January 2019

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
Christmas has come and gone and it certainly seemed to come faster for some reason this year. Now we are looking at 2019 knocking on our doors. Let’s look forward with a renewed hope and anticipation to grow from Good to Great and explore new ways to make our Kiwanis experience more meaningful and rewarding. It is time to renew our commitments in our Kiwanis clubs, to increase our membership and look for new ways to open new clubs. I would like to thank all of you for exploring new ways to increase our spheres of influence that will attract new members and inspire those communities without clubs to open a club in their community.

Many clubs are developing club satellites. If you can identify a group of people or prospective member based on a common geography, age, work schedule or other common bond, you can form an offshoot (satellite) of your club. If they can’t find the time to attend all of the meetings, they can work with your club members to provide the needed resources for service projects in your communities. Look for those prospects, and use all the tools available to you to help them to develop that Kiwanis service mindset. There is a lot of free information available from Kiwanis international that will answer all the questions about forming club satellites.

If the need for service is there, the ability to serve is available, and we can all help meet that need through the examples we set in the communities that we are serving. We can reach out to our neighboring communities showing them what we have accomplished and how we are willing to help those communities without Kiwanis develop into a Kiwanis community.

In addition to the Iodine Deficiency Program that was initiated by Kiwanis and the program to help eliminate Maternal Neonatal Tetanus we have maintained our own community service projects, and for that we can be Proud.

So I am asking each of you to identify and pursue any potential communities that are presently without a Kiwanis club, and make sure that our growth team is aware and prepared to help complete the vital task of bringing them into the Kiwanis family. I am also asking that, as the Kiwanis year progresses, each club in each division seeks to end this Kiwanis year (Sept 30) with at least 1 more member than they had at the close of last Kiwanis year. Accomplishing that alone would make MN/DAK the most successful district in Kiwanis. Lastly, I would re-emphasize that most members joined Kiwanis to do service in their communities so as we recruit let’s remember to emphasize our service to our communities.
As 2018 comes to an end, I want to thank each and every Kiwanis Member for all that they have accomplished in 2018. I hope that you all had a Merry Christmas and that you all have a Happy New Year. Thank you for staying flexible and for your continued work with and for Kiwanis. God bless you all in 2019. Can we all resolve to bring in 1 new member before September 30?

Our Kiwanis International President’s mantra is from Good to Great. Let’s do all we can to achieve that in 2019 and make that more than a mantra.. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

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**January Update - 12/29/2018**  
*Submitted by: Steve Handegaard*

Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2019!

**Email Addresses:** Club Secretaries- Please check your club member information database and make sure that we have the current email addresses for all members in your club that have one. You can update your club members’ information through your online KiwanisOne Secretary access. The Kiwanis International database is where we access email addresses for the District Minnekotan Newsletter and other important communications. Email addresses change often, so please keep them as current as possible. All members can access and change their own profile information by logging into the following Kiwanis Portalbuzz website [https://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2019](https://www.kiwanis.org/convention/2019)

**IRS Reminder:** All clubs are required to file the appropriate annual IRS tax form by February 15th. See more information on Kiwanis International website [http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms](http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/club-leaders/treasurer/irs-forms)

**2018-2019 Club Insurance Resource Guide:** Your club secretary should have received the 2018-2019 Insurance Resource Guide in a mailing from Kiwanis International. It contains answers and information to most questions about your liability coverage and risk management practices. If you have very specific liability insurance questions you can call Lisa Hendricks at Kiwanis International (1-800-KIWANIS ext 112) or you can also contact the insurance carrier directly. That contact information is listed in the guide. You can also view all of the material online [http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management](http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanisone/lead/risk-management)
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.

Leadership opportunities: If you are interested in being a future District Lt. Governor, Division or District Chairperson, etc., please contact your Lt. Governor, other officer or myself. Each year the district is in need of interested and dedicated leaders. It can be a very interesting, rewarding and educational experience.


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.

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.

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
Help Support 2019 College Freshmen - 12/29/2018
Submitted by: Bill Lardy

A new year brings many life changes, and especially for graduating high school seniors. By September many of them will be starting a new phase of their lives as freshman once again. A new year also brings another round of scholarships from the Minnesota Dakotas Foundation to help about 55 of these young people reduce their financial cost for the freshman year.

