then, at the 1987 convention in Washington, D.C., 14 clubs sponsored Amendment 2 to allow women into membership. The amendment was amended, debated and faced several points of order. It then passed by a 2/3 majority taken by standing vote.

Women were in.

The impact of the decision was felt immediately with a membership increase of more than 3,000 women in Kiwanis clubs in the first six months. The trend was obvious: More than twice that number were members by the 1988 convention.

**BY THE NUMBERS:**

More than 8,500 women joined Kiwanis clubs in that first administrative year, 1987–88.

By 1994, 40,000 women were serving as Kiwanians.

By 1997, 49,000 women were Kiwanians—nearly 15 percent of the organization’s total membership.

By the end of their first decade as members, women filled 17 percent of the lieutenant governor positions and 16.5 percent of club president roles.

Nearly 40 clubs in 15 different U.S. states had accepted women into their clubs.
and thousands more joined during the 1988–89 administrative year.

“We have benefited greatly by this very significant change internationally, nationally and locally,” Olympia Club member Don Ernst said in May 2006. “We have added a welcome point of view to our clubs.”

LEADING THE WAY
So many women joined right away, each with her own story. Among the women who joined that first week, for example, was Cindy Champer, who was inducted into the Ashland, Kentucky, Breakfast Kiwanis Club on July 14, 1987, and became the club’s first female president and the division’s first female lieutenant governor. Barbara Saalfeld joined the Granada Hills, California, Kiwanis Club on July 7, 1987. She has been a member of several Kiwanis clubs in Washington state, serving as secretary, president and the division’s first female lieutenant governor.

Read more about this important time in Kiwanis history at www.KiwanisOne.org/women, where you’ll also meet some of the first “women of Kiwanis.”

Julie Fletcher joined the Ridgewood, New Jersey, Kiwanis Club in June 1984. Her dues and fees were returned, but Fletcher and the Ridgewood Kiwanians did not relent, filing a discrimination suit against Kiwanis in August. Within a month, Kiwanis filed a trademark infringement suit to prevent the club from using the Kiwanis name. U.S. District Judge H. Lee Sarokin supported the Ridgewood club’s position in February 1986, calling the prohibition of women members “harmful” and basically illegal, at least in the state of New Jersey. Fletcher (below) was in attendance in Washington, DC, when the historic vote was taken to accept women into Kiwanis. The organization will celebrate the 25th anniversary of that decision when members from around the world gather in New Orleans for the 97th annual convention, June 28–July 1.

JULIE FLETCHER

Julie Fletcher joined the Ridgewood, New Jersey, Kiwanis Club in June 1984. Her dues and fees were returned, but Fletcher and the Ridgewood Kiwanians did not relent, filing a discrimination suit against Kiwanis in August. Within a month, Kiwanis filed a trademark infringement suit to prevent the club from using the Kiwanis name. U.S. District Judge H. Lee Sarokin supported the Ridgewood club’s position in February 1986, calling the prohibition of women members “harmful” and basically illegal, at least in the state of New Jersey. Fletcher (below) was in attendance in Washington, DC, when the historic vote was taken to accept women into Kiwanis. The organization will celebrate the 25th anniversary of that decision when members from around the world gather in New Orleans for the 97th annual convention, June 28–July 1.
Island run

THE ST. IGNACEKIWANIS CLUB’S LARGEST FUNDRAISER IS A PICTURE PERFECT EVENT.

| Story and photos by Jo Lynn Garing

Dawn breaks across the water of the eastern horizon early on a Saturday morning. George Yshinski, veteran race organizer for the St. Ignace Kiwanis Club, waits patiently on the dock for the arrival of his teams: two drivers, four horses and two drays.

On Mackinac Island, Michigan, the horse and dray is the only option for transporting heavy loads. In 1898, Mackinac Island banned the automobile, and it’s never looked back. Most island visitors get around by walking or biking, islanders by horse and carriage and everything else by horse and dray.

But today’s more than 2,000 island visitors will literally get around the island by running in the 41st Annual Mackinac Island Eight Mile Run and Walk.

“I love organizing this race,” Yshinski says. “It’s been a great race every year. It’s not that complicated to do, and it’s rewarding for me.”

After many years of race organizing, Yshinski says he has learned a few things that make it less complicated: Station the Porta Potties the day before, and use a team of fast horses to deliver water to the water stations.

The fast horse team, first to depart, delivers 16 barrels of water, cups, folding tables and trash bags to two water stations on the island’s course. Yshinski says the horse, dray and driver will take at least 1½ hours to make the eight-mile trip.

The second team delivers 15 cases each of apples, oranges and bananas to Mission Point Resort, the start and finish line for the race. The team makes its way through the streets of Mackinac, already bustling with morning activity. Many horse and dray teams are making their daily deliveries to restaurants.

St. Ignace Kiwanis Club member Dave Schmidt distributes water to thirsty runners at the race’s finish.
and stores on Main Street. Drays are loaded with fresh produce, grocery items and other goods.

But before heading to Mission Point, this team has another delivery to make: the U.S. mail. Pulling up to the Mackinac Island Post Office, the driver unloads a few bags of mail, which will be picked up by local residents at the Post Office, because it’s not delivered door-to-door.

Back on Main Street, the team passes by Fort Mackinac, resting solidly 150 feet above, and picturesque 19th century buildings, like the Island House, Mackinac’s oldest operating hotel, and Saint Anne’s Catholic Church.

Once arriving at Mission Point, members of the St. Ignace Kiwanis Club unload the cases of fruit, set up the tables and fill up the water barrels. They also slice the apples, oranges and bananas to feed the participants once the race is over.

“Over the years, the race has blossomed from a few runners to more than 2,000,” says Mark Mercer, president of the St. Ignace Kiwanis Club. “It’s picturesque and people like to run around the island.”

Back at the start line, those 2,000 participants line up ready to begin the eight-mile race. Soon the runners and walkers are off, and they make their way down Main Street, passing hotels, restaurants, souvenir stores and fudge shops.

Main Street turns into Lake Shore Boulevard, and the participants pass by beautiful summer homes and the island’s only school, also the first water stop for the race where Kiwanians busily fill paper cups with water.

