

Empire State Kiwanian

New York

April 2020, Volume 2019-20, Issue 3

New York District, Kiwanis International



Oceanside Finds a Way to Serve Community

On March 24 the Oceanside Kiwanis Club in conjunction with the Oceanside Library kicked off a campaign to support the EMS workers and first responders in Oceanside.

Through the use of email blast from the library to all of its patrons, and through social media we started collecting donations via PayPal.

The money collected will be used to help feed the staff at Mount Sinai South Nassau Community Hospital in Oceanside. The club will purchase food from local food establishments (especially the ones that have supported our club and the library in the past).

So through this program the club is supporting hospital and EMS staff as well as helping local businesses. Many restaurants offered us discounted prices for this program but the club refused because the goal was to help them too.

As of Friday, March 27, the club had collected \$3,800 from about 100 people as well as additional \$500 from our club and \$250 from our local Chamber of



Commerce. The club also heard that a library board member feels that she has secured an additional \$20,000 from a foundation grant to support the effort.

Starting Monday, March 30, the club and the library placed an order of 200 egg sandwiches and 100 small orange juice splitting it between two local restaurants. On Tuesday 200 wraps sandwiches, again

What is Your Club Doing?

Has your club found a creative way to serve your community in this unprecedented time? Send the information on the project to webmaster@kiwanis-ny.org so it can be featured on the district web site.

two other local restaurants and then Wednesday 200 dinners from two local pizza parlors. The club also will be sending breakfast and lunch to the Oceanside Fire Department for their EMS and support staff during the week.

The club is excited that in only three days the program took on a life of its own and was growing by the hour.

Governor

Joseph Ruggiero



Our year, started off great! We had a mild winter, which I'm sure helped attendance at our club level. We were able to plan our community events and fund raisers for the spring and summer. Eagerly awaiting that time when we can raise the necessary funds to provide the services to those in need.

We had a very successful Mid-Winter Conference in Binghamton. Attendance was up and again the weather held out. We had some great speakers, along with our very interesting forums. My Governors Project, Mental Health Awareness was well represented, by my committee chair Maureen Neuringer, assisted by Thomas

Cesiro, Charles Cronin, Kevin Kamper, Anthony Pappas, Jeff Stone and Marie Swartzwelder. Thank you for helping those in need. The First Lady's Mid-Winter Project, supplies for the Kampers, was a huge success. When Debbie and I walked into the room, she was very touched to say the least. Thank you for making Debbie happy and our Kampers happy.

Talk about challenging times, WOW! But I know as New York Kiwanians we can meet this challenge head on. Although we face many cancellations of our fund raisers and loss of income, let's plan to come back strong. If we hold onto our ideas and plans we can start up more quickly. While we won't be able to meet all of our goals for the year, it would benefit us to continue our plans and carry them out. This will enable us to stay strong for the many years ahead of us.

On to membership. I think the most vulnerable member that we might lose is the newest one. That person that just started, because of lack of connection with regular meetings. Therefore I strongly

suggest contacting that new member. Please help to keep that person close. Membership will be so critical this year. We always try to gain, but we need to think about holding onto our existing members. So please reach out to that elderly neighbor but also to each other. How about calling members of other clubs, so we all stay connected. There are many ways to connect, such a conference calls, Zoom, etc.

Charles Cronin, who is helping with our project, has prepared a list of Mental Health Resources around the state. He has also prepared a list for the Covid-19 pandemic. I am thinking, through these trying times, we can utilize this information. If we have a virtual meeting, we can get someone to speak about these prevalent issues. Please contact me at (917) 678-3734 or e-mail jpr857@aol.com so I can forward to you this information.

Hoping for much better times. Please stay strong, stay inside, drink a lot of water and wash, wash and wash some more.

Candidate for
Gov. Elect

Jim
Mancuso



It is my fervent hope and desire that all of you are safe and healthy amid this COVID-19 virus emergency.

I am a candidate for the position of the Kiwanis New York District governor-elect 2020-21. If successful, I will serve as your governor during 2021-22.