Most readers know the money to fund these scholarships comes from the income earned by the Foundation’s endowment. 2018 wasn't very kind to bond and stock markets so the income available for scholarships is less than the board of directors would like and reduces the amount of help available to students.

But down markets create a great investment opportunity for those investors with available cash. That’s where you readers come in. You are the source of cash for the endowment. Your contributions to the Foundation make cash available for our fund managers to make new appropriate investments while markets are down: a case of buying low, if you will.

There are several great ways to make contributions. Cash gifts are always appreciated, of course. A gift of $100 is sufficient for a Vanrine Fellow. A Joseph Messer Fellow is for gifts of $2500. Giving any size gift for a memorial is a great way to remember a deceased Kiwanis member, a deceased spouse or other family member or friend. These moneys will remain in the fund to continually provide help to graduating seniors.

There are 2 other ways to send gifts to the Foundation. One method is to transfer ownership of stocks, bonds or mutual fund shares directly to the Foundation. This transfer may avoid any capital gains that might occur should you first cash out then send the proceeds to the Foundation. The second method is to transfer a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA directly to the Foundation. This method may satisfy the IRS requirement for removing these funds for the annual distribution requirement and perhaps avoid the income liability that would normally occur with the RMD.

Before using either of these last 2 techniques be sure to check with your tax advisor and be sure to work with your financial advisor. Whatever method you choose be assured that any gift you make will have a very positive impact on the lives of our scholarship recipients and make a lasting impact on our future leaders.

May 2019 be a rewarding and successful year for you and all those close to you.
Happy New Year. The year of 2019 gives us great opportunities to share Kiwanis with the community and the kids. We have a chance to strength our clubs through membership and service. This year I am excited for us to open some new clubs that we started last year to watch them become a reality.

Thanks to all the members who have sponsored new members last month that were not reported in the newsletter. I also have some follow ups to make also and will report next month on my findings. For now, congratulations to those sponsoring new members.

**Division 1** Minot, Golden K – Richard Sorensen by Richard Roen
Rough Rider Country, Dickinson – Keith Harris by Tom J. Wyckoff

**Division 2** Alexandria Golden K – Orgene Bak by Robert T Bentz

**Division 3** Friendly Duluth – Paul Shaffer by Dr Susan McClemon
Cloquet Area Golden K – Ken Jorgenson by Thomas K. Anderson

**Division 4** I know Division 4 has new members but has not been recorded.

**Division 5** Yankton – Muriel Van Gerpen by Myron D. Vangerpen

**Division 6** Pipestone – Lauren Blacik by Glen H. Livermont
Mankato – Samantha Paris by Mark A. Mitzel

**Division 7** Columbia Heights-Fridley – DeWayne Morrell by Dale L. Schuetz
Stillwater Area – Andrew Warren by Timothy J. Taylor

Congratulations on getting the sponsors names on the application. Please make sure your secretary gets the new members sent into Kiwanis International so we can get them recorded and welcome the new members through the Minnekotan and recognize their sponsors.

Keep up the asking and if you are interested in opening a new club in your area, please let me know and I will pull our teams together to start working. Areas on the radar are: Williston/Watford City, ND; Casselton, ND; Bloomington/Mall of America, MN; Kasson/Mantorville MN; Rapid City, SD; and Hill City, SD

Happy New Year to my Kiwanis Family!
Kiwanis Partnerships January Highlights - 12/28/2018
Submitted by: Denis Cornell, Kiwanis Partnership Coordinator

This month the Kiwanis Partnership highlight is KIWANIS TRAVEL

TRAVEL FAR, TRAVEL OFTEN, TRAVEL FOR LESS

Travel is one of the best ways to truly learn about a destination. It has the unique ability to teach us new information, broaden our horizons and stir our sense of curiosity. Whether you wish to savor new cuisines, immerse yourself in a culture completely unlike your own or see a historic landmark you’ve only read about in books, Kiwanis Travel brought to you by Collette can help make your travel dreams a reality.

