



**Kiwanis®**

# MINNEKOTAN

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**June 2017**

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

## **Membership - 5/31/2017**

*Submitted by: Peter Larson*

Have you invited a neighbor, business associate, or friend to your Kiwanis meeting? As of today, 265 new members have joined Kiwanis Clubs throughout the District. To have a membership increase at the end of our year, we need 510 more new members joining our clubs to serve the children of our communities and the world and to serve our communities and the world.



Bruce Klair, Cindy Braseth and I are working on opening a new Kiwanis Club in Bemidji, MN. If you know of someone in the Bemidji area who might be interested in helping please contact one of us.

Remember to consider using some of the \$3,500 each Division is authorized to spend on membership activities. If you have any questions about what qualifies, please contact me at 701-261-7012.

Mon and I want to thank the Anoka Area Kiwanis Club for inviting me to attend their 95th Chartering dinner. It was a great meal, a fine silent auction and a chance to meet and talk to a terrific group of Kiwanians.

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## **District Kiwanis Convention Corner - 5/30/2017**

*Submitted by: Judie Rosendahl, District Convention Director*

Here it is June already! Just two months and we will gather in Watertown, South Dakota to celebrate our 100th convention of Kiwanis in the Minnesota Dakota District. We are planning a great time for everyone and trust that many will attend. It's always more fun if more of our Kiwanis friends are present. Our forums will be fantastic this year with many presenters who are committed to making this a great experience for all of us! I want to remind you to book your room at the Ramkota Inn as soon as you are able. They are holding a block of rooms for us until July 15 and the price is only \$104.99. What a bargain! This is a beautiful facility that should accommodate us nicely. The number to call is 605-886-8011 and mention the Kiwanis convention. A reminder also to register for the convention itself by July 15. We will be having a birthday party on Saturday evening at the banquet. Remember to bring diapers for the needy as well as your donations for the silent auction to benefit Eliminate MNT.



Again this year each club and individual has the opportunity to have an ad in our convention booklet. The ads are business card size for just \$35 each. If you are interested in advertising an event or your business, please let me know. These ads are very well seen by all of the attendees so they are a good buy for the money. Thank you for considering putting an ad in the convention booklet.

Looking forward to seeing you August 11-13 in Watertown!

Judie Rosendahl  
District Convention Director

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### **June Update - 5/30/2017**

*Submitted by: Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas*

**District Convention Director Position Opening:** Judie Rosendahl, our current District Convention Director, has indicated that she will be stepping down after this year's convention. Anyone interested in this volunteer position should contact Governor Elect Dan Leikvold or Steve Handegaard, District Sec/Treas for additional information. If possible we like to have someone appointed to the position as soon as possible so they can work alongside Judie during this year's convention.



**Club Election Reports for 2017-2018:** Thank you once again to Club Secretaries for submitting your Club Election Reports. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not entered your information online, please do so ASAP. Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that we receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. The new Kiwanis year that starts in October is only 4 months away.

It is Kiwanis Convention time again! Both the District and International Conventions will provide some great learning and fun times this summer. To date Minnesota-Dakotas District has 17 members and 3 guests attending the **Annual Kiwanis International Convention in Paris, France**. You can check out some of the convention happenings at <http://www2.kiwanis.org/convention/2017>

The **District Kiwanis Convention** in Watertown, SD, August 11-13, is going to be a great time. I hope to see all of you there. The Official Call to Convention letter was mailed to all Kiwanis Club secretaries

the first week in May. The mailing contained registration forms and also your club's delegate certification form. The registration fee goes up after July 15. Register early! You can register online and find related information on our district website <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/1010>

**Outreach Program:** Has your club contributed to the Outreach Program this Kiwanis year? Our Circle K and Key Club District Boards are very busy covering the three states building our Sponsored Youth Programs. They need our financial support. Checks can be made payable to Kiwanis Outreach and mailed to me at the District Office.

**Club Secretaries:** Remember to file your Monthly Club Reports online by the tenth of each month. If you have any problems filing your report, contact [kiwanisone@kiwanis.org](mailto:kiwanisone@kiwanis.org) or myself at [secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org](mailto:secretary@mndak-kiwanis.org)

**Interclub Award:** Just a reminder that the club visit timeline for Interclub Award coincides with the Kiwanis year – October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. Award patches will be distributed to qualifying clubs after the September 30 deadline. A complete summary of Interclub Award Criteria can be found on our website <http://www.mndak-kiwanis.org/Page/24951>

**Minnesota-Dakotas District Kiwanis Office Contact Information:**

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**Traveling Tips - 5/28/2017**

*Submitted by: Courtney Taylor, OTIC Chair*

Whether you're driving your family to the lakes, catching a bus through Canada, or flying to Paris for the convention, here are some tips to help with your preparations.