My campaign, entitled License to Serve (a play on a James Bond movie title - I am a big fan!), was kicked-off at our Mid-Winter Conference. There I was able to shake hands with many Kiwanians (how times have changed) and I spoke about what I believe I can do to help move the New York District forward.

I truly appreciated all of the support I received at the convention and thereafter. In early March, I attended the Circle K convention. It was a terrific experience, as

I learned more about both our college students and the outstanding service they provide. These young adults conducted their convention with great professionalism.

Unfortunately, the Key Club Convention which was to take place during the end of March had to be canceled. Preceding it, face-to-face campaigning activities had also come to a halt as we all distanced ourselves socially.

The election is to take place at our convention (again hopefully) in August. I continue to seek your support as I believe I am well qualified to lead our district. At the same time, I am struck by the incredible burden Kiwanis bears due to the crisis. People are ill and enduring economic hardship, so our communities need Kiwanis more than ever before.

This crisis will have a long-term impact. So, after both Gov. Joe and Gov.-Elect Brenda finish their terms, many people will still need our Kiwanis help. My experiences across the Kiwanis world -- driving membership, chairing New York District's committees for Youth Protection, Kiwanis Children's Fund and International Leadership (which included

managing my brother Peter's successful campaign to become International Vice-President), working in partnership with MADD to curtail drunk driving -- act as only a few of my guide rails. My professional experience as a technology executive, now with IBM, also has instilled in me essential skills to serve as the chief administrator of our district.

The usual divisional "meet the candidate" sessions right now are not possible during the social distancing phase of the crisis. I hope restrictions will lift, but I am also happy to participate in web conferencing sessions if those can be arranged with your respective divisions. Please contact me at james.n.mancuso@gmail.com or (516) 647-0560 if you would like to arrange one.

None of us could have ever imagined we would be contending with this virus situation. But, Kiwanis during these unprecedented times will be there to help. For the State of New York and our country, we all will play an important role as our communities come roaring back! Again, stay safe and healthy and we will all get through this, with our fellow citizens and Kiwanians, together.

PR/ Branding

Joel Harris



Now more than ever it's important to show your Kiwanis pride and keep our brand alive! Kids will need us more than ever before when we emerge from this global pandemic, and we need to be ready to respond.

As much as possible, post and share photographs of you and your club helping kids in your community. Make sure the

photos contain our Kiwanis branding, and that our members are in hats and shirts with the Kiwanis logo. We don't want people to forget that we are here to help kids and communities.

Even though we can't meet in person, try the online platforms (<https://www.kiwanis.org/news/newsitem/news/newsitem/online-meeting-platforms-can-keep-your-club-together>) suggested by Kiwanis International. Kiwanis is posting resources for clubs and SLPs to use to remain connected, so visit <https://www.kiwanis.org/news/covid-19-kiwanis-suggestions> and learn how to use Zoom, how to structure an online meeting and how to tell your Kiwanis story when you can't do it in person.

Continue to use the branding materials at <https://www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/kiwanis-brand-campaign>.

Can't hold your auction? Try an online

auction. Can't have your pancake breakfast? Set up a Zoom meeting and enjoy your meal together, and donate to your club, your district or a local charity that helps kids. The most important thing is to remain connected.

It's time to work together to generate ideas on how your club can continue to help your community. When things return to normal, you'll be ready to get back out in the community and make a difference. Remember to work together and stay in touch! If you don't follow the New York District, or the Kiwanis International pages on social media, it's time! Follow Kiwanis on Facebook for the most up-to-date news and information.

Thanks for all you do for Kiwanis! We need you, we thank you and we look forward to seeing you again, very soon. You can reach me anytime by e-mail, messenger or phone.

