In this issue of the Michigan Builder we thought it would be nice to share some of the media coverage your clubs in Michigan have received. Over the next few pages you will see and read articles and click on links to watch videos from TV stations. It’s amazing to see all that we accomplish in this state. You should all be very proud of your efforts!

We encourage you to send in more of these types of features. By getting in the news and on TV it helps spread the word about Kiwanis.

**UTICA-SHELBY TOWNSHIP**

Amanda Aude presented Jesus with the bike which our club agreed to acquire for him - a special moment captured for a story on Fox TV 2

Please watch and see what a difference you can make in helping someone greatly in need!


– Douglas A. Tull
Michigan Builder
Michigan District of Kiwanis International
(USPS344-660)
Vol. LXXX
February/March No. 3

GOVERNOR
Rebekah Hildreth

GOVERNOR-ELECT
Linda Lawther

IMMEDIATE PAST GOVERNOR
Stan Nelson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Greg Smith

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY
Fountain Communications, Inc.
(email: julanne1@me.com)

Articles are due to the editor by the 5th of the month prior to the month of publication.

Builder Publication Schedule

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Attention: Club Presidents, Secretaries & Bulletin Editors: Lt. Governors and District Chairpersons. Submit all articles, photos and video to Thebuilder@mikiwanis.org. All photo and artwork must be sent as either jpg or bmp files. Video must be sent as mpeg files.

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THE MICHIGAN BUILDER is published Bi-monthly for $3.50 per year, by The Michigan District of Kiwanis, P.O. Box 231, Mason, MI 48854.
This issue’s Builder article was difficult for me to write. It is hard for me to stay focused when we have so many new and exciting things happening! Then I thought… why focus on any one thing?

So, first things first, CONGRATULATIONS! Congratulations on being part of the Michigan Centennial Team! As you know the Kiwanis organization was founded here in Detroit and turned 100 years old on January 21st. When I stop and think, I am overwhelmed by the magnitude of this milestone. 100 years of giving of ourselves to others. 100 years of bettering our communities. 100 years of fun and fellowship. Most incredibly 100 years of improving the lives of children in Michigan and around the world. This is a feat for any organization and each of you are a part of this success. Each of you has individually contributed to the everyday achievements of your clubs, your communities and the District. For this I sincerely say, “Thank You” and “Congratulations” on being part of this momentous, historic and significant accomplishment.

Our next focus is now how do we sustain another 100 years of service? What is the next step to continue our legacy and ensure a healthy membership to maintain and expand our life changing contributions? I ask that you take a moment to evaluate your home club and yourself and honestly answer these questions:

1. Have you invited any new members into your club within the last quarter?
2. Are your club meetings lively, enjoyable and fun or are they a chore?
3. Is your club providing hands on, relevant and meaningful service in your community?
4. Are you and your club branding and marketing the awesome service you perform?
5. Do you often share your Kiwanis story with others?

By answering these few questions we can all help to strengthen our members, our clubs and then in turn our communities. GOOD NEWS! You do not have to do this alone. The District Formula Team is in place to help get you started and provide resources for positive change.

Next, I want all of you to think about what Kiwanis can give the world on the occasion of their 100th Birthday. I say the best gift we can give the world is the gift of a child’s life through The Eliminate Project. I have no doubt that each and every one of you would be willing to save a child’s life for the minimal cost of $1.80. If you have not given toward Eliminate yet, not even the minimum of $1.80, I ask you why you have not? Skip a cup of coffee, your favorite candy bar and put that minimal amount saved toward saving the life of a mother and her future children. We are fortunate enough to live in a county where we do not have to worry about tetanus infecting our newborns. Unfortunately, this is not the case for a lot of the world. If your club hasn’t made a donation again I ask, why not? We are asking that each club in the Michigan District become a member of the ‘100 baby club.’ This means, we are asking that each club donates a minimum of $180. This amount will save the lives of 100 mothers and all of their future children. Please discuss this with your club. It is an easy way to give back to our global community. Be aware your pledge can be made today and you will still have 5 years from the date of the pledge to fulfill your commitment. Providing a future for a child makes it well worth the $1.80.

Lastly I ask, what are you doing to instill the value of community and volunteerism in our upcoming generations? Does your club support any of our Service Leadership Programs? If not, why not? If you do we thank you! Are you working side by side with these amazing individuals? I can honestly say some of the most rewarding Kiwanis experiences come from the energy, enthusiasm and dedication to service that comes from our Service Leadership Programs. K-kids, Builder’s Club, Key Club, Key Leader, Circle K and Aktion Clubs each have their own unique feel and interpretation of service but, one thing is clear, these SLP members always put service to others first in their lives. They are truly genuinely giving to others without asking questions and they are only limited by their imaginations. They do not know what it means to fail and they accomplish great things each and every day. Please work with our SLP programs to reenergize your club and your vigor for service. If you have not had the privilege to sponsor one of these programs, do not hesitate to do so and contact the District today to find out where to begin.

I am so looking forward to what the rest of this Kiwanis year has in store. As always do not hesitate to contact myself or the District leadership and chairs for any assistance you may need. Keep on working hard this Kiwanis year and make it your best year so far in Kiwanis!
Michgan Kiwanis and Partnerships

As Kiwanians and members of Kiwanis clubs, we all want several things for our clubs:

- More members
- More help with hands-on service projects
- More recognition in our community
- More money to help fund projects

By partnering with another non-profit organization and/or business, you will be able to achieve one or more of these desires. I don’t mean a one-time, one-event type of partnership. I am talking about one that can continue for many years as you both strive to improve your community one child at a time.