- Make copies of all travel documents, even your credit cards with the company phone numbers. Keep one copy with you, and leave one copy with a trusted friend or relative back home in case of emergency.



- Don't forget to check travel documents if you're going abroad, and pack a power converter.
- Roll clothes in your suitcase. This helps with space and wrinkles.
- Use Ziploc bags as an air-compression function (suck the air out once the clothes are loaded) and to pack swimsuits that don't have time to dry after the last afternoon of fun.
- Pack shirts, slacks, and skirts that can be interchanged so you'll have a fresh look every day.
- Use an old prescription bottle for carrying hair products, lotion, or Q-tips.
- Stow cords for charging your electronics in an extra sunglasses case.
- If your luggage is a neutral or common color, tie a bright ribbon on the handle to making identifying your bags at the baggage claim a cinch.
- Tuck socks and intimates in a spare cosmetic bag for easy organization.

Online registration has closed for the 2017 Kiwanis International Convention, but you can still register on site in Paris. For more information about hotels, tours, and voting, visit <http://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2017>. Bonne chance!

## **WE STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO - 5/28/2017**

*Submitted by: E. Chuck Schroder*

We have four months to reach our goal of \$35,334 for the Children's Fund. At the end of April, we were sitting at \$22,722.30 which means we have to get \$12,612 by September 30th. There are over 80 clubs in our district right now that haven't given to the Children's Fund. We as a district can get the job done. I have been in contact with the Lt. Governors of each division and they have have promised me their support. If 12 people would get a Hixson we would make it. Here is a way you can honor someone in your club. Or if you as an individual would like to get a Hixson it counts for your club and division and district.



CHUCK SCHRODER - DISTRICT CHAIR

This is a goal that our Governor needs to meet to become a distinguished Governor. Let's not let him down. Thank you all for the support that you have given to the Children's Fund. This is what makes Kiwanis work by helping the Children Of The World and that's what we do with the funds you send in.

**Kiwanis Service - 5/28/2017**

*Submitted by: Al Vanderlaan*

Kiwanians , We serve ! I am hearing of many projects being worked on throughout the District .

Kiwanis dedicated another Oasis on the Rosebud reservation on May 9th. The children were very excited about it. Governor Elect Dan, Ginger Gilfoild, Chamberlin club president elect and I were present for the excitement. This represents the only library in their school and the only library within 30 miles of the school. The Pomerlee school principal plans on opening the library up to the adults in the area when the children are not present so they can read books.



The plans go on for the district convention August 11th--13th. Plan on attending. You secretaries should have the registration packet. This will be the only 100th year celebration of our district convention that you will ever attend.

Consider making sex trafficking education a priority this year in your club. There will be forums dealing with the subject at the convention. Jenna Moffatt is very good at teaching. Come with questions.

Diapers will be collected again this year so bring all you can with you. Three different charities will receive them. See you in August.

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**District Educational Foundation Eases Transition to Post-Secondary Education - 5/28/2017**

*Submitted by: Dan Leikvold*

As with the return of the robins and the blooming of the flowers, spring in the Minnesota Dakotas District is accompanied by thousands of students graduating from the many high schools located in communities throughout our three states. It is a very exciting time for seniors, their families, and our schools.



It is a time for pride as we celebrate the numerous achievements and accomplishments of our young people. It is a time for reliving the awesome and sometimes embarrassing memories associated with growing up. And, it is a time to prepare for one of life's greatest transitions—moving on from high school.

As with most transitions, this one comes with both a lot of excitement and a good dose of trepidation. The excitement comes from the opportunity to move to a new city, the prospect of meeting new friends, and the chance to stare out over new horizons. The trepidation can come from leaving family and friends behind, going to an unfamiliar setting, and the uncertainty that comes with the costs associated with post-secondary education.

Not all of the uncertainty of the transition can be easily put aside, but with the assistance of the Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation, some of the uncertainty of the cost of school can be curbed by the many scholarships provided to high school seniors within the Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District.

The Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation has recently awarded 57 total scholarships, 53 of which were \$865, 3 that were \$1,000, and one of \$2500. The total money that will be given out is \$48,995. Some of the \$865 scholarships will be awarded as \$1,000 when the check is written in the fall as some clubs have sent an extra \$135 to the Educational Foundation to make their winners scholarship an even \$1,000. Other clubs award a \$135 check directly to the winning student(s) to make it a \$1,000 scholarship.