The Empire State Kiwanian

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2019-20 Events

May 31, 2020:

Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation Gala, Floral Park

June 18-21, 2020:

International Convention, Indianapolis

July 1-5, 2020:

Key Club International Convention, San Francisco

July 19-23, 2020:

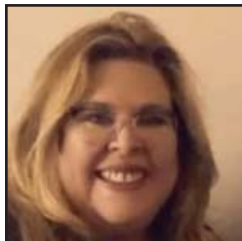
Circle K International Convention, Las Vegas

Aug. 13-16, 2020:

District Convention, Desmond, Albany

Governor-
Elect

Brenda Leigh
Johnson



The Covid-19 virus has changed our lives forever. As Kiwanians, we are used to be out and about with our communities, we are used to hugging, and caring about the people in our clubs and communities.

Now, to help others, we need to self-iso-

late, and stay at home. Peter has rediscovered his love of puzzles, and I have gotten my cooking skills back! We have been seeing friends through Zoom and Go-to-Meeting apps, as well as Facetime and Skype. Kiwanis clubs around the state are having their meetings through these apps as well. They are easy to use, and something to help us stay connected during these difficult times.

We need to change our thought process in regard to staying at home, Don't think "I'm STUCK at home", think, "I'm SAFE at home". We are all in this together, be safe, stay at home, the life you save may be someone you love.

Past
Governor

John "Hank"
Baker



Hello New York District.

What a troubled time in the world. And a troubling time in our Kiwanis world.

No meeting, no fundraising no signature projects. This is hard for our dedicated members because we all know we are givers. My own club had one of their biggest challenges ever in canceling our community wide Tulip Festival on the second weekend in May. Everything we do as Kiwanians is in jeopardy for this Kiwanis year.

But serving this District for three years has taught me a valuable lesson. When this crisis is over I know our communities will be taken care of. Our children will be well taken care of, and our veterans and seniors will be taken care of. Why, because we are Kiwanians and after a short episode to recharge our batteries we will be back with a vengeance.

Please stay home and be safe and see every one soon.

District
Historian

PIP Tom
DeJulio



Here is another Kiwanis history quiz, fashioned in memory of recently deceased Past Kiwanis International Vice President Stephen H. Hart, Jr. who joined the Kiwanis Club of Irvington NY in 1946, and Anton J. "Tony" Kaiser, 1987-88 Past Kiwanis International President.

Readers are invited to send their answers with the name of their Kiwanis club to me at tdejulio@fordham.edu . Every member who sends FIVE (5) CORRECT ANSWERS will receive a prize of "historic value" and will be cited in the next ESK.

1. In what years did Steve Hart serve as BWS LTG and NY District Governor?
2. In what branch of the military did Steve Hart serve in World War II?
3. What was the Kiwanis International "Major Emphasis" theme in 1987-88?
(Extra Credit Question: What was its primary objective?)

4. What country did Tony Kaiser's parents immigrate from in 1923 and where in New York City did they settle and raise their two sons?

5. In what year was Tony and Mim Kaiser married?

Here are the Answers to the Quiz in Jan. 2020 ESK, Vol. 2019-20, Issue 2:

1. In what year was Circle K officially recognized by Kiwanis International?

A: 1942

2. Identify all the years an International Convention was held in Indianapolis .

A: 1937, 1992, 2003, 2015 (maybe 2020)

3. In what country and in what year was a Kiwanis charter first granted to a club outside of the United States and Canada?

A: 1962 MEXICO (Tijuana Baja) Kiwanis

4. What was the name of Kiwanis International's first "Major Emphasis Program"?

A: Operation Drug Alert in 1969

5. Which of the following locations DID NOT host a Kiwanis International Convention? a) Minneapolis; b) Phoenix; c) Baltimore; d) New York City

A: (c) Baltimore

Congratulations to two club winners: DPP Alan Alterman, East Meadow, and Key Club ADA Jason Steiner, NYCYP

Club elections due by May 15

The Standard Form for Club Bylaws requires clubs to conduct their elections by May 15 each year. Those results are to be reported to Kiwanis International by June 1.

In light of the fact that many clubs are not meeting, Kiwanis International has issued guidelines for clubs to conduct those elections online.

If there are no competitive elections (one candidate for each office) clubs can conduct the voting by mail-in ballot. If there is a competitive race for an officer for 2020-21, procedures need to be used which will guarantee that the voting is anonymous. E-mail balloting is discouraged because it does not provide anonymity.