After a drink, racers are treated to extraordinary views of the Straits of Mackinac and the five-mile
Mackinac Bridge, which connects Michigan’s two peninsulas.

Runners continue along the west shore to British Landing, where in 1812 British soldiers landed during their successful attack and capture of Fort Mackinac. Across the water is St. Ignace, the closest point on the mainland. In the winter, the water freezes over and residents can make their way over the ice to the mainland by snowmobile.

Just past British Landing, racers round the island and head southeast along the shore of Lake Huron’s crystal-clear waters. The shoreline is quiet and peaceful, as 80 percent of the island is preserved as state parkland. Further along the shore, racers can view the Arch Rock formation, towering 146 feet above the water.

After Arch Rock, it’s less than a mile to the finish line, where Kiwanians happily pass out water and fruit.

“It’s a really cool, laid back race and it’s beautiful,” says Kristian Zuiderveen, a racer from Grand Rapids, Michigan. “It’s also a great family trip.”

More than 200 kids participate in the much shorter Great Kids Race on the expansive lawn of Mission Point Resort.

“Our kids look forward to it,” Zuiderveen says. “They get a medal, T-shirts and it teaches the kids to be healthy and happy.”

The St. Ignace Kiwanis Club works with Gault Race Management and the Riverbend Striders to organize the yearly event. The club gets about 60 percent of the race proceeds. In 2011, that equaled US$10,500.

“It’s been a lucrative fundraiser and not a lot of work,” Mercer says. “It’s a lot of fun for all the Kiwanians, and it’s a really nice day.”

Mercer says race proceeds support the Kiwanis Field at LaSalle High School.

In the 1980s, the high school did not have a track. Students ran on the street, and all meets were away. Don Gustafson, superintendent of St. Ignace Area Schools, says the St. Ignace Kiwanis Club helped to build the track and now supports its upkeep.

“Tracks in Northern Michigan deteriorate in the winter time,” Gustafson says. “Every few years the track needs to be resurfaced. The only way we could possibly do that in this economic climate is through this type of partnership with the Kiwanis club.”

Each year the club also hosts an invitational track meet where schools from all over Northern Michigan come to compete. The club runs the track meet and purchases medals for the event.

“They’ve been a real partner,” Gustafson said. “It hasn’t been just a one-time partnership, but a sustained partnership.”

Left: Although much shorter than the adult race, the kids’ course covers the last leg of the adult course and even crosses the official finish line. Below: Proceeds from the race support the Kiwanis Field at LaSalle High School.
After the discovery of an effective tetanus vaccine in the 1920s, doctors in developed countries soon embraced vaccination programs, with impressive results.

But in less-developed nations, the story has been drastically different—maternal and neonatal tetanus, also known as MNT, is a condition that has persisted into the 21st century. In an era when many women in developed countries associate pregnancy with prenatal vitamins, multiple obstetrician visits and births in posh delivery suites, nearly 60,000 babies—and a significant number of women—are still dying every year from tetanus in 35 countries around the globe.

It is a grim situation, and it compelled Kiwanis International to establish The Eliminate Project, part of a global effort to protect more than 100 million women and their future newborns from maternal and neonatal tetanus. It also drives the hard work of the doctors, scientists, health workers and others dedicated to eliminating the disease.

At the end of the cold chain, a health worker removes the vile from cold storage and fills a syringe with the tetanus toxoid vaccine during an immunization campaign in Sierra Leone in November 2011. A health worker (at right) goes door-to-door in a remote village in Sierra Leone’s Kenema District. She not only ensures that women of childbearing age receive tetanus vaccinations, but also provides other health services, such as Vitamin A supplements and malnutrition screenings, to children.
Kiwanis
Dr. Rownak Khan, a senior health specialist at UNICEF’s Program Division in New York, has traveled extensively for her work on maternal and neonatal tetanus.

“MNT is a condition that can be avoided,” Khan says. “We have the tools. We have the strategy. We know that it works. This is something that can be reversed very, very easily. And it’s unnecessary, honestly speaking. Neonatal and maternal tetanus should not happen.”

So why, then, does the crisis continue in developing nations? A perfect storm of complications, say the experts. Funding for vaccines is hard to find. Women also lack access to safe, reliable health care. Many deliver at home in unhygienic conditions, which put themselves and their newborns at risk. Often, caregivers assisting with births are not educated about, or trained in, sanitary birthing practices.

“It’s very abstract for many of us who live in privileged places,” Khan says. “Because there is a lack of awareness, birth attendants may not know basic things like the fact that they should wash their hands before delivering a child or put a clean sheet out for delivery. It’s a story of two different worlds, actually.”

And while vaccines can mean the difference between life and death, reaching the women who need them to protect themselves and their newborns is no easy feat. First, governments of countries where MNT remains a public health threat must often be convinced a problem exists. Many leaders are faced with more visible concerns, such as food crises, lack of clean water or inadequate shelter. As a result, immunization programs—especially for a non-communicable disease that most officials will never witness firsthand—are often put on a back burner.

Even if a government can be persuaded to begin a maternal and neonatal immunization program, reaching isolated villages is another major hurdle. First, health workers must be trained—no easy task in itself, considering the conditions some workers face.

Dr. Nuhu Maksha, a UNICEF immunization specialist in Sierra Leone, has dealt with such situations firsthand.

“Where there has been a humanitarian emergency or civil strife—like in Sierra Leone, Liberia and recently the Ivory Coast—with a breakdown of service delivery structures and systems, getting skilled staff and the logistics to deliver vaccination has been a great challenge.”

Once workers are recruited, they must be trained on how to administer the vaccine safely, monitor vaccination coverage and properly record the efforts. And knowledge about how to store and transport the vaccines is vital. Vaccines must stay within a consistent cold temperature range during all stages of transportation and storage—a supply system known as a cold chain—in order to remain safe and effective. In countries lacking few, if any, reliable sources of electricity, health workers must be creative in their approach.

