

Past
Governor

Forbes
Irvine



Greetings, we hope everyone had a joyous and wonderful holiday season. Helene and I wish you a very Healthy, Prosperous and Happy New Year.

Winter is a wonderful time to check on our seniors, veterans and children. Do they have a warm coat, a warm meal or a warm place to sleep? Does that child in your community have boots that fit? Warm socks, a hat? Have you seen that elderly woman lately? Is she stuck in the house? Does she need milk or eggs? Does her sidewalk need to be cleared? Does that veteran need his medicine picked up or a ride to the doctor?

The members of our clubs are the heart and soul of Kiwanis and the difference that you make in your community is inspiring and the easiest way to attract new members. Your active and engaged club is a tremendous resource and source of pride in your city, town or village. Helene

and I were told countless times when visiting throughout this district by your elected and community Leaders how vital you and your club is to the community, individuals and organizations you serve. Your commitment, your club's commitment, your division's commitment is quite possibly the only kindness, compassion and thoughtfulness that some in your community ever experience. On behalf of each of them THANK YOU for without you then WHOM?

Please remember this year to schedule Keith Cummings to come to your club or divisional to speak about anti-bullying. This is a plague on our children and grandchildren. No child should go to school afraid; no child should be harassed on Facebook or social media. The harassment continues 24 hours a day 7 days a week. This is unacceptable. These are our children. Let's protect them.

As you know Helene and I are from Staten Island and as you may not know Staten Island has the unfortunate distinction of being the single largest heroin and prescription drug addicted community in the United States. Unfortunately this affects every neighborhood in our district. Please contact the Massapequa Club in The Long Island South Central Division. They have put together a won-

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derful program and are more than willing to share it with you. This is an exceptional program and a great project for your club to work with Key Club, Circle K or various organizations in your district.

Finally, we ask you to please continue your baby shower projects. Check with your local hospital or mother-baby organization. What do they need? How can you help? Is there another organization that could use your help? This is a fantastic project that helped tens of thousands of newborns. Let's help thousands more!

We look forward to seeing all of you at this year's Mid-Winter Conference at Villa Roma in February. As always, if there is anything we can do for you or your club, please don't hesitate to call us.

Key Leader

Dean
Beltrano



2017 brings our 13th year of Key Leader. This year, we need more than just students. We need adults to chaperone,

take pictures, serve meals, prepare the video for the end of the event and at least one who knows basic first aid. If you are interested in helping, please email me at dean.keyleader@roadrunner.com for more information.

This year, it is imperative that we hit our goal of 60 sponsored students.

If you are interested in sending students, they can register through the Key Leader website, www.key-leader.org.

Follow the links for registering students. If you would like to sponsor a stu-

dent, we would ask that you send all sponsorships to Dean Beltrano, c/o Lewiston Kiwanis, PO Box 18, Lewiston, NY 14092.

A full sponsorship for a student is \$250. We will accept any/all sponsorships, but ask for at least \$100 to go towards a student's fees.

For all information regarding our event, or if you have any questions at all regarding registration, please contact me. I can be reached at the above email address or at (716) 998-4448.

Children's
Fund

Jim
Mancuso



As you may have heard, changes are afoot with the Kiwanis International Foundation, now known as the Kiwanis Children's Fund.

Kiwanis is trying to modernize its charitable giving arm, and saw an opportunity to change the name, which would enhance our motto: serving the children of the world. This rebranding will be far-reaching, as it will strengthen the understanding of the foundation's purpose, providing a better connection to the cause upon which it focuses. Hopefully, this change will enhance its image, which will

result in increased donations from our members and outside sources; ultimately leading to the foundation's ability to provide more services to children.

Speaking of gifts, and with the beginning of the New Year, we now need to focus on the donations clubs and individuals within the New York District provide to further the mission of the Kiwanis Children's Fund. That mission is a very critical one focusing on the health, education, leadership development and other "priority" issues for children.

The New York District has always donated generously, with clubs donating approximately \$24,000 and individuals \$7,500 during the 2015-16 administrative year. As the fund tries to grow and provide more services to children, the goals for the 2016-17 are \$37,000 for the district clubs and \$21,000 for individuals. These amounts, while challenging, are obtainable if we keep in mind all of the good the Kiwanis Children's Fund does across

the world as our primary source of motivation.

Please also remember when a club or individual member supports the Kiwanis Children's Fund, those funds are put to work in the form of grants which any club can apply for, and the "President's Challenge" which provides incentives back to the district when donation goals are achieved.

Your mindfulness and support of this worthy cause, as always, is greatly appreciated.

The latest information on district events is always available on the district web site, www.kiwanis-ny.org.