There are web sites which make it possible for anonymous voting to take place. Online services which can be used include surveymonkey.com, electionbuddy.com, electionrunner.com and simplyvoting.com. Any voting application which is used must give each member a unique login, not permit anyone to cast more than one vote, must allow voting to start and end at specific times, and must provide a report of the results without any indication of who cast each vote.

Advice to Clubs: Find a Way to Meet

During this time, Kiwanis clubs are encouraged to find a way to communicate in order to keep members involved and to be able to respond appropriately to community needs as they develop.

Many clubs are using online meeting platforms, such as ZOOM.com, Go-ToMeeting.com and FreeConferenceCall.com, to conduct online meetings. Prices and options vary depending on the length of meetings and the number of participants. ZOOM allows free use but meetings are limited to 40 minutes. The systems all allow for participants to use a computer, tablet, smartphone or to connect to audio only by telephone.

While clubs are looking for ways to help their community, they also need to keep in mind that club members also may be in need of assistance.

See the District web site,
www.kiwanis-ny.org,
for regular updates

New York District Mid-Year Conference



Mid-Year Conference Drew Large Attendance

There was a large turnout for the Mid-Year Conference in Binghamton in February, which included a Beach Party to benefit Kamp Kiwanis. Above, Circle K Gov. Peony Tse and Gov. Joseph Ruggiero trying out the Hula hoops which were donated. At left, Gov.-Elect Brenda Leigh Johnson speaking to the district board. Below, Past Gov. Hank Baker and Past First Lady Bonnie Baker (right) applauding the two Super Distinguished lieutenant governors for 2018-19, from left, Marie Malsch of the Van Rensselaer Division and Nancy Baxter from Long Island Southwest. Also named distinguished lieutenant governors were Patricia Caldwell of Hudson Tri-County and Sandy Liew of Queens East.



Douglaston, Big Apple Join for Lunar Parade Effort

Celebrating Lunar New Year has long been a beloved and huge holiday tradition to many cultures specifically Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese.

The Lunar New Year of 2020 fell on Jan. 2, and the festival lasted until Feb. 8. 2020 is a Year of the Rat, according to the Chinese zodiac, an animal that symbolizes smart, charming and imaginative. Each year between the eve and Chinese New Year, we gather together with friends and family for a reunion dinner. This is the old family tradition that passes on to the next generation.

Flushing, New York, home to 185,000 residents who are mostly Chinese and Korean immigrants, lit firecrackers, beat drums and gongs at the parade on the first day of Chinese New Year or Lunar New Year. The event, organized by the Flushing Chamber of Commerce each year, draws huge participation from many organizations and local businesses.

The event is televised on local and international channels.

This year the Kiwanis Club of Douglas-ton and Big Apple celebrated the festival together. We partnered with a local printing company, Post Heritage, to kick start an outreach program to help raise funds for both clubs. Our committee spent months working with the design team from Post Heritage to craft and execute the ideas. "We want to give back to the community, to our beloved Queens. We want to give all the business owners a platform to promote and send the new year message to our citizens yet still can make a donation to our clubs," said Sandy Liew, Lt. Governor of Queen East Division. As a result the Post Heritage team has put together a tote bag filled with design items such as Fei Chun (Chinese New



Year greetings and decoration), flyers, mugs, pens. Each item offered an ad space to local businesses to promote their brand in the community. Our committees presented the program to the members and encourage them to seek sponsors. All the proceeds will be used to fund our future charity events.

Like many events we organized, we face many obstacles. The biggest challenge we were facing was a lack of labor power to prepare and distribute 1,000 tote bags. With the help from Viktoriya Borisova, Circle K Liberty Division Lieutenant Governor, New York of Circle K International, she invited many Circle K and Key Club members to join the event. "Viktoriya has done a phenomenal job to get the team together, her leadership is greatly appreciated," said Anthony Tam, from the Douglas-ton club. On the day of the pa-

rade, there was a remarkably huge turnout. We had about 64 people on our team. "We wanted them to celebrate and feel the joy with us, our group pledges to spread joy and happiness." Jonathan Yu, president of the Kiwanis Club of Big Apple says.