With 100 years of guided touring experience, more than 160 tours to all seven continents and full-time industry-leading tour managers, Kiwanis Travel brought to you by Collette makes sure you’re in good hands. Combined with more local cuisine, more inclusive activities and more flights out of any gateway, Collette takes care of all the details so you don’t have to.

Kiwanis members save US$50-100 per person on any tour. Plus, use offer code KIWANIS to learn about special savings of up to $500 per person. To view available tours go to: https://www.gocollette.com/en/landing-pages/partners/kiwanis. For reservations, call Collette toll-free at 1-855-212-1095, or contact your travel professional to learn more. Be sure to mention your Kiwanis member benefit and offer code KIWANIS when calling.

Youth Protection - Background checks - 12/28/2018
Submitted by: Peter Larson

Here is the official Youth Protection Guideline for Criminal History Background Checks:

Kiwanis clubs are required to have a clear criminal history background check—conducted and verified by Kiwanis International—of any member serving as a Kiwanis advisor to any Service Leadership Program club (Aktion Club, Circle K, Key Club, Builders Club and K-Kids). Kiwanis International’s criteria shall be followed to determine whether the
background check is considered ‘clear.’ Background checks shall be valid for no more than two years. SLP clubs that petition to charter will only be approved once the appointed Kiwanis advisor has a clear criminal history background check conducted by Kiwanis International. Clubs are strongly encouraged to ensure confidential background checks for all adults who will work directly with youth outside of the school and/or who may not have undergone a background check. The criminal history background check should conform to applicable local and state/provincial laws and requirements.

Kiwanis International requires clear criminal history background checks conducted by its provider for all adults working with youth at all Kiwanis International-sponsored events. These include the Key Club International Convention, the Key Club Governor and Administrator training conference, the Key Club International Leadership Conference, and any Key Leader weekend.

All district chairpersons and committee members for all Service Leadership Programs are required to have a clear criminal history background check conducted by Kiwanis International. A district may also require criminal history background checks for other adults working with youth as part of district programs or events. (See Kiwanis International Policy B and Procedure 197 for complete information regarding criminal history background checks.)

I can email you a copy of Policy 8 and Procedure 197 if you would like to review them (phlarson@midco.net) or you can find them on the Kiwanis International website.

Kiwanis International requires that we receive our criminal history background checks from Safe Hiring Solutions. Here is the website where you can start that check: https://www.safehiringsolutions.com/kiwanis-international-special-pricing/.

Thank you for your work with the youth of your community.

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**Spotlight on Stillwater Middle School Builders Club** - 12/28/2018  
*Submitted by: Nancy Cornell Builders Club Administrator*

The Stillwater Middle School Builders Club started with around 10 students and now has over 20 enthusiastic members. A big part of their success has been due to their fantastic faculty advisor, Traci Cox. Traci was a Key Clubber while attending Willmar High School.
She loves the Builders Club program. Marilyn Forseth is the Kiwanis advisor and an integral part of this active Builders Club.

The following, taken from their Builders Club website, highlights a recent project: "Our students, families, and staff donated an AMAZING $2,624.00 to our Head Start Winter Wishes Toy Drive Fundraiser! WOW! With these donations, we went shopping and purchased items from the preschool students' Wish Lists. On Wednesday, December 19th, 24 Builders Club students went to the preschool, read the students a story, helped them with a snowflake craft, and presented the children with their Winter Wish items. It was a great morning!"

Middle school students in your area could be doing projects such as this one. And in 22 communities in our district, Builders Clubs are doing just that. But what about all the other communities in our district? Students are missing out on service opportunities and children in need are being overlooked. Check out what it takes to sponsor a Builders Club in your community. Go to www.kiwanis.org/charter. Make 2019 the year you make the commitment to sponsor a Builders Club and enrich the lives of students who are eager to help others.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at nancyc2@cenurytel.net. Have a New Year full of gratitude and service to others.

K-Kids in 2019 - 12/28/2018
Submitted by: Theresa Looby

K-Kids are looking forward to another year of learning and serving their schools and communities. The successful completed project develops a sense of pride knowing they were a part of bringing happiness to an individual, or their school and community.

