Welcome to the latest news from around our Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District. In addition to articles by some of district leaders you will also find many interesting articles and photos from Kiwanis Clubs in our district.

As always we encourage clubs to submit news articles about their activities, service projects or fundraisers. To submit an article go the District News on our website and find “News-News Story Submission” page  http://mndak.portalbuzz.com/Page/1013

This document is a PDF summary of the latest news that can also be found on the district website. If you prefer you can also view all of our news articles directly on the district website. You can search by District, Division or Club and view or print each article individually or as a group. In addition the photos appear in a larger format on the website. Here is a link to the website  http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1012

An archive of current and past MINNEKOTANS can be found on our district website http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1014

Steve Handegaard
District Secretary/Treasurer
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis International
Merry Christmas - 11/30/2018  
Submitted by: Dave Harms

I hope that all had a Great Thanksgiving Celebration with Family and Friends in this time for sharing and celebrating what we have to be thankful for. It is also a good time to think about what our Kiwanis future will be. We need to be thinking ahead, and in that regard I am reminded of an old saying by Confucius "If you are planning for a year, Plant Rice; If you are planning for 10 years Plant Trees; If you are planning for 100 years Educate Children." In that regard Kiwanis is on the right track, but we also need to educate the Educators, and that translates to Kiwanis Members. We need to think and move forward. We each have a community of opportunities to invite people to join us in our Kiwanis mission.

I am encouraged about our future, by what I have experienced in attending the Different Division Governors visits. All have been well attended and filled with enthusiasm and full of successes that raise funds to support scholarships, and youth participation in service and learning.

The Division 3 Governor Visit included 11 of the 17 clubs in the division, and each club in attendance presented their clubs and how their SLP were supported, and funded. After a wonderful dinner, the Ely Club provided Blueberry Pie made with local blueberries, and I have to say, it was absolutely wonderful.

Division 7 My home division was attended by 95 Kiwanians from around the division. Mary Bowen from Fridley gave a presentation on Key Club and making it fun and relevant for the members. Sherry Scudder spoke on membership and engagement. Mike Arturi a Musician (Professional Drummer) and Educational Entrepreneur was our guest speaker. Our project for the event was Socks as it is the most requested item among those in Need in our homeless shelters, and coupled with that was our own Wacky Socks contest in which I came in second place after Lyle Solem from the Rochester Sun Risers wacky sox contest. The silent auction raised $1200.00 for the Children's Fund.

Division 1 visit in North Dakota was hosted by the Harvey Club a small club that has and is doing big things in their community with their Park in partnership with the City of Harvey. My wife and I have met and made a lot of new friends

I am looking forward to our Tri-K Board Meeting and Strategic Planning Committee Meeting January 18 & 19. It's not too early to think about Lt Governor Training in April. Wouldn't it be great if we could have a full Lt Governor Team in each division.
I know with Christmas on the Horizon there are a lot of good things going on with Kiwanians helping
to make Christmas enjoyable and memorable for many who are in need. That is our mission all year. I
want to thank every Club in Minnesota/Dakotas District for fulfilling that mission.

I want to wish Each and Every one of you and your families a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas and a
Happy New Year.

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December Update - 11/30/2018
Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

Greetings! The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to get
involved in Kiwanis service and help others in your community! We
wish all of you and your families a very happy holiday season.

Governor Elect Candidates: If you are interested in running for
Governor Elect for 2019-2020, please submit a picture and a short biographical sketch not to exceed
600 words, along with an endorsement from your home club, to the District Kiwanis Office, P.O. Box
735, Dalton, MN 56324 no later than February 15, 2019 to be included in the March issue of the
MINNEKOTAN. Candidates can announce their intention to run at a later date, but may not be able to
have an article in the MINNEKOTAN or district website. Governor Elect candidates must be a Past Lt.
Governor. The election will take place at the District Convention next August. A complete list of rules
and regulations for district officer campaigns can be obtained from the District Office.