This awesome display of giving is made possible by the generous gifts and donations of the clubs and individuals in the Minnesota Dakotas District. To all of you who have donated to the Educational Foundation, I want to say thank you so much for your generosity and your support of our young people.

In addition, I would like to encourage those of you who haven't yet given to do so. Your investment in the Minnesota Dakotas Kiwanis District Educational Foundation is an investment in our students and in our communities. We need you to build our endowment, so our children can build their futures.

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**Kiwanis International Partners - 5/28/2017**

*Submitted by: Sharon Scudder*

With school out for the Summer months, I would like to focus on one of our Kiwanis International Partners – The Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). KI and BGCA both have long and successful histories. The two organizations work collaboratively, promoting and supporting local Kiwanis and BGCA partnerships. They continue to

work closely to achieve an even greater positive impact in the lives of children and in communities nationwide.

In every community, boys and girls are left to find their own recreation and companionship in the streets. An increasing number of children are at home with no adult care or supervision. Young people need to know that someone cares about them. Boys and Girls Clubs offer that and more. Club programs and services promote and enhance the development of boys and girls by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence.



A critical need that has been identified by both organizations is the shortage of adult mentors for children in urgent need of a caring adult role model in their lives. Mentoring and educational support is vital to their future success.

KI partners with BGCA with a focus on mentoring tomorrow's leaders. By investing in BGCA, you can truly make a difference in your community and create great futures for kids who need us the most.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America support a safe place to learn play and grow, Ongoing relationships with caring adult professionals, Life-enhancing programs and character development experiences, Hope and opportunity, Supportive relationships with care members, and Enriching programs, experiences and activities.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Core Values are:

Kids first

Caring Adults

Safe, Fun & Healthy Environments

Inclusive Communities

Responsible Stewardship

Opportunity for All

Where can your Kiwanis Club help? Find your local Boys & Girls Club at [bgca.org](http://bgca.org).

*Submitted by: Paul Schadewald*

Bismarck Kiwanis is getting ready for another summer supporting the Bismarck Summer Lunch At The Park Program. On weekdays in June thru mid-August noon meals are served at four Bismarck park/playground locations. This year we will have members serve meals two days a week at Kiwanis Park. Hot food will be provided by the Bismarck Public School System. Our members will setup equipment and serve meals. This is the third year we have taken part in this program. This initially started as a kids summer meal program, but now also serves adults too. Volunteers from other groups help staff this program five days a week.



On May 23 Bismarck Kiwanis members took part in the official opening of the new accessible playground at Kiwanis Park. Our club partnered with Bismarck Parks and other donors to fund this project -see photo.

Other May activities included sponsoring track meets and helping at a Bike Safety Rodeo.

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### **Scholarship Recipients - 5/27/2017**

*Club: Mandan - Submitted by: Wilfred Volesky*

The Mandan Kiwanis Club had the three students (Micayla Bitz, Abigail Patrick and Casey Pittman) who were selected to receive the Mandan Kiwanis Scholarship and the recipient (Connor Wieland) of the Kiwanis District Foundation Scholarship to their May 22 meeting. The Mandan Kiwanis Scholarship was valued at \$1500 for each scholarship and the District Scholarship was valued at \$1000. The students were allowed to introduce themselves and to talk about their future plans.



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### **Red Nose Day - 5/26/2017**

*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

President Kathleen Nesvig of the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club felt that since we are committed to working with kids in all of our clubs and since Red Nose Day is all about having fun, raising money and helping Kids in need, it would be fitting for us to all wear the

appropriate identification.

Our speaker and a former member who now resides in Duluth were in attendance for this photo, and the photographer was secretary Larry Rittgarn.



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### **Celebrating a 92nd Birthday - 5/24/2017**

*Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Mary Bowen, Fridley Key Club Advisor*

Who wears party hats and eats decadent chocolate cake and ice cream at 7:30 am in the morning? They were the Fridley High School Key Club Board Members, that's who! Seventeen Key Club Board Members and four advisors sang "Happy Birthday" to Key Club International at 7:30 am, Wednesday, May 17. It was a celebration of the 92nd birthday of Key Club International.



President Daegia Vang planned the surprise party. She lit candles while members sang Happy Birthday. Everyone feasted on the rich cake and commented that this event was the best morning celebration all year. Members wore party hats throughout the school as they went to classes. Happy Birthday Key Club, with many more successful years to come.

Mary (Crzy Mry) Bowen, Fridley Key Club Kiwanis Advisor  
Columbia Heights/Fridley Kiwanis Club

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### **16th Annual BUG honors breakfast - 5/23/2017**

*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

The 16th Annual BUG honors breakfast was celebrated by the Fargo South Point Kiwanis Club and the students and teachers at Madison Elementary School in Fargo, ND.