“This was a big issue in Sierra Leone,” says Maksha. “We had to resort to using kerosene, liquefied natural gas and eventually solar-powered refrigerators to meet this need. Even now, it remains a challenge to ensure regular maintenance of the vaccine storage equipment.”
cold chain and expand it to accommodate new vaccines.”

Then there’s the mode of transportation itself in areas where basic infrastructure is lacking and the terrain is anything but friendly. Workers find themselves traveling by boat on rivers, by motorcycle or bicycle on land or walking by foot for two or three days to reach a targeted community.

“You can’t imagine the different types of transportation that have been used so far to get those vaccines to those hard-to-reach areas,” says Khan. “I have seen donkeys used to send vaccine into remote areas in Afghanistan. I’ve seen elephants used in Myanmar, camels in some areas.”

And once the workers and vaccines arrive safely, there is the chance that the women scheduled to be immunized will be hesitant to participate.

“Literacy in the population is very low, and even lower in the female population,” Maksha explains. “And immunization is not a treatment for a disease. It takes some additional effort to convince healthy women to accept vaccinations to prevent a disease that, culturally, they may not associate with the tetanus bacteria, but rather with witchcraft or certain practices according to their traditional beliefs. This situation is further compounded by false rumors about the vaccine, such as it being associated with birth control and infertility.”

Despite the many roadblocks, however, persistent and dedicated health-care experts and workers have been
enormously successful in carrying out immunization programs.

Dr. Ataur Rahman, officer-in-charge of UNICEF’s Health and Nutrition Section in Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (PDR), ticks off an exhaustive list of approaches to meeting the challenges of eliminating MNT: arranging advocacy meetings with policymakers to leverage resources; developing partnerships with an array of agencies to strengthen the delivery of vaccine services and disseminate information; organizing new and refresher training services on all aspects of the vaccine program, from planning to delivery; and developing communication and social mobilization strategies (from jingles and posters to meetings with religious and political leaders) for reaching women in remote areas and specific ethnic groups.

The complex work and coordination among so many entities has paid off, Rahman says. Since 1988, global MNT deaths have declined by 90 percent, dropping from approximately 800,000 per year to an estimated 59,000 today. Between 2000 and 2011, 23 countries eliminated MNT with the support of UNICEF and its partners.

The opportunity to continue such achievements is why The Eliminate Project has been, and continues to be, so valuable, he adds.

“This partnership with Kiwanis, the U.S. Fund for UNICEF and UNICEF has tremendous potential to finally eliminate MNT,” Khan says.

Khan remembers health workers in Tanzania telling her about tetanus wards full of patients. But on a recent visit, the outlook had changed.

“When we were reviewing the register, we saw hardly any tetanus cases,” she says. “The ward in charge said, ‘Oh, we don’t see the cases any more, and we had to close the wards.’ That’s really a very tangible outcome of our efforts.”

Success has reached even the most remote areas, she adds. While visiting an isolated village in Tanzania, she was pleased to discover that the women were well-educated on the need for the tetanus vaccine.

“Their knowledge of the vaccine was amazing to me,” Khan reports. “Women actually told us that they needed to take at least three doses of tetanus vaccine so that their babies are protected. ... This work has now been going on for more than 20 years, and it’s intensified in the last 10 years. The attitude in communities in many countries has drastically changed, and there is a lot of positive work going on.”

Maksha notes that certain communities in Sierra Leone have taken concrete steps to prevent MNT by developing bylaws and building delivery structures to minimize risky birthing practices.

Sierra Leone isn’t alone. Says Rahman: “Even in low-capacity, low-coverage immunization settings, (a tetanus immunization) campaign can reach more than 90 percent of the targeted women.”

Still, any deaths from maternal and neonatal tetanus are simply unacceptable for a disease that is so easily avoided. And most experts, while realistic about the challenges—including an ever-present need for funds—are optimistic that MNT can be eliminated by 2015.

“From the Sierra Leone perspective, there is tremendous progress toward eliminating MNT, and most likely before the target year,” says Maksha. “What will be needed is the strengthening of the routine and school immunization for adolescents, clean delivery methods and enhanced social mobilization to ensure sustained elimination.”

Rahman adds that “strong and sustained partner commitment will be crucial in ensuring we complete the unfinished work.”

“I’m very, very optimistic,” Khan says. “Even in a grim situation, things can happen in a different way, like in the 23 countries that have already validated elimination. Most of those countries have similar situations, but despite all those obstacles, with good political will and support from the partners and the donors, they actually made it possible.” KM
Grim. Grey. Gloomy. That’s what the future looked like for the Kiwanis Club of Fort Frances, Ontario, according to President Shanda DeGagne-Begin. The club was down to 18 members—18 members who were growing tired from shoulder- ing years of fundraisers and service projects. It looked like Fort Frances was going to lose yet another service club. Rotary and the Kinsman club had already shut their doors, and now, perhaps Kiwanis too.

“We knew we had gotten to the point that if we didn’t reinvigorate the club, we would need to fold,” says DeGagne-Begin. “Our club was deteriorating.”

“It was grow—or die,” echoes member Irene Laing.

The club chose to reinvigorate and grow, fueling their fight for survival with determination, conviction that they could succeed and a sound plan.

“We had a solid goal of getting five new members through the campaign,” DeGagne-Begin says.

They ended up more than doubling their membership.

First, the club formed a membership committee to focus on the issue and set the strategy. With a CAD$1,000 budget, the club would host a wine and cheese social event for prospective members. To get the word out about the event—and Kiwanis—they would build a comprehensive prospect list, write and deliver personal intro-
There was an urgency to our message. We weren’t casually approaching people (about Kiwanis). We let them know there was a need for their participation. We focused on what would be lost in the community if Kiwanis no longer existed.

That took us all by surprise!” Laing says. She describes the evening as a casual event designed so guests would be comfortable meeting club members while enjoying a glass of wine and nibbling cheese. Nothing stuffy, formal or overly produced.

“If we had done, for example, a dinner, it would have been too formal, and it would have cost more,” she notes.

Each guest was personally greeted at the door. Though members mingled and talked one-on-one with guests about their club, they also emphasized the message by giving a brief presentation about the organization (using Kiwanis International’s “Welcome to Kiwanis” presentation) and, again, about what the club does for the Fort Frances community and why it needed their assistance to grow and continue serving.