At the Michigan District level we are starting to develop some of these partnerships. Let me tell you about a few of them.

1. **Michigan Business and Professionals Association (MBPA).** The MBPA has over 20,000 members located throughout Michigan. We are a Business Champion with them. That means the Kiwanis banner and information is on their website ([www.michbusiness.org](http://www.michbusiness.org)). We will be attending 15-20 of their events throughout 2015 with opportunities to present Kiwanis and network with their members. See a related article about the MBPA on page 20 of the Builder.

2. **Michigan Community Service Commission and Volunteer Centers of Michigan.** Both of these organizations focus on volunteering through VCM sites throughout the state, AmeriCorps programs through United Way locations and matching of volunteers with volunteer opportunities. We are arranging for an AmeriCorps presence at our Key Club and Circle K conventions and are starting to connect local Kiwanis clubs with their United Way and Volunteer Center counterparts.

3. **Office Depot.** This month we are rolling out a partnership with Office Depot/Office Max. Under this program every Kiwanian who purchases their office supplies on-line or in-store using the Kiwanis purchase card will receive National Account pricing. See your LG to get your card. You will also be guaranteed to receive the on-line price in the store if it is lower than the in-store price. In addition, 4% of all sales under this program will be reimbursed to the Kiwanis Michigan district. The program can extend to other states and businesses who are not part of Kiwanis as long as they are not already on another Office Depot program. If you want to explore this, please talk to me. See related information about this program elsewhere in this issue of the Builder.

4. **Quicken Loans.** As already announced, this partnership extends low mortgage and refinancing rates to Michigan Kiwanians along with special incentives to use Quicken Loans beyond their award-winning service and products. Quicken Loans has thousands of employees throughout Michigan and is committed to improving Michigan just like we are. See the information about the latest Quicken Loans offer elsewhere in this issue of the Builder.

We are exploring more partnerships and are open to hearing about any you may have to share with us. By cultivating a partnership with these organizations, we can help achieve what we want and help them plug into a great volunteer community service organization-Michigan Kiwanis. I encourage each club to explore at least one partnership in your community and report on your results in a future Builder.

For those who want to get started, I have an idea about how you can use Key Leader as a way to talk to a business about a partnership.
Wear Kiwanis with Pride

...100 Years of Kiwanis and there are still so many people who do not know who we are or what we do. ...It’s up to me AND it’s up to you to change that. ...Let’s start now.

When we were training Lt. Governors in Lansing last year, I was wearing one of my many Kiwanis shirts. I stopped at the front desk of the hotel to ask a question of the clerk. She was a college aged young woman who was very personable. She immediately began to talk with me about Kiwanis and shared that she is a member of the MSU CKI club and had also been in Key Club in high school. It was a wonderful conversation - started by a Kiwanis T-Shirt. But let me tell you the rest of the story:

Another young woman popped around the corner and said “You are talking about Key Club? I was in Key Club in high school!” She said this with a great deal of pride. She was another desk clerk (and MSU Student) and was just coming on shift. Her co-worker was surprised to hear this news from her. I asked if she was in the MSU CKI club also. She said “Sadly, no. I am a freshman and just have not looked for that opportunity yet.” Well as you can imagine, the first clerk, CKI member, got very excited and told her that she would take her to a meeting to help her get started. It was an exciting moment. It was a great conversation.

It was because of a Kiwanis T-Shirt!

There are so many characteristics people know about us just by looking at us or talking with us. But they may not know we are Kiwanis! Wear your pin. Wear a shirt. Wear a tie or a scarf. Wear a hat. Wear a jacket. Wear your K! It does not have to be expensive to do so. If buying the clothes does not fit in your budget, get the patches and sew them on your existing clothing. Or wear Kiwanis pins. Many of you have seen me wear my “conversation starter” buttons on my sleeves, my back or on a cap. People see them and they ask. I answer. When you sponsor a new member, give them a shirt to start their own collection.

Have you ever shopped the Kiwanis store? Check it out at https://store.kiwanis.org/

Now my challenge! I am going to do a drawing for a Kiwanis T-shirt. Winner will choose the size. How do you enter this challenge? There are two options:

1. Send me your K Story. What happened when someone caught you wearing your K? Tell me the story of the conversation that took place at the grocery store, in the park or where ever you were. Be thorough. Who knows – we may use it in another article.

OR...

2. Send me a photo. This is a photo of you catching someone wearing their K. Now - this is not to be a set-up photo and cannot be at a meeting. Really start watching for others wearing their K out in everyday life. This can be a really fun activity.

Send your submission to me at Governor-Elect@MiKiwanis.org by March 6.

I will draw from the emails received. Be sure to include your name, phone and email address.

Thanks for all that each of you do for the children all around the world. Don’t forget to save a baby a day with the Eliminate project. And be sure to plan some fund raising that benefits both the Michigan Foundation and the Kiwanis International Foundation.

Make Wearing Your K a priority this year! IDEA!! Let’s all commit to Wearing Our K at least 100 times this year in honor of our 100th birthday.

[What am I reading? Leadership 101 by John Maxwell is a very short read but large on information that will help in everyday life. I am taking a group of leadership students through a study of this book currently. I love having the chance to re-read some of my standby resources.]
Gathering to share memories and help others are activities aplenty this time of year

Published: Wednesday, December 24, 2014

By LINDA MAY
For Source Newspapers
Clubs bring Christmas to foster children

The Clinton Township Kiwanis Club, the Chippewa Valley High School Key Club, the International Academy Key Club and Dakota High School Key Club recently collaborated on a Christmas party for Macomb County's foster care children.