K-Kids are special! Their advisors are special! These children learn the principles of leadership, being a good citizen and volunteering because of the lessons taught at their meetings and projects completed. Thank you to the Advisors for their dedication to the children.

During the past year new K-Kids Clubs have been organized in the MinnDak District and more are laying the foundation for organizing during the spring semester of 2019. Each K-Kids Club ensures
these children will continue as Kiwanians to lead and volunteer in the community.

I am aware of the new Clubs, however, I am sure there are many K-Kids learning to be leaders and serving their communities. I would like to know the Clubs in the MinnDak District. I would appreciate the Presidents of sponsoring Kiwanis Cubs to e-mail the location of the Club(s) and their advisors. Any K-Kids Club advisor reading this article please e-mail information about your Club.

As K-Kids Administrator for MinnDak, I would appreciate knowing how young Kiwanians are learning and serving communities. I believe these children deserve to be honored for the projects they complete. Featuring Clubs in the Minnkotan each month is a goal that I would like to accomplish. This can happen with the help of Advisors and sponsoring Clubs.

Anyone wishing to organize a K-Kids Club may contact me for assistance. I am here to help you. Remember more K-Kids results in more Kiwanians in the future!

Happy New Year to all K-Kids, their Advisors and sponsoring Clubs!

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

Children's Fund - 12/27/2018
Submitted by: Kathy Welle

Happy New Year to all and Welcome to a super 2019 Kiwanis Year. Here’s hoping everyone had a pleasant and joyful Christmas.

Have you considered recognizing the outgoing Club officers and/or other members with a Kiwanis Hixson Award. With a contribution of $1000.00 to the Children’s Fund – the recipient will receive a special certificate, attractive Hixson Pin plus a medal attached to a ribbon to wear around the neck.
There are other recognition awards available to show appreciation to club members with a contribution to the Children’s Fund. More detailed information is available on the Kiwanis website under Awards.

So, on to some other news. Report as of November 30, 2018

Here are the 2018-2019 President’s Challenge Goals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Goal Amount</th>
<th>Club Giving</th>
<th>Club Participation</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Division 1</td>
<td>$2944.33</td>
<td>$1290.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division 2</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Division 7</td>
<td>$6159.00</td>
<td>$820.00</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Remember, 15% of the total contributions by all divisions will be returned to the District. These dollars will be used via the District Education Foundation for education awards. Together we can do great things.

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**Education: Resolution Style** - 12/26/2018  
*Submitted by: Loreena Luetgers*

New Year’s resolutions are varied and many, so here’s an idea for your club.

Let’s share information about Kiwanis with our members, not just new members, but all members. Explaining to them how we proceed and/or implement a certain project is important, especially to new members. Describing to them the details of our fundraisers is vital to motivate them to become involved. A new member may not know how to proceed and is sometimes afraid to ask, so we need to be aware of those times in our meetings.

Could your members say what the Kiwanis defining statement is? Quiz them next week at your meeting: “Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time.”
A Member Handbook is on the District website under the “Education” tab. Print these out for the members, especially new members, so they can learn more about the Kiwanis organization that they belong to. It can be printed two sided to save paper. This is an inexpensive way to educate our members. Also, just for fun, there is a puzzle to print off for everyone to complete.

Kiwanis education is important for all members. If we don’t know why we belong, if we don’t know anything about Kiwanis, we aren’t going to be dedicated to one of the best organizations in the world. Kiwanis is the best organization that is dedicated to youth and community service.

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**Division Six Spring Conference - 12/26/2018**  
*Division: Division 6 - Submitted by: Sharon J Taylor*

We are excited to announce to you there will be a Division Six Spring Conference. It will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2019 and will take place in Mankato.

This does include ALL 32 current Division Six clubs because even if the vote is to divide our division, it won’t happen immediately and this will be a great way to meet and talk with peers about moving ahead.

We are planning a great day for you all! So please do Mark Your Calendars for April 6th. More information will come yet in January via email. Spread the word to ALL of your members!

