

Governor

Al Norato Jr.



On behalf of Dr. Jenny and I, we wish you and yours a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Since last writing, we have, as a district, undergone some tremendous events. On Oct. 1, we organized a new club, with at least 28 new members.

Within weeks, most of the lower region of the district was struck by Hurricane Sandy.

Just two weeks later, we held our K-Family weekend, in which the theme was unity. Interspersed within all this, Dr. Jenny and I have had the honor of attending club anniversaries, installations and Governor's visits.

To close out the year, in a subdued manner, we celebrated the holidays, while reflecting on the tragedies and unspeakable events that occurred in nearby Newtown, CT and our own Webster, NY.

I'm proud to report that while Kiwanians has been battered by the storms and saddened by the recent random acts of violence, we are strong -- some-

times stronger than ever -- and working hard.

While they try to teach you what you can expect as governor, the events that have started this term are not the things that one ever expects to deal with, nor can they teach you to handle. You simply do the very best you can.

Once power was restored, I learned of the tremendous need it would take to help not just our neighborhoods, but Kiwanians themselves, who had been impacted. I've been working with clubs, divisions and districts from throughout the world who simply wanted to know what they could do to help.

It is comforting to know that many who responded, including those from the Upstate region of this district, did so recalling just how much they had been helped in previous instances.

Likewise, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the many Kiwanians, led by DPG Michael Malark, Kamp Kiwanis Director Rebecca Lopez and Governor-Elect Joseph Aiello, who have given so much time and energy in service to their community as a result of the storm.

We will continue do all that we can to help restore those clubs and divisions that were impacted get back up on their feet. We are with you!

On Dec. 14, 2012, the world was stunned when we learned that 20 precious children and six adults were taken

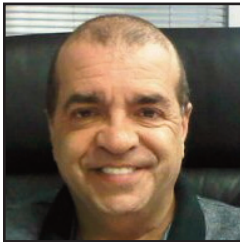
from us by violence. Many Kiwanians felt compelled to "do something". Their need to act was understandable. Many have children; some are or have been school teachers; and, after all, Kiwanis is all about making this a better and safer world for children. On that night, I sent out a message. The essence was to hold our children a little longer and a lot tighter and tell them that they are loved. I also asked that we pray for those lost and that we send letters of condolence to anyone who resides in Newtown, CT.

As we were about to celebrate Christmas Eve, in Webster, NY, hero firefighters were ambushed by the acts of a madman. We honor their memories and mourn for their families and community. Only later did we learn that one of the slain firefighters was a Kiwanian from the Webster Club. His name was Michael "Chip" Chiapperini. He was a police officer, a volunteer fireman, a father of three and a Kiwanian. In his honor, this edition of the ESK is dedicated to his memory. May this hero, and all the other heroes who never make the front pages, but give the ultimate sacrifice, Rest in Peace.

In life, there are some forces - natural or man-made - we must face that we have little to no control over; nevertheless, we must face them and strive to be stronger. Working together, we will be stronger - than ever before.

Governor Elect

Joseph Aiello



I want to take this time to thank all the clubs Upstate, Downstate, Kiwanis International, and across the U.S., for the disaster relief efforts from Hurricane Sandy.

Special thanks to the Key Clubs, Circle K Clubs putting together the disaster kits at the K-Family weekend. Distinguished Past Gov. Mike Malark spearheaded the efforts.

Mike also has been sending trucks to stricken areas. I will be putting a full disaster relief team together 2013-14. The team will consist of volunteers from Upstate and Downstate, with Malark as the team leader. I will be looking for volunteers.

This disaster was another hurdle that we came together as a Kiwanis Family and made an impact on those in need. That is why we are Kiwanians. Nothing stands in our way to help those in need.

I'm so proud that I have made a commitment to lead this great District.

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I have completed my Governor training at Kiwanis International. It was educational, interesting and fun. Now it's time to start to build the team for next year.

If you are interested to be part of the team, please contact me via e-mail at joa9014@nyp.org or by mail to 69-16-68TH Place Glendale, NY 11385. You can also contact Distinguished Past Gov. David Rothman or Distinguished Past Gov. Joseph Joe Corace.

I encourage whoever is interested, has the time, the commitment and the enthusiasm to be part of the team.

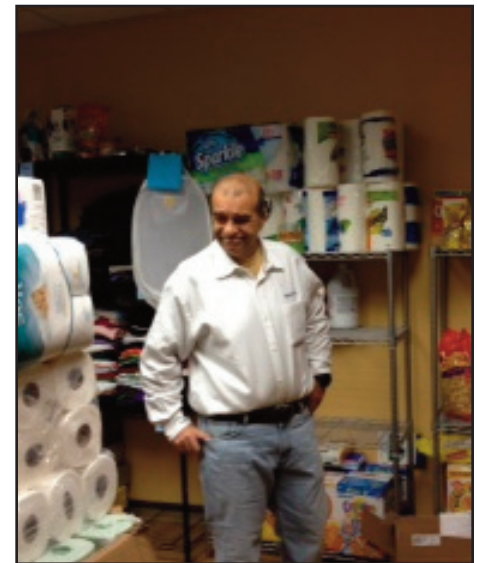
I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

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Do you have what it takes to be a leader?

I'm looking forward to meeting the lieutenant governors for 2013-14. The lieutenant governors-elect should start to have a Dream, Vision, and Mission.

You should be asking yourself, How am I going to impact the division? You, as a lieutenant governor must be energetic, a motivator, be positive and have fun. As lieutenant governors you can't accept any negativity and always re-



Aiello sorting supplies for Hurricane Sandy Victims.

main positive. So let's get inspired to be motivators and believe in yourself and your dream.

In 2013-14, we will make a difference in the district. Kiwanis is in our hearts.

Keep the first week of May 2013 open for training.