Club Donations to Outreach: Special thanks to all of the clubs that contributed to the Outreach
Program during 17-18. We look forward to seeing your contribution again in 18-19. Most Kiwanis
clubs include this as an annual budget item. Dollars given to the Outreach Program are used by Key
Club and Circle K District Boards to build new Key and Circle K clubs, to attend Kiwanis District
Conventions and Kiwanis special meetings, and to acquire needed supplies and equipment. Our
Circle K and Key Club District Boards are very busy and active. They need our financial support.
Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office. Your
financial support is more critical than ever! District Key Club and Circle K boards cannot do all of their
great work without this extra financial support.

Online Monthly Club Reporting: Since our online reporting is so very important, I would like to once
again review the process for the 18-19 year. Your club should be submitting your monthly club report online by the 10th of the following month. Your Lt. Governors, District Officers, District Office and Kiwanis International are able to view your reports without you having to send any additional emails or hard copies. If you have any questions, please give me a call or send me an email.

Distinguished Club Recognition Program 2018-2019: Kiwanis International announced a couple of months ago the details of the 18-19 Distinguished Club Recognition program. Here is a link to the 18-19 distinguished criteria.
www.mndak-kiwanis.org

Tri-K District Board Meeting: Kiwanis, Circle K, and Key Club District Boards will meet in Fergus Falls, MN on Friday, January 18 and Saturday, January 19, 2019.

District Kiwanis Leadership Directory: Just a reminder that you can view or print a copy of our district leadership directory on our district website http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/

Directory of Club Contacts: Last month I emailed all club secretaries a list of all club contacts in the district. If you would like a copy contact your club secretary, or send me an email and I will email it to you. The club contact list is not posted on the district website, but is available upon request for official Kiwanis business purposes.

Thanks again for all your great work in Kiwanis!

Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:
Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office
P.O. Box 735
Dalton, MN 56324-0735
Phone: 218-589-7581
Email: secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org

Club President's Education - 11/29/2018
Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers
The Kiwanis year is well underway. The busyness of the holidays are upon us and sometimes the busyness of our club activities can be as hectic as the holidays.

Club presidents have been leading their club for a couple months and I hope things are going smoothly. If you haven’t taken the president’s online training on www.kiwanis.org, I would encourage you to do it as soon as you can. The information is beneficial to help you understand your position and what is required of you to lead your club. The training doesn’t have to be completed at one sitting as it can be taken in segments.

Beginning in January I will be contacting each Division’s presidents for a CLE (Club Leadership Education) conference call for their Division. I will be sending out an email with dates and times to hold your Division call. We will be discussing and reviewing on the call instead of in a classroom setting. This means no travel and time away from home. We can all stay warm at home! I am looking forward to helping you with your position and any questions you may have.

Christmas is when we think of others - 11/29/2018
Submitted by: Sharon Scudder

Christmas is a time for family, presents, friends and the community. With all the hustle and bustle, we want to share Kiwanis with people who need others and others need them- especially kids.

In the midst of all our rushing to complete tasks and lists of “have-to’s and should-do’s we encourage you all to continue to focus on growing membership, engaging our new members, mentoring them and have them work on projects with you to show how much they are needed.

It is not difficult to get members to join in the effort to recruit new members. Everyone wants to be a part of the team. They need to feel that they are an important part of the team. Making them part of a successful drive to increase membership gives them ownership in the program and the process. Enthusiasm breeds more enthusiasm. Be enthusiastic and encourage new ideas, share best practices and communicate how you can help one another.
The importance of growing membership is that it creates an awareness of Kiwanis and what it can do for the children in our communities. It brings focus to our well-needed projects that communities sometimes cannot afford to implement or have staff power to get the job done. Make a difference, don’t think you have to do it all by yourself. It is a job for all to work on membership just get the word out and ASK THOSE YOU KNOW AND THOSE YOU DON’T KNOW. Make people feel useful and that is exactly what they will want to be. We value each and every one of our members. Welcome everyone into our Kiwanis Organization with open arms. Here are the newest members in each division for October and November thus far:

**Division 2:** Alexandria – Sandy Finn, sponsor unknown  
Thief River Falls – Richard T. Zeman, Jr by David Odette  
Valley City – Tara Anderson by Allison Swenson & Dan Klein by Kenneth Dekrey