Your Division 6 Leader Team  
Sharon Taylor, Lt. Governor - sjtaylor@hickorytech.net  
Dee Emmerich, Past Lt. Governor - demmer8@aol.com

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**Division 1 Governor’s Visit - 12/26/2018**  
*Division: Division 1 - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner*

Several Division 1 clubs were represented at the Nov 17th Governor’s visit in Harvey to listen to presentations by Dave Harms, MN-Dakota’s Governor, Peter Larson, Youth Protection Coordinator,
Amanda Thrift, Div 1 Lt. Governor, and Katie Ryan Anderson, Public Relations for updates on Kiwanis. Members were present from Carrington, Devils Lake, Jamestown, Mandan and Harvey and they also brought donations of supplies and food for the Harvey Area Food Panty. Seventy two pounds of food and one cash donation were collected for area citizens. A fun day was had by all, as we also celebrated our 95th anniversary in the evening. THANK YOU!!

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**Holiday Teamwork** - 12/25/2018  
*Club: Spring Valley - Submitted by: Nancy Cornell*

The Kingsland Key Club and Builders Club were inspired by the holiday spirit to buy and fill 11 crockpots with recipes and ingredients. The festively decorated crockpots were given to the Spring Valley Area Food Shelf. Both clubs are sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Spring Valley, Minnesota who are appreciative of their service and generosity.

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**Mandan Care and Share** - 12/25/2018  
*Club: Mandan - Submitted by: Carol Nitschke*

Mandan Kiwanis helped prepare 225 food baskets for families in need at Christmas time in the Mandan area. Mandan Club President Todd Humphrey is shown helping to assemble the baskets. We have helped with this project for the last several years. We also encourage our members to bring their younger children along to help and learn the true meaning of community service to families and children in our area.
Sturgis Williams Middle School Builders Club - 12/24/2018  
*Club: Sturgis Golden K* - *Submitted by: Niel Hinek*

The SWMS Builders Club put together a donation drive to collect items to benefit the Sturgis Women's Shelter. This drive went from Nov. 19th to Dec. 10th. The club had placed boxes in 5 locations to collect diapers, paper towels, toilet paper and baby wipes. We had managed to collect 5 large boxes of needed items. On Dec 12th the club presented the donations to the Shelter. The club was able to see that by helping someone else, they can make a difference in the lives of others. They want to thank all people who took the time to give. A picture of the club presenting the donations is attached.

Thank you for all the support that the Kiwanis does for our youth.

Niel Hinek  
Builders Club Advisor  
n_hinek@yahoo.com

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CHRISTMAS WITH DIGNITY - 12/21/2018  
*Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley* - *Submitted by: Hycha Thao*

Nine Fridley High School Key Clubbers, Advisors Bowen and Burrill and Kiwanis Members Landwehr and Johnson assisted at the Christmas with Dignity event on Friday evening, December 14 at the Hospitality House in North Minneapolis. At this event registered families are given the opportunity to purchase Holiday gifts for one-tenth the cost of the items. It has been one of the clubs most favorite, yet humbling, projects each year.

At this event a parent or guardian is allowed to buy two gifts per child and one stocking stuffer bag for every two children. They also receive free books and wrapping paper. The tables are reset each 30 minutes with gifts according to age and gender. Each shift has four to five raffle items such as bikes, trikes, scooters, grills and food mixers. Upon entrance each buyer receives a free raffle ticket. If your
The client’s number is called, you yell and whoop loudly. Others nearby do the same. It is a big deal as these items are usually treasured by the attendees. The Key Clubber’s job is to help the shopper select his/her gifts, tally the cost and help carry it around the gymnasium in a grocery box. Once they have selected all their gifts, they go to a table to have it tallied once again and put into a big black plastic bag. That way nobody at home knows what is inside. With their the bags and tallied cost sheet, they go to a check out person. Awaiting nearby is a helper/Key Clubber to carry it to a nearby car. Once that is done and everyone has checked out, the tables are restocked and sales start over again. The shifts are 30 minutes in duration and about 30 to 36 families are processed each shift. It is difficult for Key Clubbers to talk about the families they helped. They witnessed small selections such as finger nail polish or games such as Sorry. It is a humbling experience for all who participate.