Of course not everyone who came to the event joined Kiwanis. But also, not everyone who joined the club attended the event, proving further the importance of the club’s compelling message, carefully written letters, personal touch and extra layers of communication.
“And they’re still coming in,” says Laing. “Some expressed interest, and I know of at least two more who will be joining.”

While the club is planning more proactive growth initiatives, they also are working hard to ensure new—and old—members remain interested and active.

“Retention is a key concern for the membership committee,” says DeGagne-Begin. “The club is working hard to establish new service and fundraising events and taking the ideas of the new members into account so they feel valued and part of the club. We are also mentoring new members and trying to keep up personal contact if we notice a member is missing for a few meetings.”

In addition, the club used its re-energizing and growth initiative as a chance to reevaluate rules and habits. As a result, some requirements were changed to make the club more accommodating and enticing.

“We knew we had to address people’s busy schedules and working hours,” DeGagne-Begin says. “We reduced our weekly meetings to two meetings per month, and we offer two meeting times—one lunch and one dinner. We wanted to get rid of the excuse made by many that they were too busy. We made sure people knew we’re flexible and that attendance is not mandatory. We use social media and our club website to keep members informed.”

And what does the future look like for the Fort Frances club?

“Reenergized, reinvigorated and ready to help the children in our community,” DeGagne-Begin says. KM
DONOR PROFILE

Making gifts meaningful

The Kiwanis Club of Canton, Michigan, isn’t big—but it’s big on service. For nearly 15 years, that connection between personal dedication and positive impact has kept Mark and Janet Ott involved in the club and the larger Kiwanis family.

The chance to make a difference both locally and globally was apparent to the Otts soon after joining in 1997. In fact, information about the initiative to virtually eliminate iodine deficiency disorders quickly demonstrated the reach of the Kiwanis International Foundation.

“We came in near the end of the IDD initiative, and what we knew about it felt significant.”

Through both Kiwanis club service and gifts to other organizations, the Otts’ personal impact is often focused on local needs. Gifts to the Kiwanis International Foundation help them extend that impact—in a way that stays true to their inspiration.

“It’s a logical extension of what we do as Kiwanians,” Mark says. “Our international foundation has a level of outreach you can trust. That’s meaningful to us.”

“The Eliminate Project is a perfect example,” Janet adds. “We’ve been to the conventions, seen the videos—tetanus is a devastating disease. I’m also a mother, so on a personal level too, it’s important.”

The Otts are Charter Zeller Fellows, in addition to their annual gifts to the Kiwanis International Foundation. That’s just one part of their Kiwanis commitment. For example, both have served in multiple club leadership roles—with stints as president and vice president for each.

“Our club really is service-driven,” Mark says. “That’s what has kept us involved—the impact you can have, the looks on kids’ faces. You can’t get a paycheck like that in too many places.”

Read more about Janet and Mark Ott and how you can make a difference at www.kiwanis.org/foundation.

“Our international foundation has a level of outreach you can trust. That’s meaningful to us.”

—Mark Ott

The Otts reach out

Support the Kiwanis International Foundation

Kiwanis International Foundation
Honor generosity with generosity

A gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation can express what’s important to you. It can also help recognize who’s important to you.

For instance, the Tablet of Honor allows you or your club to pay tribute with a gift of US$2,000 or more in someone’s name. The honoree or family members receive a plaque, along with a tie tack or lapel pin.

The Kiwanis Leadership Society is comprised of donors who give US$250. Your club can make someone a member with a gift, presenting him or her with a custom-engraved rosewood plaque. It’s perfect for outgoing club officers, charter club members, community supporters and others. For more information, go to www.kiwanis.org/foundation.

Gifts that grant hope to others

All over the world, Kiwanis clubs find opportunities for service. But sometimes the need extends beyond the club’s resources. Gifts to the Kiwanis International Foundation help supply financial grants to clubs that identify a chance to make a difference.

Consider the Kiwanis Club of Los Robles in San Salvador, El Salvador. Last October, torrential rains flooded several communities in El Salvador.

“Usually, October is not part of the rainy season,” says Ramon Rivera, club administrator. “But it started raining on a weekend and didn’t stop. On Monday, we had a river flooding. We started looking at the news on TV, seeing the damage in the farmlands and valleys close to the river.”

The club’s relief efforts began among its members, who raised money and helped take drinking water, medicine and food to flood-stricken communities. The club also applied for a grant from the Kiwanis International Foundation. When the grant was awarded, the club purchased corrugated metal for people to replace roofing and help rebuild homes. It also conducted two medical campaigns, thanks in part to club members who are medical professionals—including a critical-medicine specialist, a biological-medicine specialist, two dentists and an ophthalmologist.

In all, they treated about 500 children and adults in a coastal town and about 300 people on a flooded island. “People were very grateful,” Rivera says. “They are in communities that are often forgotten, not near the main cities. The island takes two hours to sail to on a barge—not many people will do that.”

Kiwanians will. But sometimes even Kiwanis clubs need help. As the Los Robles Kiwanis Club can attest, your gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation makes a positive impact on the lives of children and families.

“People were very grateful,” says Ramon Rivera. Last fall, he and other Kiwanians in San Salvador saw the impact of club grants.

Key Leader

Give to inspire

A gift to the Kiwanis International Foundation doesn’t just make a difference in children’s lives. It helps extend your Kiwanis impact into the future.

For younger members of the Kiwanis family, gifts fund Service Leadership Programs such as Key Leader. Participants are teens looking to explore leadership in new ways. They begin by attending a Key Leader conference—a weekend retreat that includes workshops, discussions and team-building activities. Attendees learn skills that help them lead the way for change in schools, communities and beyond.

For many participants, it’s a life-changing event.

Brian Turindwamukama attended his first Key Leader weekend a few months after moving to the U.S. from Uganda. He gained new friends, knowledge and confidence—and returned as a student facilitator.

“It changed me in several ways—the way I help people, even the views I had about wanting to go to college,” he says. “I know I have to make my career in something where I can help other individuals.”