“This event provides a fun day of face painting, DJ, cookie decorating, dancing, lunch,” Kiwanian Lori Stillwell said. “Kids get to write to Santa and they get to have their picture taken with Santa. One parent came up and gave all of us hugs with tears in her eyes and just said, ‘Thank you for giving my child this experience,’ and she said that it was nice not thinking of all of the negative things going on in her life for four hours.”

“Another parent expressed to a member of Key Club that she had not smiled and laughed in a very long time, and being part of such an amazing group of people that are in her same shoes made her appreciate what she has. These students come together every year to provide a day of celebration for these children that would never be able to experience a great party like this one. As the children leave, they are handed a present that was personally bought for them and wrapped. The parents are in awe and just so thankful that their child was not forgotten,” she said.

“As Kiwanians, the feeling of giving is what we work all year long for. We have many fundraisers to be able to provide events like this. Kiwanians put others before themselves.”

The adult club raises over $40,000 annually to serve over 1,000 households. They sponsor the Key clubs, including one at L’Anse Creuse High School, involving about 325 students in service projects.
Manchester
Kiwanis Crazy Ca$h night set for March
Published: Thursday, January 1, 2015

For Manchester Enterprise (Heritage Newspapers)

Kiwanis Club of Manchester is pleased to announce that the 16th annual Kiwanis Crazy Ca$h Night is scheduled for March 7, 2015.

Kiwanis Club of Manchester evaluates the following information when considering and selecting grant recipients:

• Total funds required to complete the project and the portion of project funds requested from Kiwanis
• Other funding resources if applicable
• Description of the project
• Who and how many would benefit from the project
• Estimated timeline for completion of the project
• Grant recipients must be willing to provide volunteer support in selling tickets, serving on committees, and/or working the night of the raffle
• Projects must benefit the welfare of Manchester children and/or the Manchester Community

Kiwanis of Manchester has contributed over $350,000 to the Manchester Community since its inception in 1990, the majority of those funds coming from Kiwanis Crazy Ca$h Raffle. On an annual basis this raffle typically raises on average $15,000 for grant consideration.

Money raised during this year’s Manchester Kiwanis Crazy Ca$h Night will benefit the Community Resource Center’s Food Pantry.
Kiwanis service is a mother-daughter affair in the Stillwell household.

By LINDA MAY
For Source Newspapers

Lori Stillwell is the lieutenant governor of Kiwanis Division 3 that includes Macomb County, and her daughter Alexis Stillwell is the lieutenant governor of Division 14 Key Clubs. She oversees Key Clubs at International Academy, Dakota, Chippewa, L’Anse Creuse, Anchor Bay, Lake Shore, Clintondale, Grosse Pointe South and Mount Clemens high schools.

Alexis Stillwell wanted to do a small combined service project between Kiwanis and Key clubs.

“Our goal was to have a Kids Against Hunger food packaging and raise $2,850 to package 10,000 meals and keep them in Macomb County,” Lori Stillwell said. “We were notified that we received a $5,000 matching grant from Kids Against Hunger, so we knew we had to raise $5,000.

“We received a call from the Knights of Columbus Council 7200 to put on a packaging on Nov. 1. So we teamed up with Clinton Township Kiwanis, Division 14 Key Clubs, Knights of Columbus and St. Isidore Church,” she said.

They raised more than $5,000, and had more than $10,000 with the matching grant.

“Alexis was just so taken aback from the support she had through this whole planning process – for her to see over 50 Key Clubbers, Circle K’ers from Eastern Michigan and Oakland Universities, and all of the Kiwanis support. Alexis realized that a little vision can come true if you have the true passion to serve your community,” she said.

Major event sponsors included the Clinton Township Kiwanis Club, the Dakota High School Key Club, and K of C Council 7200.
WOW! Look at our success with 35 out of 59 priority countries having eliminated maternal/neonatal tetanus. In India 24 out of 36 states have eliminated MNT. Currently, 24 countries remain at risk of MNT. Equatorial Guinea, Mauritania and the Philippines UNICEF will conduct validation surveys in early 2015. India conducted their validation survey in another four out of the remaining states in December 2014. This is all done because of Kiwanians and their passion for the Eliminate project.

According to the latest giving report from international, we have achieved $1,068,561 in donations and pledges saving 593,645 lives from MNT, with our goal for the Michigan district of $2.6 million by June 2015. Our percentage to goal is 41% with 79% club participation. This is good news to have this high of club participation showing their support for the lives they are saving. For the district to achieve their goal and increase this 41% we need individuals and clubs to increase their support and commitment. Here are just a few ways this can be accomplished:

- Save a baby a day ($1.80 per day for one year = $657 (saving 365 lives)
- Save a baby a day ($1.80 per day for two years = $1,314 (saving 730 lives)
- Centennial Award (100th Anniversary)- $1,500 payable over two years (saving 833 lives)
- Members/Club donate for a Zeller @ $1,250 payable over five years (saving 694 lives) Also, a Presidential or Mothers Day Zeller
- Members/Club donate for a Hixson @ $1,000 payable over one year (saving 556 lives)
- Members donate Major Gifts $25,000 - $99,999 payable over five years
- Members/Club donate Lead Gift $100,000 payable over five years (saving 55,556 lives)
- Project, net income donated to Eliminate
- Donations from club’s Foundation
- Club Treasury
- Corporate Gifts
- Impact donors: $300 (saving 175 lives; $625 (saving 350 lives)

All can be credited to your club’s commitment of a model club, bronze, silver, gold, platinum or diamond and the individual making the donation or pledge too.