**Division 5:** Aberdeen - Drew Dennert, sponsor unknown  
Milbank – Erek Holmquist, sponsor unknown  
Watertown - Holly Morgan, sponsor unknown

**Division 6:** Granite Falls – Rich Schneider by Dawn Odegard  
Lakefield – Jean Bass, sponsor unkown & Lori Henning by Larry B. Lavin  
Ortonville – Khadija Benaissa by Craig Randleman  
Ronald Beling by Vanessa Meyer  
Pipestone – Thomas Steffes by Erica Lynn Volkir  
Tracy – Pastor Nicholas Seutari – by Eric Natwick  
Worthington – Brittany Sandager by William Wetering

Way to go Division 6 for all your hard work. Congratulations to all the Divisions who brought in new members the last couple of months. That ASKING REALLY WORKS.

Hope your Holidays are spent surrounded by the warmth of family and friends. We care about our members and are thankful that you are sharing the opportunity of belonging. Have a great Holiday and Best Wishes from the Membership Team.

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**December is the month of Giving** - 11/29/2018

*Submitted by: Sharon Scudder*

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and all greetings that go with celebrating the feeling of giving, happiness and families. The Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Educational Foundation, Inc. is a perfect place you can give. It ‘s a gift that keeps on giving. We need
your support, either personally or through your club. Here are a few suggestions:

$100 Donation – Century Club Membership. This amount can be taken from Youth Activities Funds, Project Profit funds or Administrative Funds. Vantine Life Fellowship Membership – This is for Kiwanis members or family members or anyone you may want to honor for some type of recognition. $500 Donation Joseph E. Messer Fellowship Membership (payable in 2 payments) The donor receives a Foundation plaque recognizing that person as a Joseph E. Messer Fellowship recipient. Any amount for a Memorial can be given to honor the memory of a deceased person. A Memorial is not limited to a Kiwanis member or their families.

All Forms for these contributions are on the Website with instructions.

The money received from these contributions are held with other Endowment Funds and only the interest received from the investment will be used for Scholarships. The Scholarship money can be used at a college, university and vocational scholarship program for students in Minnesota, North and South Dakota as well as Superior, Wisconsin. ALL GIFTS TO THE FOUNDATION ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!!!!

Scholarship Applications are now on our website. You can seek more information on applying for scholarships on the website. January starts the process, announcement of recipients are between April 15 and May 1st. The award is sent directly to the school’s financial services department after verification of the student being registered.

Although some of this information was covered in last month’s newsletter, this is important especially for those who are looking for a tax deduction at the end of the year and the students can really be helped by these contributions. If you are looking for a source to donate to, pick the MN-DAK Scholarship Educational Foundation. The Foundation Board and Santa will thank you and so will the young folks that will benefit from the Scholarships. Applications are on the Website with instructions. You will be helping the kids with their education and their future.

December Partnership Highlights - 11/29/2018
Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Partnership Coordinator
This month’s partnership highlights include **HomeAdvisor** and **IdentityForce**. These two Kiwanis partners provide Kiwanis members with valuable services to make life easier and safer.

**HomeAdvisor**
Let someone else worry about planning your home improvement to-dos. Kiwanis members get complimentary access to Home Concierge, HomeAdvisor’s exclusive service offering a dedicated personal assistant for coordinating any home project need. Whether you’re looking for quick repairs or tackling a major remodel, your concierge will ensure you’re connected with the best pre-screened professionals for the job. Kiwanis members also get free access to HomeAdvisor’s electronic newsletter that promotes seasonal project ideas, testimonials and valuable resources to help improve your home.

**IdentityForce**
Our partnership with IdentityForce equips U.S. Kiwanians with award-winning identity-theft protection. With an A+ rating from the Better Business Bureau, a 95 percent customer-satisfaction rate and the recipient of the 2017 Best-in-Class Identity Theft Protection Service Provider by independent analyst firm Javelin Research, IdentityForce has a 40-year history of protecting what matters most. IdentityForce offers proven identity, privacy and credit security solutions. IdentityForce combines advanced detection technology, real-time alerts, 24/7 support and proven identity recovery to get the job done. Backed by a US$1 million insurance policy, it’s why IdentityForce has been trusted by millions of people, Global 1000 organizations and the U.S. Government.