Your gift makes stories like this possible. Since April 2005, Key Leader has served more than 16,000 students—thanks to funding from the Kiwanis International Foundation.

You can learn more about the program—including Brian’s and others’ success stories—at www.key-leader.org.

To give quickly and securely online, go to www.kiwanis.org/foundation/giveonline.
What began nearly 30 years ago as an annual fundraiser selling strawberry shortcakes at a city festival has turned into something much bigger for one Ohio Kiwanis club.

For the past decade, the 70-member Kiwanis Club of Newark has served up its yearly Strawberries on the Square Festival, a sweet venture that nets the club about US$30,000 to support various projects, including a camp for low-income families and at-risk youth.

It takes a lot of organization and dedication to run Licking County’s largest annual event. The club organizes itself into 10 strawberry committees, with each committee in charge of a different aspect of the festival.

The Kiwanians will use about 1,200 quarts of strawberries and 180 gallons of ice cream to make its “world famous” strawberry shortcake. But you’ll find more than just shortcake at this festival, with vendors selling everything from strawberry crepes and deep-fried strawberries, to strawberry shakes, sundaes and cotton candy.

“We’ve worked really hard to create more of a strawberry atmosphere for the festival,” says club President Bill Rauch.

That hard work has paid off, as attendance at the three-day festival has doubled in the past four years to about 25,000 visitors.

Kiwanis
High-flying fun

Take one blue-sky day. Add some bamboo, string and plastic bags, and you have the recipe for one very fun Kiwanis service project.

Every year, the Kiwanis Club of North Las Vegas, Nevada, invites children to decorate and fly kites on a sunny day in May.

Key Club members offer helping hands to assemble the kites.

“The kites are bamboo and plastic bags, and the kids can color on them and take them home,” says kite project Coordinator Matt Satenstein, who adds that a special invitation is sent to the neighboring Boys & Girls Clubs.

Raul Gomez, Kiwanis club member and director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Las Vegas, says the children have had a great time with the kite project.

Satenstein agrees and sees the impact his club has on the community through the eyes of the children.

“The true spirit of Kiwanis is to help our community, however we can,” he says. “Just because your club has small numbers doesn’t mean you cannot accomplish great things with the help of other Kiwanis clubs, your sponsored (youth programs) and community leaders. Put your name out there. Get involved, and watch amazing things happen.” —Kasey Jackson

Celebrating brotherhood

Every year for the past 10 years, the Kiwanis Club of Soleil, Fort-de-France celebrates the multi-cultural brotherhood of their island, Martinique. After devoting previous years to honoring India, China, Brazil, Cuba, Morocco and Africa, the Kiwanians this year saluted the local Guyanan community.

“We begin at 11 in the morning by welcoming guests,” says club President Jean-Pierre Rosemond. “Then we taste some local products, see an exhibition and listen to a conference about the country: the inhabitants, climate, economy and customs. Finally, we can see a dance or music show during our lunch. At the end of the afternoon, we share a pastry and say goodbye.”

The goal? To raise awareness about the many different people who make up Martinique’s population and to find new members for the Kiwanis club. —Delphine Barrais

Kiwanis
Safe spot for the crew

For more than 20 years, the Kiwanis Club of Crescent City, Eye-Openers, New Orleans has erected a viewing stand, where underprivileged children could safely watch the colorful parades during 10 days of Mardi Gras. Then, Hurricane Katrina chased the club’s scaffolding company out of town. But with the Kiwanians’ construction skills and the Metairie Elk’s material-hauling trailer, a new partnership formed.

“Here again, we had a safe place for children to watch the parades,” says Kiwanis Eye-Openers President Neil Simmons. “The smiles on the children as the parade approaches, the glee when the beads are tossed to them, and the happiness when they put the throw in their bags is indescribable.” — Kasey Jackson

Fundraising for a song

When Courtenay, British Columbia, Kiwanian Louise DeArmond realized her “Sound of Music” DVD included an option for sing-along subtitles, the wheels in her head started turning like Maria on a mountaintop.

Just a few months later, DeArmond’s club was welcoming costumed guests to a sing-along showing of the popular musical. “There were a lot of nuns, an entire Von Trapp family, several baronesses, people with warm woolen mittens all over them or dressed up in brown paper bags,” DeArmond remembers. “It was fantastic!”

The event was such a success that the club decided to repeat it. “Mama Mia” sold out weeks before the show and netted more than CAD$6,500. — Kimiko Martinez

The best in the biz

There’s a lot of brain power in the room: film producers, cabinet-makers. ... Competition is fierce. Who will win the Entrepreneur of the Year?

The Kiwanis Club of Peel en Maas, the Netherlands, created the award gala as a platform for area businesses to present themselves and for the club to raise money. A panel of business leaders judges the presentations based on good entrepreneurship and craftsmanship.

And the 2011 Entrepreneur of the Year is ... bakery equipment manufacturer, WP Haton! The company proudly displays the Kiwanis award seal on its website at www.wphaton.com, and the Kiwanis club proudly celebrates another successful community pride-raising and fundraising event. — Amy Wiser
Where in the world is ...

Students huddle at tables, staring at the TV in front of them. There’s chatter. Discussions. Grumblings. And then, the answer: South China Sea.

There’s excitement, tension and relief in the air at the annual Geography Quiz Bowl, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Terre Haute, Indiana. A dozen or so teams of middle school students answer geography questions that span the globe. Several Kiwanis, CKI and Key Club members volunteer.

“It’s not a small event,” says Kiwanian Gerald Cockrell. “And the questions are not easy. A lot of adults are shaking their heads when the students come up with the answers.”

As a team coordinator, teacher and parent, Andrea Lau sees the educational benefit the competition offers.

“My son says he wants to be a meteorologist and that a good meteorologist should know his countries, states and counties,” she says.

But it’s not only kids who are touched by this event. Cameron Craig, professor laureate at Eastern Illinois University’s department of geology/geography at Eastern Illinois University, points out:

“Everyone—from the master of ceremonies to the audience—learns so much about the world we live in every year of the competition. ... With the help of Kiwanis and its attitude toward education, we become a world without borders.”