Once we have achieved our international goal of $110 million, MNT will be wiped from the face of the earth and this is all due to Kiwanians and their energy. Contact one of the coordinators listed above or myself and we will work with you and your clubs on making this 41% turn into 100% by June 2015.

Thank you and let us make the Michigan district proud of our achievement.

Richard A. Buttery
Michigan District Eliminate Coordinator
269.349.1859
rjbuttery@charter.net
I am still walking on air as a result of the over $11,311.35 in Thomas Oliver Holiday Greetings that were received from Kiwanians around our District. Outstanding! Since Governor Thomas Oliver created this concept in 1995, until now, our very best year was 2013-14 with a total contribution of $4,700. I think, even more exciting was the fact that 271 Kiwanians participated. For most of them, it was their first time participating.

This morning, I cosigned the checks for our four hospital projects. Granted, Treasurer Mark Ott does all the work. Signing the checks each month, always highlights for me the vast and far reaching effect of our Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation. Each and every month, we sign and mail the following checks:

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<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
<th>Project</th>
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<tr>
<td>$3,313</td>
<td>McLaren Northern Michigan Foundation</td>
<td>(The Herman H. Myer Project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,829</td>
<td>Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital</td>
<td>(The Ben Dean Project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,813</td>
<td>The Children's Hospital of MI Foundation</td>
<td>(The Walter J. L. Ray Project)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$8,167</td>
<td>C. S. Mott Childrens Hospital</td>
<td>(The Forney Clement Project)</td>
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If you are doing the math in your head, I figure the total at $19,122º. Remember that is not just this month, it is every month. That is just over $229,000º per year. The four hospitals depend on that money to pay the salaries of Child and Life Specialists. Without our support, hospitalized children would lose the invaluable support of these staff members.

The majority of our support comes from your voluntary $40º per member contribution. I know many Clubs like to torment their Foundation Trustee and hold off contributing to the end of the year for a wide variety of valid reasons. I beg you to sit down with your Board of Directors and consider making your contribution today. Remember: Our Foundation pays the salaries of hospital staff, we can’t ask them to wait until next month for their paycheck.

If we are short, we need to dip into our minimal reserves. It is like shooting ourselves in the foot. We lose interest and dividends, which unfortunately, hurts our Foundation financial status in the long run. It takes the commitment of each and every Club in the Michigan District to build our Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation.

Thanks to the support of three Kiwanis Groups, we now have 6,000 coloring books and crayons to begin to distribute. They were purchased with a $5,000 grant from the Plymouth Kiwanis Foundation, a $1,000 grant from the Kiwanis Club of Midland, and a $500 grant from the Kiwanis Club of Owasso. Please contact your Division’s Trustee for coloring books.

With Spring Divisionals around the corner, your Foundation Trustees look forward to meeting with your Divisions and sharing the impact of your Foundation. In those divisions electing Trustees this year, I would remind everyone, being a Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation Trustee is not a spectator sport. We need Trustees committed to stepping up and building your Foundation to serve the hospitalized children of our District. I for one, was rudely awakened and richly rewarded, when I found the challenges facing me as a new trustee.

I hope you will read the story about young Joshua Retherford in this issue of the Builder (page 11). The pictures and story about Josh tell you more about the benefit of your contributions to our Foundation than I could ever tell you.

Thank you for supporting your Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation.
Paul J. Elsey
Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation President

10 February/March 2015 Issue
One of my proudest moments as a member of the Canton Kiwanis Club comes around every February and March when Dan Fischer, Director of the Child and Family Life Department at C. S. Mott Children’s Hospital, speaks at our club’s annual baby shower to benefit his department. You see, I have firsthand knowledge of the wonderful benefits that are provided with the help of Kiwanis funding his department. My grandson, Joshua Retherford was born at Mott on February 2, 2011, with a congenital heart defect known as “Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome” (HLHS). HLHS is characterized by the lack of development of a chamber of the heart (in this case the left ventricle), and the diminished development of the aortic arch.

Mott Hospital is one of the top pediatric cardiology facilities in the U.S. and one of only a handful in the world capable of making appropriate corrective procedures for Josh’s condition. By the time he was 4 months old he had already had two open heart surgeries. Unfortunately, complications developed after the second surgery which kept Josh hospitalized an additional five months. During these hospital confinements, our family spent a great amount of time at Mott and had a lot of interaction with the Child and Family Life Department. The many nurses and other staffers I have come into contact with are always so impressed, and appreciative when I mention I am a Kiwanis member.

Josh has an older sister, Reese, age 9 who has really benefited from these services as well. During long days at the hospital, she would often visit the playground, make crafts, do puzzles, read books and participate in group activities, such as the playing of musical instruments. The Child Life Department also hosted Thursday family nights where dinner for the entire family was served and often accompanied by athletes from the University of Michigan. My daughter has been so impressed and thankful for Kiwanis involvement with Mott, that she is having Reese’s Brownie Troup from South Lyon make the Kiwanis hospital dolls to present to the hospital.