Despite the bad weather on the day of the parade, the team was filled with good spirits. "Our purpose is to build Kiwanis brand awareness, we want everyone in the community to know about our projects," said Chung Dick, president-elect of the Big Apple club. "Chinese New Year Parade in Flushing is the biggest event to the Chinese community in New York, perhaps in the country. This is our first year to march down the street with Big Apple club, we must present the Kiwanis brand professionally," said Hannah Chen, president of the Douglas-ton club.

HRW Division Aids Homeless Students

On March 11, The Kiwanis Club of Middletown hosted a Division of the Hudson River West Division, which includes 10 Clubs.

Clubs from around the division donated supplies for the 2019-20 First Lady Deb Rought's project, which asks clubs to look for ways to help a specific group of homeless people in their communities -- students.

Pictured is Higbie and Gov. Joseph Ruggiero looking over the items donated by the clubs who attended.

The items will be delivered to A Friend's House is a short-term shelter for runaway and homeless youth 17 and under who may not feel safe in their home, and HONOR, which offers emergency housing.

International Convention Status To Be Determined



As this edition of the Empire State Kiwanian is being produced, it's not certain the 2020 Kiwanis International Convention will take place.

The event has been planned for June 18-21 in Indianapolis.

It is possible to register for the convention. Kiwanis International has stated that if the convention is canceled, all registration fees will be refunded.

Watch the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org, for the latest information.

In light of the uncertainty over the convention, the planned district pre-convention trip to Nashville has been canceled.

Pediatric
Lyme Disease

DPG John
Gridley



The world is currently in the midst of a coronavirus epidemic that is fraught with rumors, gossip, and unreliable information.

Because children with Lyme disease may be immuno-compromised and thus more susceptible to infection, I'll share

Legion
of Merit

Sue
Sheehan



Each year, the New York District recognizes Kiwanis Club members who have completed 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of service with Legion of Merit Certificates and pins designating the corresponding year.

Club secretaries can find the 2019-20 Legion of Merit Request Form on the District website under Forms and Documents. The cost of each pin is \$5.95, plus \$1 for the certificate. Shipping is an additional \$3.00. The completed form and check should be made payable to the New York District Kiwanis and mailed at least 4 weeks in advance, but in most cases, orders are filled within a week. Completed form and check should be mailed to Sue Sheehan, PO Box 1292, Pine Bush, NY 12566. If you have questions, feel free to call me at 845-744-5984 or e-mail me at ssheehan@frontiernet.net.

For Kiwanis members who have completed 25 years of service or more, the club secretary should contact the store at Kiwanis International. Legion of Honor Certificates and Pins are issued in 5 year increments. (Those members who have 25 or more years of Kiwanis service do not have to be consecutive, and can be accumulated in more than one club.)

A member is eligible for each when he or she is within six months of reaching that milestone. Legion of Honor Certificates are \$5.25 and Pins are \$12.75 and must be ordered at least 2-3 weeks in advance. Kiwanis does not accept orders over the phone, however if you have questions you can call them at 1-800 KIWANIS, ext. 411#. Presentations of these awards at a special event can be a memorable moment for the recipient and his or her fellow Kiwanians.

what I've learned about the coronavirus and what you can do to protect your children, yourself, and community.

The first human coronavirus was discovered in the 1960's as one of the causes of the common cold. There are hundreds of other viruses linked to upper respiratory infections, including rhinoviruses and flu viruses. The current coronavirus causes "coronavirus disease 2019", abbreviated COVID-19. It can cause a more severe respiratory illness in humans than the average coronavirus. At the worst, COVID-19 can cause pneumonia in both lungs, multi-organ failure and in some cases, death. The CDC web page which I read almost every day shares what is currently known about COVID-19.