Have a blessed and safe Christmas season.

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**Providing Warmth and Comfort** - 11/29/2018  
*Submitted by: Nancy Cornell*

The Kingsland Jr. High Builders Club and the Kingsland Key Club teamed up in November to bring warmth and comfort to people in crisis. They made seventeen fleece blankets to be given to the local sheriff’s department. Both clubs are sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Spring Valley, Minnesota.
K-Kids March Forward - 11/28/2018
Submitted by: Theresa Looby

Last month we introduced the new K-Kids Club in Oakdale, Minnesota. This month we are pleased to announce the plans for organizing a K-Kids Club in Roseville, Minnesota. Thank you to the teachers and sponsoring Kiwanis Clubs of Oakdale and Roseville for providing the K-Kids experience for the children.

At this time I am waiting to learn the Organizational and Charter application date of the Roseville K-kids. I want to share the good news of another K-Kids Club serving the world one child and one community at a time.

We will continue to encourage K-Kids in all of our Elementary Schools. The skills children learn in K-Kids are life skills that will be a part of them as they grow to adulthood contributing to their communities as leaders and volunteers.

There are many K-Kids Clubs in the MinnDak District that doing great work in their schools and communities. Please share your activities as I would like to showcase them in the Minneketan. Sharing is a way for other Clubs to get new ideas for projects in their area.

Please contact me if you are considering a K-Kids Club for your school. I am here to help you and answer questions.

May each K-Kids Club, their advisors, and sponsoring Clubs enjoy a Happy Holiday Season!

Theresa Looby
K-Kids Administrator
tnl2438@gmail.com
605 490 8698

Youth Protection Guidelines - 11/28/2018
Submitted by: Peter Larson

Chaperone : A chaperone is defined as a Kiwanis member, faculty member, parent, legal guardian, or person who is "in loco parentis"
(in the place of a parent), 21 years of age or older, who has been approved by the school or agency to accompany the youth members at a specific event.

One common need for chaperones is during Key Club District and International conventions. Another I have been involved with is when a Builders Club is doing a project outside school property and the advisor requests assistance from Kiwanis members to meet school policies related to a needed youth to adult ratio. However, if you volunteer at a school during school hours you are not considered a chaperone since the youth are under the supervision of the school or agency during those hours.

Chaperones will be discussed again when overnight stays and transportation guidelines are reviewed.

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**Children's Fund - 11/27/2018**

*Submitted by: Kathy Welle*

Welcome to our 2018 Holiday Season.

Give and extend your Kiwanis impact

With the Kiwanis Children’s Fund, every gift matters. Your generosity helps children in many places, in many ways. Learn about the different areas you support when you give to the Children’s Fund.

• You can serve kids today with an unrestricted gift to the Kiwanis Children’s Fund.
• You can serve them tomorrow by giving to The Eliminate Project.
• You can even serve kids forever—by including the Children’s Fund in your estate plans.
• You can serve more kids. Check to see if your employer has a matching gift program.

**REMINDER:**
A tax-saving way to help the Kiwanis Children’s Fund Nov 01, 2018.
If you are 70½ years or older, you can reach more children around the world by giving to the Kiwanis Children's Fund — without incurring income taxes.

When you give up to US$100,000 from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as the Kiwanis Children’s Fund you pay no income taxes on the money. In fact, you can make your IRA charitable rollover gift annually — so you support the Children’s Fund now and in years to come.

Here are a few important things to know:

• Donors age 70½ or older are eligible.
• Tax-free IRA transfers may amount up to US$100,000 annually.
• This opportunity applies only to IRAs. Other retirement plans are not eligible.
• Donors may give to more than one charity through an IRA.

Also, if you have not taken your required minimum distribution for 2018, your IRA charity rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. Remember: Every year you must request that you want to make a qualified charity gift before your required minimum distribution is processed.

Note: The Kiwanis Children's Fund does not provide financial or legal advice. We recommend you consult your financial and legal advisors about your personal situation before making a gift.