This story was submitted by Chris Butterfield, a member of the Kiwanis Club of Canton, because she wanted to share this story of her grandson and how he was the beneficiary of the services supported by your clubs through the Kiwanis of Michigan Foundation.

Joshua is scheduled for the third and final surgery called the “Fontan” for summer 2015, and the entire family will again benefit from the care and activities offered by the Child and Family Life Department.
Club Honor Roll as of December 31, 2014

The following Clubs have donated a minimum of 100% of their Club’s requested contribution based on $40ºº per member base on their October 1st membership.

Division 1
Brian Crabtree, Trustee
Cosmopolitan Detroit
Detroit #1
Eastpointe
Roseville-Warren
Shorewood, St. Clair Shores
Warren

Division 3
Lori Stillwell, Trustee
Clinton Township
Clinton Township North
Clinton Valley
Sterling Heights
Utica-SHELBY Township

Division 4
Don Killion, Trustee
Dearborn
Dearborn Heights
Dearborn Outer Drive
Garden City

Division 5
Paul Elsey, Trustee
Allen Park
Downriver West
Grosse ILE
Monroe
Riverview
Southgate
Trenton
Woodhaven
Wyandotte #1000

Division 7
Roger Palaganas, Trustee
Royal Oak

Division 9
Mark Ott, Trustee
Canton
Whitmore Lake

Division 10
Jeffery Lawther, Trustee
Chelsea
Manchester
Saline
Ypsilanti

Division 11
William VanArsdalen, Trustee
Addison
Brooklyn
Hillsdale
Jackson
Jackson Northwest
Onsted
Tecumseh

Division 12
Terry Kubasiak, Trustee
Battle Creek
Bronson
Coldwater
Colon
Lakeview-Urbandale
Mendon
Sturgis Eastside

Division 13
Carl Popkey, Trustee
Westside Kalamazoo

Division 14
Gerald Schuur Trustee
Caledonia
Grand Rapids North
Hastings
Wayland

Division 16
Margery Schleicher, Trustee
Charlotte
East Lansing
Holt
South Lansing

Division 17
Trustee
Burton
Davison
Flint
Lapeer
Swartz Creek

Division 18
Charles Kincaid, Trustee
Chesaning
Haslett
Okemos
Owosso

Division 19
Tim Braun, Trustee
Alma
Kiwassee, Midland
Mount Pleasant
Saginaw

Division 20
Michael Pugh, Trustee
Alpena
Clare
Standish
Tawas
West Branch

Division 21
James Doman, Trustee
Cadillac
Kalkaska
Manistee
Traverse City

Division 22
Richard Luther, Trustee
Charlevoix
Gaylord
Indian River
Little Traverse Bay, Petoskey
Newbury

Educational Support
Activities for Siblings
Holiday Activities
24/7 your Foundation supports the non-insurance reimburseable expenses of making children well!
Key Leader changes lives! Key Leader is a program for today’s emerging leaders. This life-changing event focuses on service leadership as the first, most meaningful leadership development experience. A Key Leader will learn the most important lesson of leadership—leadership comes from helping others succeed.

Participation in the program begins with attending a Key Leader conference, which is a weekend retreat for teens age 14–18. Workshops, lectures and team-building activities take place over the course of the weekend, providing opportunities to grow in confidence, make new friends and learn skills that can be taken back to the school community. Positive interaction with other Key Leader “graduates” can offer continuing reinforcement, encouragement and growth of leadership skills.

Since 2005, there have been more than 16,000 graduates throughout the United States, Canada, Grand Cayman, Brazil, El Salvador, Singapore and Malaysia.

Registration will open up after January-2015.

Please contact Marian O’Higgins, Key Leader Chair @ 586 801-6706 to find out more about Kiwanis Leadership Program.

Key Leader is a weekend event where young leaders develop their understanding of integrity, personal growth, respect, community building, and the pursuit of excellence. A Kiwanis Club, school, church, parent, business, or community can sponsor a student to go. Students do not have to be in Key Club to attend, but must be 8th – 12th grade.

**Michigan Key Leader Camp**

**April 24 – 26, 2015**

FAHOLO Conference Center  
3000 Mount Hope Rd.  
Grass Lake, MI

For More Information:  
Chairperson: Marian O’Higgins  
Marian.o@sbcglobal.net  586. 801.6706  
Coordinator: Gloria Smart GloriaDSmart@outlook.com  
Register at KEY-LEADER.ORG

13 February/March 2015 Issue
The Third Annual E-Ball!

This year marked the 3rd annual **ELIMINATE Ball** for the Michigan District of Key Club. It was held on January 31, 2015 at Century Banquet Hall in Sterling Heights, MI. Lots of Key Clubbers, Circle-kers and Kiwanians danced the night away. It sure was a night full of laughs and fun for all! Not only did we save tons of babies, but we looked amazing while doing it! There was a photo booth, a fabulous dinner, a magnificent miracle minute, and lots of dancing! Key Clubs around Michigan have been working hard to raise funds for this great cause. That strength and immense support for this project was shown throughout that entire evening. We thank everyone in the Kiwanis Family who attended. You truly made it a wonderful night! Please continue to support the Eliminate Project and look for more information about Key Club in the future.