—Kasey Jackson
Canton, Michigan, Kiwanian Christine Butterfield is no stranger to service. She was accustomed to 12-hour days as an insurance litigation specialist and was the caregiver for her husband before he passed away five years ago. She wanted to volunteer, but simply didn’t have the time.

Since retiring two years ago, all that has changed.

“This isn’t the generation that’s going to sit on our rocking chairs,” the second-year Kiwanian says. “Because families are more spread out, we’re not just centered on our own family and our own lives. Your community becomes your family.”

Aside from her service at the local theater and fundraising for a 14-month-old grandson who’s spent half of his life in the hospital, Butterfield fills her days with Kiwanis projects that range from reading with at-risk elementary school children to bingo and yard work for local seniors, holiday bell-ringing for the Salvation Army, organizing Easter egg hunts and supporting the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital.

“I have a calendar that’s busier now than when I was working full time,” Butterfield jokes. “I’m finally giving back to the community in ways I couldn’t do before.”
Leadership spotlight
Name: Paul Lürzer
Club: Kiwanis Club of Neumarkt-Wallersee, Austria
Kiwanian for: 12 years (founding club member)
Kiwanis leadership: Multiple terms as club president, five years leading education initiative in Austria, lieutenant governor for division Salzburg
Campaign position: Division coordinator, Salzburg; district coordinator, Austria

Why is The Eliminate Project important to you?
It’s a matter of the heart to eliminate this painful disease for mothers and babies in 35 countries around the world, who suffer for no reason. We can do something about it. We have to.

Why’s this campaign so important to Kiwanis?
On one hand, Kiwanis’ mission is the support of children in our local communities. On the other hand, we support global projects and ease the pain in millions of lives. Both are important. We did great things with IDD. Now we have the chance to do it again—even better.

What’s happening in your district that makes you proud?
We just secured the first Model Club in Austria and have many campaign leadership positions in my own club. Everyone was fascinated right away!

Success in Cincinnati
The Kiwanis Club of Cincinnati, Ohio, is really looking forward to 2016. It’s the club’s 100th birthday, and to ring in the occasion, members have set some big goals. They aim to increase membership from the current 40 to 100 members. They plan to serve 100,000 children by 2016. And they’ve pledged to become a 100K Club for The Eliminate Project. That means they’ll raise US$100,000 over five years—and save or protect more than 55,000 women and their future babies. To reach their 100K Club goal, members plan to solicit individual gifts through Zeller Fellowships, a Major Gift from a committed donor and a donation from the club foundation.

The club is also planning plenty of fundraising events, such as volunteering at an amusement park and donating their “wages” to The Eliminate Project. The infusion of energy from enthusiastic young members has inspired the club to look for new approaches. Club members include former Circle K International members who are now leaders at the club, division and district levels—as well as with The Eliminate Project—and are excited to contribute to this global campaign.

The project’s global platform gives the club more reach and more impact, says club President Maureen Bickley. “It’s about saving lives. What’s more important than that?”

Rise to the Model Club challenge
The gauntlet has been thrown! The Eliminate Project team is working to secure more than 300 Model Clubs by July 2 through the Model Club challenge. Model Clubs have an extraordinary impact on our effort to eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus. Each club pledges to raise a per-member average of US$750 for The Eliminate Project. This way, every club member plays a part in saving or protecting more than 416 lives. That means the average Kiwanis club (32 members) will save or protect more than 13,000 lives! Learn more about Model Clubs and the Model Club challenge at www.TheEliminateProject.org/modelclub.
Kiwanis builder

Cheng Lian Teh isn’t one to give up. Teh dreamed of having a Kiwanis club in “every” Malaysian town to serve the children of its community. And she’s well on her way.

Though her first club in 2005 failed, Teh went on to form five more clubs. Because of her club-building ways, students have backpacks filled with school supplies, children with epilepsy have been helped, youth are recovering after China’s Szechuan earthquake. And more.

“Building new clubs keeps me active—always thinking of the different towns where I get to meet new friends to share my Kiwanis dream,” says Teh, who is a member of the Teluk Intan Kiwanis Club and governor-elect of the Malaysia District. “Kiwanis is not my whole life, but it has made my life whole.” —Kimiko Martinez

Rain-Ma

In Kenya, the people call Margarete Mainka-Ruprecht “Mama Mvua”—mother of rain. Twice a year, during the fertile rainy season, the Minerva-Markgräflerland, Germany, Kiwanian treks to Africa to work with Kenyamed, a charity she founded a decade ago to fight malaria.

As a pharmacist, Mainka-Ruprecht teaches nutrition and hygiene, as well as how to fight malaria naturally with the help of Artemisia Annua. This medicinal plant is being used successfully in other African countries where malaria threatens. Her foundation aims to arm people with the know-how about the cultivation and application of the plant so the country’s most poor—and most affected—can have access to this effective natural medicine. —Kimiko Martinez

A student of Kiwanis

Kiwanis wasn’t even part of Kathy Jo Schweitzer’s vocabulary when she agreed to help a fellow teacher with the Key Club at Port Clinton, Ohio, High School.

“At the first meeting, we had six students, no agenda and no one knew what Kiwanis even meant,” she says. Under her guidance as faculty adviser, the Key Club won the school’s “Club of the Year” award. At an inter-club to learn more about the Port Clinton Kiwanis Club, she was invited to join the Kiwanis family as a member. Later, she became the Kiwanis club’s first female president.

“We learned about our community,” Schweitzer says of the Key Club. “And we became better people, because we met community members of all ages and worked with all of them.” —Kimiko Martinez
Quick and easy club websites

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• No technical skills needed
• Interchangeable designs
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A public website is part of the full version Club Management System.

See how Club Management System can boost your club efforts and save time.

The world is flat

ONCE UPON A TIME, A BOY NAMED STANLEY REMINDED PENNSYLVANIA KIWANIANS ABOUT THE JOY OF SERVICE. | Story by Adrienne Murrill

Flat Stanley is an elementary school program that teaches reading, writing and geography skills. Children mail the cut-out figure to family and friends, who show him their world before returning him with photos and stories (much like the Kiwanis bears you’ve been reading about in this year’s Kiwanis magazine; see Page 58).