Service - 11/27/2018
Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan

I hope your service projects are going well.

If you are needing any answers to questions you may have contact me.

Contact information:
Books
Scholastic representative - Angie Oshia 314-502-6505
Books 4 Kids - 605-691-2007

Keep working on your area’s needs for the children.
Key Club and Builders Clubs need to be supported by your club. Be sure to stay in touch with their advisors. Let them know you support their efforts.

TRAFFICKING education will remain an effort we as Kiwanis need to support. I suggest you get in touch with the authorities in your area that will help your club educate children how to watch for these traffickers and how to escape their deceptive advances. Train our children that they need to inform authorities if they see this happening around them.

I hope that have a very nice Christmas holiday season. Kiwanis is a gift of our service that will keep on giving in our community well after we are gone.

Food for the needy  - 11/27/2018
Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn
Several years ago students from many of the elementery schools in the FM area started a project called “Fill the Dome”. Each school collected food and cash to deliver to the Fargo Dome where it was all laid out on the dome floor. This program has grown each year, and this year nearly 200,000# of food was delivered and approximately $50,000 in cash. Members of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club helped the students at Madison Elementary School with nearly $400 worth of groceries. Mary Ann Berg and students from Madison are shown as they unloaded the groceries.

Rounding Up Turkeys  - 11/19/2018
Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn
The Rapid City Kiwanis Club, just one of ten civic organizations, helped the Salvation Army get donations of turkeys for their Christmas baskets for the needy in our community. Our club was assigned a small grocery store in the far eastern side of town. The store offered a special price on their store brand turkeys of $0.59/lb. if purchased for the Salvation Army. We introduced ourselves and the Turkey Roundup. Our club encouraged the purchase of 57
turkeys out of the 520 turkeys in city wide. Proud to have done more than our tenth of the total. If you want a job done well, ask Kiwanis!

Palace City Kiwanis Half Marathon - 11/16/2018
Submitted by: Paula Deckert

Committee members who had put in countless hours of planning the First Annual Palace City Kiwanis Half Marathon. Even with the cool temperatures and less than an ideal start to the day 162 runners from near and far came to run the 13.1-mile race. Sharply at 8 AM the race started at the historic Mitchell Corn Palace winding through the heart of Mitchell, continuing onto a loop around Lake Mitchell with the finish line back at the Corn Palace.

This event was a collaboration between the Kiwanis Club of Mitchell and the Palace City Women Run group. The Kiwanis Club had organized a 5K/10K race the previous three years however numbers had been on a decline to multiple other races of its kind being held in the city throughout the year. Members decided it was time to make a change and contact was made with the women’s running group who had a dream of putting on a longer race in Mitchell.

Making this run a success was no easy task! Sponsors covered most of the expenses, which included medals, runner’s shirts, and even porta-potties! Runners paid a registration fee to be involved in the race. It took the entire communities involvement to pull off the big race! Water stations were set up by groups from Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell High School, and the National Guard. Road crossings were handled by volunteers from many different groups and individuals who didn’t want to miss out being involved in the event.
Plans are underway next year’s event when planners are anticipating more runners and even more involvement from the community!

**Builders Crosses Border - 11/6/2018**  
*Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn*

Our SLP Committee started a new Builders Club, but little did we know that we were going to also start a Builders Club North of the Border. This was one of those moments that you just stand in awe with you mouth hanging open.

Our faculty advisor at the Southwest Middle School told us that his father, who lives in Canada had heard so much about what his son was doing in his Kiwanis Builders Club that he checked on starting a Builders Club in his home town. What a surprise! What a blessing that more children are going to have the opportunity to learn about giving of themselves in service to others. A great example of "Improving the world one child and one community at a time"...across borders.

**Kiwanis Helps with Halloween at the Y - 11/4/2018**  
*Club: Marshall Area - Submitted by: Renee Suby*

Kiwanis members in the Marshall Area had a good time building a mini golf course and helping kids through it at Halloween at the Y on 10/27/18! What a great and free event for children and families! Pictured is Kiwanis member, Andrew Suby (State Farm Insurance-Andrew Suby, Agent) encouraging a youngster on the putting course.