60th District Convention

The Michigan District of Circle K will be having our 60th Annual District Convention from March 20-22, 2015 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Ann Arbor. Hosted by Circle K at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, our convention this year will be filled with some classic Monopoly board game themed fun! If you are interested in attending any of our convention such as the Presidents Banquet on Saturday, March 21 or the Governor’s Farewell Brunch on Sunday, March 22, please email District Governor Emily Bagwell at emilyabagwell@gmail.com for more information and to get you registered to attend. We hope to see you there and can’t wait for another great convention!
“You Matter to the World”
by Gordon Schleicher, Michigan District Human & Spiritual Values Chair

Last week I had the opportunity to get my annual “Life Lift” viewing “It’s a Wonderful Life” on television. I immediately opened the book 52 Little Lessons from It’s a Wonderful Life a book my son gave me a few years back. In lesson four the book’s author Bob Welch recalls angel Clarence saying “Strange, isn’t it? Each (one’s) life touches so many other lives, and when (they aren’t) around (they) leave an awful whole...”. Have you ever considered what the world would be like without you? Think of the children who are alive and well today and will grow up to become contributing citizens because of your Kiwanis effort in support of Michigan children’s hospitals and our international effort eliminating maternal neo-natal tetanus. Or, consider those children or disabled adults in your local community who were given an opportunity that they would not otherwise have had because of you or your club’s effort or action. Like, George Bailey in It’s a Wonderful Life we often don’t think about how our action on behalf of a person in need makes the world a better place. As Bob Welch in his book says “The bigger idea here is in God’s vast universe we matter, that our actions change the actions of others.” Keep up the good work you do for Kiwanis and for the children of the world. In a world that often gives public acclaim only to those with great wealth or notoriety you are making a difference for the good, you matter to the world. Thank God.

Announcement!

District Human and Spiritual Values Committee Forming...

District Chair Gordon Schleicher is looking for volunteers to join in a discussion of Human & Spiritual Values. District bylaws call for such a committee to encourage “greater consciousness of the importance of religious and spiritual values...” Committee members selected would be representative of different faiths and spiritual paths. No meetings to travel to, just online sharing. Email Gordon at: hsv@mikiwanis.org
As the newly appointed District Administrator to Builders Club I am so pleased to be supporting the largest (and most amazing!) service organization in the world for middle school and junior high students. I look forward to assisting the existing Builders Clubs throughout the Michigan District as they work with students in developing leadership skills and in providing service to their schools and communities. As a district we hope to encourage local Kiwanis Clubs to sponsor a Builders Club and will provide you the support and resources you need to make that happen. Today’s middle school age students are at the perfect age for service – they are very willing, enthusiastic and aren’t over committed! By establishing a strong Builders Club today you are developing a core group of students to move on to Key Club once they reach high school.

If you haven’t already done so take a moment to visit BuildersClub.org and browse through this year’s Contest Information section. There are some great opportunities for your Builders Clubbers to work on team projects or to showcase their individual skills. Entries in all categories should be submitted to me no later than April 1 (my contact information is listed below). First, second and third place certificates will be awarded to district winners in each category. First place winners will be forwarded to Kiwanis International for judging. Kiwanis International awards vary by category including a medallion or trophy, banner patch or gift card.

Contest entry options for an individual includes Speech, Essay, Poster or a Leadership Award. Club and/or group participation contests include a Picture Book, Scrapbook, and Club Single Service Award. Details and rules for each of these contests are available at the BuildersClub.org website.

Please feel free to contact me for information or support you may need for your local Builders Club. Watch for a Michigan District Builders Club Facebook page in the near future!

Cindy Kenney
Michigan District Builders Club Administrator
buildersclubadministrator@mikiwanis.org

In November Senior Builders Club members made fleece blankets for donation to sick children at Mott’s Children’s Hospital. They were delivered to the hospital during the holiday season to help bring some cheer to those kids needing to be hospitalized over Christmas.

Manchester Middle School Builders Club recently shared the holiday spirit with over 40 residents at the Chelsea Retirement Center during their annual Christmas visit to the facility. Sounds of the season echoed through the halls as the kids lead the seniors in their favorite Christmas carols.

Builders Club members also helped residents create Christmas wreaths and Gingerbread boys and girls. The seniors were also treated to games Holiday Bingo with cookies and candy prizes.

“The residents the kids interact with all suffer from varying levels of memory loss and dementia. I am always amazed at the compassion and joy extended by our kids to the residents of the center. Builders Club has been visiting here for many years and the kids always rank this as one of their favorite community service projects. We currently host three “parties” for the seniors during the school year,” said Builders Club Kiwanis Advisor Cindy Kenney. “I couldn’t be prouder of our kids!”

Club members also recently made holiday placemats which they donated to the Seniors in Manchester who participate in the Senior Lunch program.

In addition, Builders Clubbers were also involved in two service projects supporting our U.S. troops. In November, they collected nearly 300 Beanie Babies to donate to Operation Gratitude. This organization provides items to U.S. Military personnel currently deployed overseas. The soldiers use the Beanie Babies to give to the children in the areas they are serving. These little stuffed animals act as good will ambassadors between the local villagers and our troops.

Christmas Cards with personal notes were sent by the club to recovering U.S. soldiers at the Walter Reed V.A. Hospital in Washington D.C.

The Manchester Middle School Builders Club was very active indeed throughout the holidays this year!
Woodhaven
Toys for the Wyandotte Salvation Army

Each December, Woodhaven Kiwanians, like other community groups, celebrate the season with their traditional Christmas party. This year, Kiwanians wanted to make their holiday celebration special. Human and Spiritual Aims Chairperson, Mike Gyolai, Kiwanis Board Member and Downriver Salvation Army Board Member, Jim Jorgensen, and Kiwanis President Wesi Modolo developed a plan. Kiwanians brought children’s gifts for the less fortunate served by the Wyandotte Salvation Army in the true spirit of the Holidays to our gathering.