When Charlotte, North Carolina, second-grader Brandon Whitfield was seeking Stanley’s hosts, he turned to his mother, Debbie, president-elect of the Sheraden, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Club, which had just accepted a challenge to add one more no-cost service project. Stanley was flat-out perfect.

The paper-man accompanied members to Mount Washington and a children’s museum, area shops and restaurants and to U.S. Midwest cities on business trips. Whitfield says fellow members got as much out of the program as the kids, sharing their city through the eyes of a child. And it’s likely to become an ongoing project for the Sheraden club, which is always on the lookout for another opportunity to enrich children’s lives.

This thin man shows up everywhere—even the halls of government—with the help of Pennsylvania Kiwanians.

Kiwanis
Is your Kiwanis wardrobe a little lacking?

The new Kiwanis Store catalog is coming!
Ask your club secretary about it. Look it over. Find new Kiwanis gear. Discover new ways to show your Kiwanis pride!

See what's new at www.kiwanis.org/store.
Fish tales

The proverb about teaching a man to fish and feeding him for a lifetime is sage advice, but there may be a catch: Feeding hundreds of people in immediate need can leave even the best intentions floundering.

Not so for the Kiwanis clubs of Port Angeles-Olympic, Washington, and East Orange, Florida. They’re both well-schooled in collecting food. Their angle? Collecting tuna—tons of tuna.

“In 1995, the Port Angeles Food Bank was going broke,” notes Tim Crowley, Kiwanian and longtime member of the food bank’s board of directors. “We decided that the one item we used the most and never received enough in food drives and donations was tuna.”

Crowley’s Kiwanis club challenged other service groups to a tuna war. About 8,000 cans of tuna were collected the first year, with the club averaging about 20,000 cans per year since.

“The Port Angeles Food Bank is not only still in business,” Crowley says, “but solid financially and able to meet the increased demands put on it by our sagging economy and high unemployment.”

Some 2,500 miles away, the East Orange club also is hooked on collecting pouches and cans of tuna. With help from others, including other Kiwanis and Service Leadership clubs in its district, the club has collected more than 10,000 pounds of tuna in the three years it has staged its Ton o’ Tuna drives. The tuna is earmarked for the Second Harvest Food Bank, which provides food to low-income families in six counties.

“Tuna’s high protein, very nutritious and can be fixed in hundreds of ways,” Kiwanian Jim Wright says. “(This campaign) is a marvelous exercise in building a group identity around a worthwhile public service.”

—Dick Isenhour

Volunteers at the Second Harvest Food Bank prepare some of the tuna collected by the East Orange, Florida, Kiwanis Club for distribution to those in need.

Pick your charity

Within and outside his Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, Kiwanis Club, Bert Swanson was a tireless volunteer for his community.

Knowing their city has many such service-minded residents, his Kiwanis club honored his memory by establishing the Bert Swanson Golden Service award. But there’s a twist: Each year’s recipient gets to select a charity to receive a US$500 Kiwanis grant.

“They don’t have to be Kiwanians,” says club President Jennifer Sherbinow. “We (club board members) pick them on the basis of what they’ve done in the community. This year, we selected a former member, Cal Kramer, because of his support for local military veterans, and he picked the St. Joseph’s Hospital hospice program as his charity of choice.”

—Jack Brockley
Club leadership is an awfully big role. CLE will help you fill it.

You’ve taken a leadership role in your Kiwanis club. Now take a little time to ensure your success—with Club Leadership Education. Sessions are available online or in classroom settings. And remember: Every incoming club president and secretary is expected to complete CLE. We encourage completion by September 1.

Make your experience enjoyable. Make your leadership effective. Sign up and find more details at www.KiwanisOne.org/CLE.
What’s in a name?
by Matt Gaffney

ACROSS
1 “Goodbye,” humorously
5 Indian bread that’s the same forward and backward
9 Crime that consists of intentionally starting a fire
14 Lots and lots
15 “I’m ___ you!” (“You don’t fool me!”)
16 Trifling
17 Relatives who live in Wichita?
19 “___ a mistake” (“My fault”)
20 Animal with antlers
21 “The ___ Falcon” (classic detective movie)
23 Barrier in tennis or badminton
24 City that’s home to baseball’s Mariners
26 From square one
28 Paintings, sculptures, etc.
29 Good name for a cook?
31 Voice feature
34 African country whose capital is Accra
37 Potato, in slang
38 Having as a hobby
39 ___ Vegas (Nevada’s biggest city)
40 Organization whose letters are the only ones used in this puzzle’s four longest entries
43 Penn of “House”
44 Big boats, like Noah’s
46 ___ Lee (baked goods brand)
47 It makes waste, in a saying
49 Lucille Ball’s guy
50 King Kong, e.g.
51 Prefix meaning “three”
52 Largest continent
54 Person in the pool
58 Laughter sound
60 Cute little dog, casually
63 “___ you serious?!”
64 Not amount to ___ of beans (be worthless)
66 Headline after Hilary won an Oscar?
68 Mandel of “Deal or No Deal”
69 Low in calories, in product names
70 “What’s ___ for me?”
71 Boats
72 Dollar bills
73 Pegs used in golf

DOWN
1 Brings (along)
2 “___ of Two Cities” (Dickens book)
3 Toy truck company
4 Question’s opposite: abbr.
5 Common dietary restriction
6 Joint that holds the foot
7 “Keep ___!” (“Work hard!”)
8 Zero
9 Creature from outer space
10 CD-___
11 Flirtatious actions between beautiful birds?
12 Ancient, in cutesy shop names
13 No, to Russians
14 Train name
15 Arabia (oil-rich nation)
16 Light brown shade
17 Super Bowl-winning quarterback Manning
18 Extra tire
19 “Whoops!”
20 ___ Arabia (oil-rich nation)
21 ___ (baked goods brand)
22 ___ of Two Cities (Dickens book)
23 Penn “House”
24 Animal with antlers
25 Light brown shade
26 From square one
27 Super Bowl-winning quarterback Manning
28 Paintings, sculptures, etc.
29 Good name for a cook?
32 Figure, like RBI or ERA
33 Totem ___
34 Happy
35 Tortoise’s speedy opponent, in one of Aesop’s fables
36 Poses a question to a New Zealander?
37 Trade
41 Newton who discovered gravity
42 Yell
45 Bro’s sibling
48 Toothpaste brand
49 Lucille Ball’s guy
50 King Kong, e.g.
51 Prefix meaning “three”
52 Largest continent
54 Person in the pool
58 Laughter sound
60 Cute little dog, casually
63 “___ you serious?!”
64 Not amount to ___ of beans (be worthless)
66 Headline after Hilary won an Oscar?
68 Mandel of “Deal or No Deal”
69 Low in calories, in product names
70 “What’s ___ for me?”
71 Boats
72 Dollar bills
73 Pegs used in golf