In a school with over 20 languages, and more than 50 dialects, it is a real challenge for teachers and students to make the list of honorees for this event. The school uses a criteria of grades, class room and playground functions to determine the winners each year, and this year there were 37 student that make the list and the students along with parents, friends and others, celebrated with a breakfast and presentation of honors on Wednesday, May 10.



The Fargo South Point members were on hand to hand out certificates, gifts, and shake hands with all of the winners. In addition to the honors given to the students, the South Point club also honors all of the staff, including the custodian with a certificate, and gifts. This program continues to be a highlight for the club and students each year.

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### **Mini Libraries continue to pop up - 5/23/2017**

*Club: Fargo South Point - Submitted by: Larry Rittgarn*

Fargo South Point Kiwanis club members are in the mini library mode right now, and Jeff Swanson, our immediate past president, started this program and it continues. Jeff builds the mini libraries in his shop, then takes them to the art class at the school where the library will be installed, and the art class does the decorating and painting. Jeff then takes them and puts a sealer on them and they are ready to be installed near that school.



The unit shown in this photo is a duplex model, and will be installed at Jefferson Elementary School. Fargo South Point members supply the initial supply of books and continue to replenish the supply as they slowly disappear. Many times the ones put in the library are gone, but in their place are different ones that people put back as they continue to use the libraries.

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### **Kids for Eliminate - 5/20/2017**

*Club: Rapid City - Submitted by: Vern Hagedorn*

A year ago, the Kindergarten teachers, students, and parents of the Corral Drive Elementary School were the first school in the world to receive a Zeller Award. This was achieved through a Kindergarten project of making "Little Big Mac" cookies which resembled hamburgers for a school-wide project.

When the Zeller was presented to the school this year in a school-wide convocation, the NEW Kindergarten students wanted to know if they could raise more money this year to save more mothers and children. One of the teachers approached the principal this month and he approved a cookie presale. The result of the presale showed an expected sale of about \$360, but the sale actually netted \$525 for the Kiwanis Eliminate Project.



The lessons learned by today's current Kindergarten is best said in the words of Witten, "So I went to the gym and they gave my teacher(s) an award. Then I said to her, 'Hey! I wanna save a mommy and her baby, too!' So we made all those cookies and people bought them and now... I did it. I saved a mommy and her babies." Not bad for 6 years-old.

Thanks to Kindergarten teachers Melinda, Shaina, and Kara for the valuable lessons taught to these Kindergartners which will start them on track to becoming "outward looking" adults.

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### **May Basket Time - 5/16/2017**

*Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Ben Stevenson*

On Sunday, April 30th, one Fridley Key Clubber and Advisor Mary Bowen delivered 125 homemade brightly colored May Baskets to residents in the Crestview Nursing Home. We filled the baskets with animal crackers rather than candy upon the recommendation of the Director. Many residents knew about May Day and shared stories about their May Day experiences. Several talked about being chased and kissed by their boyfriends. Others talked about picking flowers and making homemade taffy to put into their baskets.



The residents asked where I was from and took an interest in my life. I went not knowing how to talk to old people and dreaded the experience. After the event I laughed and shared fun stories with my friends. It was a very rewarding day!

Ben Stevenson, Chair and Vice President  
Fridley High School Key Club

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**Helmet Donation - 5/9/2017**

*Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad*

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis teamed up with F-M Ambulance to provide 45 helmets to kids at Jefferson Elementary in Fargo.

Did you know that only about 15% of all children nationally wear a bike helmet when they ride?



In May, the Lake Agassiz Kiwanis partnered with F-M Ambulance Service to donate 45 bike helmets to children at Jefferson Elementary in Fargo. This is the second year that the partnership was able to provide bike helmets for children in Fargo!

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**Pancakes! - 5/8/2017**

*Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Gao-je Vang*

Sunday, April 30 meant the smell of pancakes and syrup for the Fridley Key Club. Nine students along with two advisors, Crzy Mary and Aaron Neumeister, went to the Minneapolis Armory where they assisted in serving 750 guests. They set out silverware and placemats, served pancakes and coffee, cleaned tables and bussed plates. The biggest job was to take the huge garbage bags and lift them into the ugly green container behind the building.



The NE Kiwanians kept busy making batter for pancakes, cooking pancakes, filling supplies and cooking sausages. The highlight of the event was the blueberry or strawberry topping and whipped cream that one could add onto their pancakes. The Key Clubbers each had two meals, breakfast and lunch! As the NE Kiwanians say, "It is the best pancake breakfast in all of Minnesota!" The Fridley Key Club agrees with them!