Hycha Thao, Chair
Crzy Mry Bowen, Kiwanis Advisor

Harvey Kiwanis Celebrates 95 Years of Service to Community - 12/20/2018
Club: Harvey - Submitted by: Sandy Teubner

Harvey Kiwanis celebrated their 95th Anniversary with a dinner at the Harvey Eagles Club on Sat. Nov. 17th. Eighty six community members and guests enjoyed dinner and musical selections by Harvey High School youth and the Centennial Singers. Thank you to all those who attended and supported Kiwanis to make the evening a success. Thank you to Dave Harms, MN-Dakota’s Governor, Amanda Thrift, Division 1 Lt. Governor and other area Kiwanis club members who attended our event to celebrate with us. In addition, thank you to the Harvey Eagles, Dan Spilovoy - Master of Ceremonies, Harvey Boy Scouts, Harvey Youth and Centennial Singers for making the celebration a wonderful event!

NE KIWANIS HOLIDAY PARTY - 12/19/2018
Club: Columbia Heights-Fridley - Submitted by: Shaun Larson

Thirteen Fridley High School Key Clubbers and Advisors Bowen and Burrill assisted at NE Kiwanis Holiday Party in the Minneapolis Armory on Tuesday, December 11. This annual party is held for
challenged children in the metro area. Over 175 children plus caregivers attended. Key Clubbers participated in face painting, working carnival games, helping serve lunch, dancing with children, distributing Santa bags and providing cleanup. The Teddy Bear Band was a big success as was a singing Elvis. Children dragged Key Clubbers onto the floor to dance with them. Fred Lee, the Fridley High School tiger mascot, was a big hit. He was mauled and petted by the children. Several of them tried to feed him some of their food but he had a plastic tongue and teeth. The food did not go down!

The young attendees look forward to this event as well as the Key Clubbers. The festive atmosphere with clowns, U of M mascot, and Timberwolves mascot as well as Fred Lee and Mr. Peanut and a Bunny Rabbit make it an enjoyable event for young and old alike. It was fun to see how easy it is to put a smile on a young child’s face.

Shaun Larson, Chair
Advisor Mary Bowen

Mitchell Did It!!! - 12/19/2018
Club: Mitchell - Submitted by: Linda McEntee

Mitchell Kiwanis completed a Model Club Pledge to the Eliminate Campaign! Our pledge of $35,250 took us many years, but the membership worked hard to reach this goal. Our club's signature fundraiser is a yearly spaghetti feed and our signature service project is the Kiwanis Woodlot Park near Lake Mitchell.

Our club, like many, has been challenged with lowering membership numbers through the years. When the Eliminate Model Club pledge was made, the 47 members were ready to take on the challenge. Through the years, our club had gotten as low as 31 members, but the dedication to Eliminate never waivered. It was a proud day and a few tears were shed when we sent off the last check and realized how many babies we saved with $35,250.

This is why we are Kiwanians!
Grafton Aktion Club Celebrates - 12/5/2018  
*Club: Grafton - Submitted by: Becky Coulthart*

On October 24th, several members of the Spirits United Aktion Club gathered at the Life Skills and Transition Center’s conference room for a 10 year celebration. Members of the community, the Grafton Kiwanis, Administration from Friendship and REM gathered for a meal, cake and short program. The program included the Kiwanis President Dave Pederson installing officers of the Spirits United Aktion Club for the 2018-2019 Kiwanis year. He also addressed the group thanking them and congratulating them on all they do for the Grafton Kiwanis and the community of Grafton.

Advisor Rosemary Christinson presented a power point presentation capturing the clubs 10 years with many pictures showing the members of the club involved in several volunteer activities along with some fun. It depicted the desire to help others in need. Especially children. The hats and mittens project along with blessing bags for the mission and local school are a couple that were shared.

A meal and cake were served along with a gift from the Grafton Kiwanis. Each member received a t-shirt baring their emblem along with the statement celebrating 10 years of service.

Lake Agassiz Kiwanis Help Salvation Army - 12/3/2018  
*Club: Lake Agassiz, Fargo - Submitted by: Kristi Engelstad*

The Lake Agassiz Kiwanis enjoyed participating in their annual Salvation Army bell ringing festivities this holiday season! LAK members brought their families and friends to ring the bell this year and look forward to doing it again next year!