As with all viral illnesses, everyone who interacts with others is at risk for getting corona viruses. And just like the flu, certain people are at a higher risk for developing severe illness. Based on preliminary information, those at the highest risk for developing serious complications or death from COVID-19 include: older people (especially those over 60), people with serious medical conditions like: cardiovascular disease (heart disease), chronic respiratory disease (lung disease), hypertension (high blood pressure), diabetes, cancer, and those who are immuno-compromised (Lyme disease and others

with compromised immune systems). Lyme disease sufferers know their immune system is weakened when they are infected with *Borelia burgdorferi*. A weakened immune system leaves the body vulnerable to attack. Those with chronically weak immune systems are likely to get infections more frequently than most other people, and these illnesses might be more severe or harder to treat.

Thousands who have been exposed to the coronavirus have been asked to quarantine themselves. This means avoiding unnecessary travel and staying out of crowded places, stay at home unless you become so ill you need to see a doctor, no work, no school, no church, no social events, and no unnecessary shopping (if you don't have supplies, you will need someone to bring them to your doorstep), and if you live with others, you must stay in your room (if you need to come out of your room, you must wear a mask).

While this may seem obvious for the Lyme community, the best way to bolster the immune system is to simply eat a healthy diet, exercise regularly, get enough sleep, and minimize stress. Here's my plea to the Lyme community: let's do everything within our power to help slow this thing down and keep ourselves protected. May God bless you all and remember, stay in, stay safe, and stay healthy.

Clubs Inducting New Members

Clubs in the New York District inducted 370 new members during the first half of the 2019-20 year. Following is a list of the club which have inducted five or more.

A complete list including the names of the new members and their sponsors can be seen on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.

Big Apple, NY-USA	Queens East	12
Oceanside	Long Island Southwest	9
Manhasset-Port Washington	Long Island North	8
Ridgewood, NY 3-2-1	Queens West	8
Canandaigua	Finger Lakes	7
Douglaston	Queens East	7
Niagara Wheatfield	Niagara Frontier North	7
Astoria-Long Island City	Queens West	6
Bethpage Central Park	Long Island South Central	6
Saugerties	Hudson River	6
East Rockaway	Long Island Southwest	5
Glendale	Queens West	5
Island Park, Long Island	Long Island Southwest	5
Kingston	Hudson River	5
Levittown	Long Island South Central	5
Lewiston	Niagara Frontier North	5
Northern Niagara County	Niagara Frontier North	5
Nunda	Genesee	5
Ozone Park	Queens West	5
Spencerport	Genesee	5
West Hempstead	Long Island South Central	5

Lindenhurst Adopts Hometown Heroes Program

While attending last summer's District convention in Niagara Falls, Kiwanis Club of Lindenhurst Distinguished Past President Ralph Somma listened intently as Elmira President Michael Wayne discussed his club's Hometown Heroes Banner Program.

The following weekend, Ralph and son Daniel visited Ticonderoga and discovered that town's Hometown Heroes banner program on full display. "The sight of all those veterans' banners along main street was just an awesome and inspiring sight to see. Following on the heels of the convention, it was a clear signal to bring it to Suffolk County where I live and home to more veterans than any other county in New York," said Ralph.

Shortly thereafter, a committee was formed and, with the guidance of the Elmira Club's Committee Chair Terry Allison, the Kiwanis Club of Lindenhurst launched its own Hometown Heroes Banner Program. After ensuring the partnership of the Village of Lindenhurst, members shared word of the program with every civic organization that would listen and enlisted dozens of local merchants to display signs and distribute order forms. Local newspapers were contacted and various social media platforms utilized. New York Newsday recently ran a story about the Lindenhurst program in its online and print editions.

The Hometown Heroes Banner Program is a grass roots opportunity for the community to honor service men and women with a banner showing their picture, years and branch of service, name and rank. The Lindenhurst Kiwanis Club will display those banners along Wellwood Avenue in Lindenhurst Village for two years from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. A portion of the proceeds will go to one of three veterans' organizations of the families' choosing. As of this writing, over 130 banner orders have been placed and they are still coming in. Lindenhurst Kiwanian Tom Baumann, who served in the



From left, Jo-Ann Boettcher, Tom Baumann, Ralph A. Somma and Club President Alice Cromarty.

