

# Woodbridge Donates Pediatric Trauma Kit

The Woodridge Kiwanis Club presented a Pediatric Trauma Kit to the Woodbourne Fire Department First Aid Squad on Dec. The Kit is a child-sized ambulance trauma equipment kit which was compiled to meet most "on scene" emergency needs of children. Equipment is color-coded based on the size of the child and includes 16 items.

The Woodridge Kiwanis Club and the FCS Key Club raised the money for the kit through a pancake breakfast and a Scratch-Off Raffle which were held during in September and October.

Woodridge Kiwanis, serving the children of the entire Fallsburg Central School District, wants to thank all the businesses that donated items for use at the breakfast, and Stewart's Shops for donating \$250 toward this project.

Woodbourne Fire Department First Aid Squad President James Tavormina presented Woodridge President Deborah Jacobsen with a certificate of appreciation for the donation.



# Long Island North Celebrates K Family Connections

During November the K Family celebrates the joining hands for service.

The Long Island North Division annually has a special dinner to recognize all members in the Kiwanis family; this year we had 98 in attendance.

The North Shore Kiwanis Club annually hosts the event.

Also participating were other Kiwanis dignitaries including Gov. Forbes Irvine Long Island Lt. Gov. Jeanne Egan and district administrators for Circle K, John Keegan; K Kids, SDPLG Mickie Leamey; and Key Club, John Goldstein.

Pictured at right is District K-Kids Administrator Mickie Leamey with two K-Kids who participated in the event.



**Pediatric  
Lyme Disease**

---

**DPG John  
Gridley**



Instead of my usual article, I would like you all to read a letter that I have received from a young lady with chronic Lyme disease.

*Dear Past Gov. Gridley:*  
My name is Julia Bruzzese, I am 12 years old. I go to St. Bernadette School in Brooklyn. I am currently in a wheelchair and cannot walk or feel my legs. I have been sick since May. Before I got sick I was very active in my school community. I participated in many activities and clubs. I was also the second vice president-elect of my school. I was a straight A student. In May I got very sick. I visited the emergency room six times and I was in four different hospitals. I have visited numerous specialists and after three months and

many negative test results I got a clinical diagnosis of Lyme disease. I had to start taking pills every half hour. I spent my whole summer in hospitals. My two brothers and little sister gave up their summer and spent every single day in the hospital with me. My dad had to leave his work to take care of me.

After getting oral antibiotics for Lyme disease, I started to feel my toes and wiggle my toes. I started to become more awake when before I couldn't stay awake for more than five minutes.

When September came I wasn't able to go back to school because I couldn't focus on my school work and because my school is not wheelchair accessible. My friends and principal have been by my side every step of the way. My principal, Sr. Joan, gave me and my family tickets to see the Pope at JFK airport. I wasn't expecting the Pope to come over to me to bless me, but he did! Meeting the Pope was the most precious moment of my life.

An Albany doctor saw me on TV and offered his help for free. My family and I took him up on his offer. I now have been living upstate with my father

away from my siblings and my mother. Now we are trying to get a PICC line and medicine delivered to my home. Because my dad is not working, we cannot afford this. We are in danger of losing our home. The insurance company is denying payment for my treatment.

I know that I am only 12, but I believe that this experience has made me stronger than ever. So to whoever is reading this, speaking from the bottom of my heart, please help me!

Sincerely, Julia Bruzzese

As a side note. In speaking to Julia's mother, on May 11, 2015, Julia had an acute onset of abdominal pain that spiraled into a litany of symptoms that included headache, stiff neck, back pain, chest pain, severe abdominal pain, hair loss, fever, migrating joint pain, numbness and tingling in a stocking like pattern of the hands and feet, sensory deficit of the lower extremities.