



# Kiwaniis®

New York District of Kiwanis International

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Dear Friends,

Last week, our Kiwanis Family was struck with a great tragedy. We lost one of our kindest, nicest and hardest working members, Key Leader Administrator and PLTG Mary Jean “MJ” Sprague. I had the privilege of serving as a LTG with MJ on Dave Booker’s Builder’s team. In addition, as Governor-Elect, MJ invited me to learn about a program that doesn’t receive as much fanfare as most of our other SLP’s programs – Key Leader. I spent an entire weekend in Silver Bay, NY, learning about the program, and something about myself. I walked away committed to making the Key Leader Program a success.

Over the years, Key Leader and the NYD have struggled to meet the number of students needed (60). We have, on several occasions, been advised by KI that if we didn’t enroll enough students, they’d either require the district to pay the difference of what wasn’t covered, or even worse, deny us the chance to hold another program. Thankfully, we were able to pull off two consecutive events that allowed us to continue the program.

Just prior to her passing, MJ and her staff had agreed to hold two separate events one week apart. The first will be held on April 25-27 at Camp Huguenot, near the PA border. The other will be held at Camp Stella Maris, May 2- 4, 2014, the following weekend. We need 60 students and approximately 10 chaperone adults for each event. We don’t have much time and a great deal has to be accomplished if we are to succeed.

Mary Jean was a true leader. She saw that it takes courage to make the leap from cautious bystander to engaging leader. The Key Leader program is especially geared towards taking slightly shy and timid 14-18 year olds and over the course of an amazing weekend, transforming them into budding leaders. This is why, for both MJ and me, we believe wholeheartedly in the program. We know firsthand that it works!

As a tribute to the memory of MJ and all that she gave to Kiwanis and the children of the world, please help us reach the goal of filling up both camps.

Yours in Kiwanis service,

Albert E. Norato, Jr.  
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DPLTG Kim Scharoff  
Chairperson, Special  
Projects for Governor

SDIPLTG Dave Morse  
Site Coordinator,  
Key Leader  
Camp Greenkill

Club President Dean Beltrano  
Lewiston Kiwanis Club,  
Site Coordinator, Key Leader  
Camp Stella Maris



“Our Children, Their Future”