Kiwanis
Kiwanis bears are turning up all over. Can you name the cities—or at least the nations—where these world travelers have been seen?

1. Kiwanian Marcela López Mejía and her bear are stuck in the middle … of Earth, that is.
2. With a balcony view of mountains, this Kiwanis bear relaxes in the capital city of a nation settled by freed American slaves in 1792.
3. Kiwanis International President Alan Penn’s bear was abducted at a midyear conference in a district famous for horse racing and country music. Attendees collected more than US$500 for the district’s foundation in order to free the bear.

Where’s your Kiwanis bear? Post your Kiwanis bear photos on Facebook and tag it “Kiwanis International.” Before you tag the image, make sure you’ve clicked “Like” to become a fan of the Kiwanis page at www.facebook.com/kiwanis. You can also email your bear’s photo to magazine@kiwanis.org.

For answers and more photos of traveling Kiwanis bears, visit http://kwn.is/kbears.

Two in a row

A father-daughter night turned into something quite special for Leland Haberling and Lucinda Haberling-Welch.

Lee had asked his daughter to accompany him to his Kennewick, Washington, Kiwanis Club’s annual banquet, where new officers would be installed, awards given and another successful year of service celebrated.

The Haberlings were taken by surprise, however, when Lucinda was asked to escort her father to the head table so he could be honored as the club’s “Kiwanian of the Year.” Lee and Lucinda couldn’t help but laugh. Just a month earlier, Lucinda had been honored by her Columbia Center Rotary Club as “Rotarian of the Year.”

—Jack Brockley
Birthdays

These clubs are celebrating anniversaries in July and August. For a more complete list, visit www.kiwanis.org/birthdays.

75TH—1937
Council Grove, Kansas, July 7
Cheviot-Westwood, Ohio, July 20
Gravois, Saint Louis County, Missouri, July 22
Luling, Texas, August 9
North Topeka, Kansas, August 12

50TH—1962
Fort Myers-Edison, Florida, July 14
Fairview Park, Ohio, July 23
Carmichael, California, August 15
Grandview, Washington, August 23

25TH—1987
Randolph Golden K, Asheboro, North Carolina, July 21
Fontana, California, July 28
Brighton, Victoria, Australia, July 28
Villers-La-Ville, Belgium, July 21
Shepparton Sunrisers, Australia, August 6
Eau Claire-Clear Water, Wisconsin, August 11
Oxford Golden K, Alabama, August 18
Waynesboro, Mississippi, August 20
Neuenburg/Markgräflerland, Germany, August 20
Maharlika, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines, August 28

Kiwanis

Kiwanis Fundraising Success!
It’s a Town Tradition!
Bronze Flashed Brass Ornaments

Kiwanis
With optional background checks, it’s easier than ever.

For Kiwanis clubs, trust and integrity are a must. Thanks to criminal-history background checks, club leaders have an option for making sure members meet those standards. Kiwanis International’s relationship with Safe Hiring Solutions gives you access to a secure electronic process. There’s no paperwork for you or your club. So it’s easier than ever to protect the children you serve—along with members’ confidence and your club’s reputation.

Hollywood connection

It took a fictitious, troubled youth to bring together Kiwanis and Hollywood. And Kiwanis didn’t go to Hollywood. Hollywood came to Kiwanis.

“Johnny Holiday,” a film about a bad boy’s struggle to be good, drew the likes of Bob Hope and Jane Russell to its Kiwanis-sponsored premiere in Indianapolis on November 18, 1949. The show’s release helped kicked off the first National Kids’ Day, which was scheduled the following day to celebrate the youth of Canada and the United States.

Self-made millionaire and the movie’s writer, Ronald W. Alcorn borrowed much of the movie’s story from his experience at an Indiana reform school, where “Johnny Holiday” was filmed. In the movie, Johnny must choose between loyalties to his juvenile delinquent pals and a kindly school employee, portrayed by William Bendix.

After the Indianapolis opening, the film debuted in 325 other Kiwanis communities, where tickets sold from US$3 to $10 and raised money for the Kiwanis clubs’ work with underprivileged children. Eight central Indiana-area clubs, for example, shared more than $10,000 from the premiere’s ticket sales.

The movie is a rare find in 2012. This past March, an Amazon.com seller was asking nearly $40 for the movie on VHS tape—a used VHS tape. Despite its obscurity, the film fares well with critics. Leonard Maltin gave “Johnny Holiday” three out of four stars.
The new
Kiwanis app

A choice as smart
as your phone.

It’s easier than ever to connect with the global Kiwanis family. Just download the new Kiwanis app. You might be amazed how smart your phone will make you feel:

• Invite people to club meetings.
• Give to The Eliminate Project.
• Find a Kiwanis club.
• Read Kiwanis news.
• Track service projects.

With the Kiwanis app, you keep up with Kiwanis. Download it today.
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.

Kiwanis Peanut Day 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. To help make your fund-raiser hassle free, payment for our products is due after your fund-raiser to help maximize your cash-flow.

Kiwanis Peanut Day has helped Kiwanis Clubs raise over $73 million for their community projects.

Try us this year and we will show you why Kiwanis Peanut Day is the number one fund-raiser in Kiwanis!

*A non-profit, Kiwanis sponsored fund-raising program exclusively for Kiwanis Clubs.