Jim Jorgensen reports over thirty toys were collected to bring the excitement of the Holiday to needy children throughout our Downriver community.

Team Work to Benefit the Downriver Salvation Army

The first Saturday of each December, Kiwanis Clubs around the State of Michigan, put on their heavy coats, gloves, and warm hats to ring the Salvation Army Bell. This year, Woodhaven Kiwanians were joined by members of the Woodhaven High School Marching Band and members of Woodhaven High Cross Country Team.

Both teams have benefited from the Kiwanis Club of Woodhaven Bus Project this school year and wanted to do a community service project with the Woodhaven Kiwanians. Most recently the Woodhaven High School Marching Band rode the Kiwanis buses to participate in Detroit’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. The goal was team work. Students and Kiwanians working together getting to know each other better. Twenty-one Kiwanians, two Band parents and forty-three students split up and worked one-hour shifts. The Woodhaven Wal-Mart hosted the bell ringers.

Kiwanians Mike Gyolai, Chairperson, for Woodhaven bell ringing said, “There is no question all the purple letter jackets helped raise attention of shoppers to our bell ringing. We had students, parents, grandparents, teachers, and alumni all stop, visit, and donate.” Working together the students and Kiwanians raised over $1,500 to make the holidays better for other children throughout our area.
Mason Golden K Has Answered 20,000 Children’s “Dear Santa” Letters

This year Kiwanis Mason Golden K club answered their 20,000th letter to Santa. By Christmas 2,235 letters to Santa were deposited in the giant mailbox on the courthouse square in Mason Michigan. Members from the Kiwanis Club, all senior citizens, were able to answer 1382 that had return addresses from ten states. The club has been doing this every year for the last eighteen years. Mason Golden K receives no local recognition for this work since the responses are from Santa Claus and club members are pledged not to mention locally that they answer these letters. Many of the letters to Santa are heart breaking like from this last Christmas where a young child asked for “a loving father” for her single mom. And from a grandmother who wished for “a caring husband” for her daughter (might these two writers be related?). The club prays that wishes and hopes such as these are fulfilled in this New Year.

Dearborn Heights

The Kiwanis Club of Dearborn Heights hosted its Annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2014. Over 200 guests attended. The guest speaker, WWII Veteran, Pete Sisoy, Marine Paratrooper, was honored, along with Dearborn Heights Veterans. In addition, the club sponsored 50 students from area high schools. Chairpersons Mark and Carol Slater report the event is a way to reach out to the community, and schools, as well as a way to meet and learn more about Veterans. Veteran Pete Sisoy spoke about his experiences after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Sisoy talked about the bravery of the men he fought alongside. Each year, the event continues to grow and grow. It is a wonderful tribute honoring our Veterans.

Downriver West and Woodhaven

Veterans’ Breakfast at Piquette Square

Each year, on Veteran’s Day, the Kiwanis Club of Woodhaven honors our Country’s Veterans with a breakfast at Piquette Square. Piquette Square is a 150-unit apartment project in Detroit to house and care for homeless veterans. Piquette Square offers comprehensive support services to help the veterans develop self-sufficiency and reintegrate into the community.

Woodhaven Kiwanian Mike Gyolai, a.k.a. Woodhaven’s Pancake King, takes charge of this event each year. Kiwanians help Gyolai shop for all the supplies.

This year, the fifth graders at Bates Elementary School in Woodhaven, made place mats for the Veterans. They were so pleased with their special placemats, they saved them and took them back to their rooms after breakfast.

Joining the Woodhaven Kiwanians this year were members of the Downriver West Kiwanis Club and Woodhaven Senior Citizens Club.
Woodhaven

Coats and Blankets

Each November, Bates School is turned into a warehouse of gently used but warm clothing. Under the leadership of Evelyn Sergent-Kosowski, clothing is gathered, sorted, and packed for distribution to local groups hosting clothing distributions.

Mrs. Kosowski’s oldest son, Ryan, was very active in supporting the needs of others while attending Flat Rock High School. During his senior year, Ryan tragically passed away during Cross Country practice. Choosing to turn tragedy into something good, Mrs. Kosowski has coordinated a warm clothing drive in honor of young Ryan’s life for the past seventeen years.

It is a true community effort, schools around the community gather unused clothing for the less fortunate. Clothing is gathered and sorted at Bates Elementary School, where Mrs. Kosowski spent her career teaching fifth grade. The Woodhaven Kiwanians provide the Kiwanis busses to transport the clothing and bedding.

Woodhaven Kiwanis President, Wesi Modolo said, “It is a real eye opening and humbling experience for students, as well as, adults to see a world, so close to our homes, where children play in burned out buildings and a gas station is the closest thing to a grocery store in the neighborhood. Grandma Willie does an outstanding job delivering this message to the students who participate in Apple for Ryan Activities. Mrs. Kosowski has coordinated a warm clothing drive in honor of young Ryan’s life for the past seventeen years.

Save the Date!

Michigan District Foundation GOLF OUTING

Monday June 8, 2015

Watch for more details

Save the Date!

Labor Day, Monday
September 7th, 2015

To help Kiwanis celebrate their 100th Birthday the Michigan Peach Festival has invited the Romeo Area Kiwanis Club to have a representative as the Grand Marshal of the Peach Festival. We have invited our International President, Sue Petrisin, and she has eagerly accepted!.