Marine Corps, is printing the banners from his Lindenhurst shop. "It's been a lot of work but I feel really good about doing it because being a veteran myself I know how much this means to somebody who has served," he said.

The Lindenhurst Club recently installed its first Hometown Heroes banner in front of Lindenhurst Village hall honoring Capt. Arthur M. Cromarty, who not only served

with distinction in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II but is also a founding member of the Kiwanis Club of Lindenhurst, former Lindenhurst Village Attorney, Babylon Town Supervisor and one of New York's longest serving Supreme Court Justices after whom the court complex in Riverhead is named. And he's also Lindenhurst Kiwanis President Alice Cromarty's father.



Builders Club Donates Fleece Blankets

The Builders Club at Twin Towers Middle School in Middletown has been diligently working on making fleece blankets to give to children in need. The Builders Club members decided to give them to the First Lady's Project which is for homeless students.

Aktion
Club

Jaimie
Neuringer



Aktion Club is all about serving our communities. While we can't fully answer the call to serve right now, remember that your Aktion Club members are also practicing social distancing, which may be hard for them. Many Aktion Club members have great problems with change in routine.

While we may not be able to meet directly, Kiwanians who work with Aktion Clubs can still be a small source of sta-

bility for their members.

Just like in Kiwanis, consider setting up a virtual meeting if possible. Many of our members' residences and facilities have technology. Reach out to see if yours do. If a virtual meeting can't work, perhaps several smaller ones can. Even a phone call to some members can spark joy that they might not have at this time. Remember that most of our Aktion Club members LOVE what they do in Aktion Club.

Additionally, you can put together an encouragement pack to send to your members. Start with a note of appreciation for all the good works your Aktion Club does. Follow with encouraging words that while we're not meeting now, that this is temporary, and we will meet again soon. Consider enclosing photos of some of your Aktion Club's "Greatest

Moments" to remember, and perhaps some adult coloring sheets or puzzles. You can even give them tasks wherever they may be. As an example, you can send them blank bookmarks and stickers or markers to put together for your children's library in the interim, or perhaps make them "ambassadors of hand washing" for their residences (resources are on the Aktion Club facebook page).

The goal for our Aktion Club members is to continue to involve them, remember the positives of our club, and provide them with hope and encouragement that this will eventually end, and we will eventually get back to normal. Send us your ideas of how you keep your Aktion Club involved (with photos if possible), and we'll share them on our web page: www.aktionclubny.org

Key Club

John
Goldstein



March was a wild month for the New York District Key Club.

We had to cancel our 2020 Leadership Training Conference because of the Coronavirus. The conference is where we celebrate the past year and give out awards to clubs and individuals. The Governor and the District Board were very disappointed. But we came up with an online solution. We

did put together a virtual conference awards session and posted it online at our website (nydkc.org). Gov. Camille worked with Jason Steiner and Michael Berthel to put this awards session together so we could share the winners of the different awards with the district. We are also in the process of recording many of the workshops and posting them online also.

On March 29 we held our elections for the new district officers via ZOOM. I want to congratulate Mariam Makar who was elected governor, Jason Xiong as secretary and Winnie Huang as treasurer.

I would like to congratulate the following adults for their awards. Alison Mandel is the recipient of the "Richard Hill Outstanding Kiwanis Lt. Gover-

nor" award. The Distinguished Kiwanis Advisor is Denise Rogers of Lynbrook HS key Club. Special congratulations to Patti Dean for being awarded the Distinguished Faculty Advisor and also being awarded the New York District Key of Honor. The Key of Honor and the Richard Hill Award are voted on by the Key Club District Board.

I also want to tell you how proud I am of Gov. Camille and her board for continuing to work on the online presentations of our LTC. They are also working very hard to get the new board trained. Finally, special thanks to Jason Steiner and Michael Berthel for the monumental job working with Gov. Camille to put all of the online programs together.

Circle K
Governor

Amna Bajwa



Hello, Inspiring World Changers!