Gao-je Vang, Chair

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## **Rochester Sunrisers Kiwanis Inducts 2 New Members on same Day - 5/4/2017**

*Club: Rochester-Sunrisers - Submitted by: Randy Schmidt*

It was an awesome spring day to welcome two new members to the Rochester Sunrisers club, Robert Watson III (Boy Scouts) and Sam Beyers (Winona State University)! Late last year we established a goal and action plan to induct 6 new members to our club and so far we have achieved 4. One of our newest members, Tony Goergen, has been the key driving force in sponsoring members. Increasing membership is definitely possible if you have members who take action to make it happen.



Picture from left to right: Jim Paulson (Club President), Robert Watson III (Boy Scouts), Tony Goergen (Membership Chair), Sam Beyers (Winona State University)

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## **Kiwanis Grocery Dash - 5/3/2017**

*Club: Early Risers, Worthington - Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers*

The Second Annual Kiwanis Grocery Dash, sponsored by the Early Risers Kiwanis Club, was held Monday, May 1st at the Fareway Store with a different venue. The event began with three Worthington residents, Pat Grimmus, Jim Hintgen and William Wetering, competing for a \$250.00 Fareway gift card. Each of them was given five items to place back on the shelf where they belonged in the least amount of time. Pat Grimmus won in 2:33 minutes winning the gift card. Bill and Jim won third and fourth prize, respectively for a \$25.00 gift card each.



The grand prize winner was Kim Keninger of Sibley. Kim had two minutes to dash through the store to earn up to \$1,250.00 of groceries. Two days before the Grocery Dash, Kim was given an opportunity to pick out up to \$300.00 of meat from the meat department. While she was there, Kim mapped out the store and developed her plan. She had a plan and did it well, while filling her cart with a total of \$643.33 of groceries. When Kim was done and groceries were all checked out, she said “that was the most fun I’ve had in awhile.” Over 40 people were cheering all of the competitors, and especially Kim to the finish line.

The Early Risers sponsor the QWIK (Quality Work Inspires Kids) Awards at Prairie Elementary, VOKK at the Middle School, and all proceeds from the Dash are contributed to youth programs throughout the area.

Pictured from left to right: William “Bill” Wetering, Jim Hintgen, Kim Keninger, Pat Grimmus and

Fareway store manager, Tim Stebbins.

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**Clean & Green Spring Litter Blitz - 5/3/2017**

*Club: Watertown - Submitted by: Tim Oviatt*

The “Clean & Green Spring Litter Blitz” in Watertown, SD includes 54 identified zones (parks and public areas) that organizations or groups can sign up to canvas the area for litter. Watertown Kiwanians annually participate in the “blitz” and again collected numerous bags of winter-blown litter in McLaughlin Park Nature Area. Pictured with their “haul” are several of the volunteers, from left to right: Mike McGinnis, Jeff Anderson, Maureen Anderson, Scott McMahon, Nancy Oviatt Titze, Mary Henning and Bonnie Thurow.



**Sioux Falls (SD) East Awards Raffle Grand Prize - 5/2/2017**

*Club: Sioux Falls East - Submitted by: Vance Timmer*

On Saturday April 29, 2017, Sioux Falls (SD) East Kiwanis Club awarded their Supermarket Sweep Grand Prize to Barb Remillard of Sioux Falls. The Grand Prize for the raffle is a two-minute grocery shopping spree for free groceries in the Sunshine Foods store in Sioux Falls. The winner can designate a “runner” – Barb chose her nephew Clint to run through the store. He was able to grab \$868 worth of groceries. Four second prize winners won \$100 Sunshine Foods gift cards. The club sold over 1,300 raffle tickets and will net over \$5,000 for local children charities.



**Madison, MN Kiwanis Red Carpet Event - 5/1/2017**

*Club: Madison - Submitted by: Jeanene Munsterman*

On April 22, 2017, the Madison, MN Kiwanis held its Red Carpet Event with attendees entering on a red carpet. A five course dinner was served followed by MapleStreet Band featuring classic rock, bluegrass, folk, and their original songs. Madison Kiwanis has been raising money for the last year and a half to pay for the playground that it installed in Madison in 2016. The Red Carpet Event also provided funding for the Lac qui Parle Valley High School Band's trip to Disney World. Band booster members served the five course dinner. Members of Kiwanis designed the menu and prepared the food. The Madison Kiwanis Club is planning one more major fund raiser this year which they believe will pay off the \$50,000 cost of the playground.