Currently, we are in planning stages of having a mid-morning brunch/reception at a local orchard. Afterwards, the club invites Kiwanians to join Sue in the afternoon parade by riding on floats, followed by a post parade gathering with refreshments.

Tickets go on sale early May for Kiwanians who want to participate.

If you have suggestions please call Don or Cindy at 586 752-7534
Save on what you need to do business

Here’s how it works:

• Save up to 45% on 500+ items that businesses purchase most often, including exclusive discounts on national brand ink & toner

• Save up to 10% off just about everything Office Depot stocks in stores and the Business Solutions Division annual catalog

• Plus, members get deep discounts on our Copy & Print services - 2.5 cent black & white, 24 cent color copies and 40% off finishing services every day!

As a member of Kiwanis Michigan, you will receive the following mortgage discounts and benefits:

• Exclusive access to our most experienced Home Loan Experts

• Powerful, industry-leading online tools and mobile apps for ease, speed and insight – check the status of your loan anytime, anywhere

• $500 cash back after closing*

MORTGAGE UPDATE: Mortgage rates have hit historic lows. Act now to take advantage of this great opportunity before rates rise!

CALL NOW AND GET
$500 CASH BACK AFTER CLOSING!*
Kiwanis and Michigan Business and Professional Assn. Join Forces

The Michigan Kiwanis joined the Michigan Business and Professional Association as a Business Champion in October 2014. The goal for the MBPA is to help grow Kiwanis visibility both as an organization and as individual chapters. MBPA membership is statewide, touching one in 3 businesses in the state. MBPA member businesses employ approximately 300,000 people. Any current Kiwanis member can join the MBPA at a discounted rate. The cost for companies that have 1-25 employees currently is 140.00 for a years membership. Kiwanis members are offered 25.00 off membership pricing. This means for one year cost for Kiwanis members is 115.00. Multiple year discounts are also available.

The Michigan Business and Professional Association boasts a sphere of influence that touches one in three businesses in the State of Michigan. We help members succeed by offering discounts on a wide variety of products and services, hosting educational events and seminars on a variety of topics including health care reform, advocacy in Lansing, as well as working with members to solve their individual challenges. What differentiates our organization from others is our personalized approach with each member to create positive, memorable experiences for them. We make your business better.

Membership benefit to the MBPA includes a fleet gas card program that all businesses can utilize regardless of size, vision and prescription discount cards for your employees, as well as discounts with over 100 companies. Please call me with any questions you might have…I am happy to fill in the details for you.

I will be speaking at various Division Council meetings this upcoming year. I will be in Adrian and Ann Arbor January 14, Mt. Clemens on January 28 and Allen Park on March 10. Please introduce yourself to me if you are at any of these events. I would love to learn more about your chapter as well as individual members/businesses. Please feel free to reach out to me at cmccann@michbusiness.org or call me at 586.808.2820. Thanks!

One of my objectives is to help show members how to utilize the MBPA membership and to offer some tips on networking and suggestions that may help you to grow your chapter memberships. Networking tip number one would be when you are at events or when meeting people in your daily travels I suggest you do not hesitate to ask folks what they do and for more information about their business. The natural flow of conversation will lead into talking about what you do (or at least it should and if it doesn’t perhaps this isn’t the best business partner for you). I always like to chat for a little while and then set up a follow up meeting to really learn more about each other. Relationships are all about what you can do for each other. People know the name Kiwanis but really don’t know much about what you do. Don’t hesitate to talk about the wonderful variety of programs that you offer and how FABULOUS your chapter meetings are. Excitement, enthusiasm, and being genuine go a long way.
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*This report is as of Jan. 28, 2015*
In Memoriam

SAMUEL R. BEAL
STANFORD E. SMITH
Adrian

ROBERT COLT
Charlevoix

ROBERT D. KEEL
Flint

JAMES H. WEGNER
Indian River

THOMAS D. KINNEY
Lansing Area Golden K

WILFRED M. FETTIS
Little Traverse Bay

LORRAINE MAHRLE
Manchester

WILLIAM G. HOEHN
Utica-Shelby Township

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2014 Governor’s MEMBERSHIP TROPHY

St. Johns 707 +8
Monroe +7
Ann Arbor +6
Clare +5
Detroit No. 1 +5
Tri Cities, Gd. Haven-Spring Lake +5

Net gain is from 10-1-14 thru 12-31-14 and includes only clubs with at least a net gain of +5 based on official membership numbers supplied by Kiwanis International.

AS WE GO TO PRESS

Active Clubs 162
Charter Suspended Clubs 0
District Beginning Membership 4659 members
Reporting Members January 1, 2015 4772
Net Gain + 113 members

Mark Your Calendars!

February 2015

15 Deadline for ALL CLUBS filing IRS 990
21 Past Lt. Governor's Council, 9:30 AM, Mason
21 2nd Convention Planning Meeting, Detroit 9:30 AM
28 Club Boards select delegates for KI Convention, Indianapolis
28 Spring Divisional--Div. 1, 3, 7, Governors Visit

March 2015

7 Spring Divisional--Div. 9 & 10, Governors Visit
14 Spring Divisional--Div. 20,21,22, Governors Visit
13-15 Key Club District Convention, Grand Traverse Resort
21 Spring Divisional--Div. 13 &14, Governors Visit
20-22 Circle K District Convention, Sheraton Ann Arbor
28 Spring Divisional--Div. 16 & 18, Governors Visit