My name is Amna Bajwa and I am honored to serve as the Governor for the New York District of Circle K International! I am currently a student at City College of New York.

We hosted our District Convention in Albany where we were so lucky and proud to present the Glen J. Fitzpatrick Alumni Honoree Award to Anthony Pappas and Jackie Pappas. We also named Sean O'Sullivan our Convention Honoree. Congratulations to

them on these well-deserved honors!

Throughout my year I will promote more projects between the Kiwanis Family, especially related to Social Media outreach. As Circle K'ers, we can complement our Kiwanians by our knowledge of social media. Please look out for emails and letters from your Circle K lieutenant governor counterparts. I am ecstatic to work with Gov. Joe Ruggerio and Gov.-Elect Brenda Leigh Johnson. Like, who wouldn't scream with excitement to work alongside such incredibly kind and humble people? I know, I AM!

We sincerely appreciate the support of Kiwanians from all over the district. I thank you for your dedication to our organization and your commitment to sponsored youth.

I hope you meet you at Kiwanis District Convention in August, and throughout the year at various events. Until then, stay safe and healthy so we can make many memories this coming year.

Monticello K Family Keeping Busy

The Monticello Kiwanis Family, consisting of the Monticello Kiwanis Club, High School Key Club, Middle School Builders Club and the Sullivan County Aktion Club, raised \$1,300 in donations and by the sale of paper hearts in conjunction with the WSUL Heart-a-thon benefit for Catskill Regional Medical Center.

The Aktion Club is co-sponsored by Monticello and Woodridge Kiwanis Clubs and is comprised of adults with disabilities.

In addition, the Monticello Kiwanis Club collected items in support of the Kiwanis First Lady's Project to provide basic living and school supplies to homeless students, which include toiletries, books, puzzles, fleece blankets, notebooks, calculators, pens and pencils, etc.

All of the clubs are anxious to resume their activities to help out in the community as soon as they are able to.

New York District Kiwanis Foundation

District
Foundation

Sal Anelli



As I sit at my computer trying to formulate a message to all my brothers and sisters in our great New York District of Kiwanis, I find myself filled with many things I want to say to you. My first order of business is to wish you good health in the face of this terrible Coronavirus pandemic.

I want to tell you about what we, at the New York District Kiwanis Foundation are doing to try and mitigate the financial losses that we will incur this year. As you know, very early in March after many

phone calls to state agencies, camping organization, and other related organizations, our Kamp director Rebecca and I made the very hard decision to close Kamp Kiwanis for this season. Although this was a decision that I never thought we would ever make, I believe that it was the best thing to do to keep the children, seniors and everyone else involved in the Kamping season safe.

Our entire board of directors has met via teleconferencing and our finance committee will also be meeting in the next few days similarly. We are all trying to do our best to come up with ideas reduce spending and increase revenue to save our Kamp. During this pandemic, Kiwanis Clubs cannot meet, cannot have their annual fundraisers, basically all streams of revenue has been severely hampered and we understand that. We also understand that this pandemic does not only affect the Kiwanis community, it is a global

problem so other streams of revenue are also affected. The problem for us is that we are a brick and mortar entity so we have costs that cannot be avoided. We have electricity, gas, insurance, payroll and many other expenses that come up and must be paid. We are in the process of bringing all these costs to the bare minimum but they cannot be eliminated.

Hopefully in the next issue of this publication I will be able to say to you that we are doing better and at the same time you are doing better as well. Let's hope so.

I do want to particularly give my heartfelt gratitude to the those clubs that decided to give the money that they would have sent for Kampers as an unrestricted donation to Kamp Kiwanis and those individuals that also sent donations to help us with this emerging situation. To those clubs and their members and individuals, no words can ever express our gratitude for this action.

Amityville Erects Osprey Nest Platform



The Kiwanis Club of Amityville also helps take care of the wildlife in our community! Members of the Building Committee designed, built and erected an osprey nest platform on an island in the Amityville River. Pictured are Dave Heller, Townsend Thorn, Rick Licari and Mike Dunphy.

