



## Pediatric Lyme Disease

John Gridley

Governor David has asked me to co-chair along with Joe Wuest, the district committee on Pediatric Lyme Disease. It is both my honor and privilege to serve Governor David and our great New York District. Pediatric Lyme Disease is an on-going program that was started when I was Governor brought to my attention by Joe Wuest.

The Lyme Disease Project was set up to help pay for treatment of this disease. Most insurance companies DO NOT pay for its treatment, and might I add that, the treatment is very expensive. It is funded through donations from clubs or individuals to the Pediatric Lyme Disease Fund. To date we have paid out about \$50,000 for treatment to doctors and/or hospitals for kids with Lyme Disease.

Lyme Disease, is caused by bacteria usually transmitted by the deer tick. It is a scary possibility to consider for New York State residents who enjoy spending time outside during the summer months. Lyme disease may affect the brain in many ways. The most common is a disturbance in thinking (cognition). Other symptoms that occur frequently include headache, mood swings, irritability, depression, and marked fatigue.

The spirochete, which causes Lyme disease, (*Borrelia burgdorferi*), can invade the central nervous system within days to a week of initial skin infection, as a result it disseminates through the blood stream. The majority of people who are treated early with antibiotics do well and incur no long term problems. People who are not treated until later in the illness may have a more complicated course.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

## New Cassel Kiwanians Gives Hundreds of Holiday Gifts to Kids



The Kiwanis Club of **NEW CASSEL**, Long Island North – distributed hundreds of toys and gifts to children in New Cassel and the Westbury area during this past 2005 holiday season. Club member Art Merahn assumed the role of Santa, and over 100 delighted girls & boys in the New Cassel Head-Start Program were the beneficiaries of the New Cassel Kiwanis' generosity. Everyone had a great time in the spirit of the season.

# Lt. Governor Melegrito Receives the Hixson Fellowship Award

The Kiwanis Clubs of **ITHACA** and **CAYUGA**, Chemung Division – It was a rare moment indeed. Mimi was speechless. On Friday, September 30, 2005, Miriam "Mimi" Melegrito - Palmer was recognized with the prestigious Hixson Fellowship Award for her significant commitment to Kiwanis and the children of the world. As the award was presented to Melegrito was met with a standing ovation and applause by fellow Kiwanians who admire her commitment to service.

Melegrito admirably served as the Lieutenant Governor for the Chemung Division for a year, and this was her final divisional meeting. She has been a member of Ithaca Kiwanis since 1988 and served as the first female President; she has been a member of Cayuga Kiwanis for five years, where she served as Charter President.

The Hixson Fellowship was presented to Melegrito by members of Ithaca Kiwanis and Cayuga Kiwanis and their sponsored youth programs: Cornell University Circle K, Ithaca College Circle K, Ithaca High School Key Club, and Spencer-Van Etten Key Club. These organizations made a contribution in her honor to Kiwanis International for the



**L-R: (seated) Ithaca Kiwanian Robin Palmer, (standing) Ithaca High School Key Clubber Ruth Ezra, Chemung Lt. Governor Mimi Melegrito, Spencer-Van Etten Key Clubber Josh Stangle, Ithaca President Bruce John presenting plaque, and in the rear Spencer-Van Etten Key Clubber Nate McNamara.**

organization's Worldwide Service Projects: the elimination of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) and to support international disaster relief.

## Seaford Receives Mentoring Grant for School District



The Kiwanis Club of **SEAFORD**, Long Island South Central Division – recently received a legislative grant through Senator Charles Fuschillo for \$1,250 which has been made available to the Seaford School District to help support the mentoring programs. Mentoring is the project that New York District Kiwanis Governor David Rothman has chosen for this year's Governor's project for Kiwanians throughout the New York District to support.

Mentoring of the students in Seaford takes many forms. There are adult-student mentoring partnerships, as well as student-student partnerships, where high school students work with middle school and elementary school children. Many of these high school students are Key Club Members.

The available funds have been used to purchase some valuable DVDs, DVD players, and some other supplies, such as board games (Chess sets, Scrabbles sets and Connect Four sets), which are often used as "ice breaker" activities by our mentors.

During February, members of the Kiwanis Club of Seaford will be working with students in the mentoring program.

Superintendent of Schools George Duffy thanks Kiwanis for their donation to this program and also for the support the Seaford

**Warren Kalmenson, Lt. Governor of the Long Island South Central Division Kiwanis; Lucie Dean, Secretary of the Kiwanis Club of Seaford; David Rothman, New York Kiwanis District Governor; Brian Conboy, Assistant Superintendent; George Duffy, Superintendent of Schools; Robin Asighieri, President of the Kiwanis Club of Seaford; Timothy Voel, Assistant Principal, Seaford High School; Roseanne Careri, Principal of Seaford Middle School; Philip Goldstein, Principal of Harbor School; John Strifolino, Principal of Seaford Manor School.**

Kiwanis club gives to the Seaford School District programs.



**Chemung Division PLG Don Josslyn, Hixson Fellow Mimi Melegrito, a member of the Kiwanis clubs of Ithaca and Cayuga and Cayuga President Satomi Hill.**

## ELMIRA KIWANIS FOUNDATION AWARDS \$8,500 IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation of the Elmira Kiwanis Club today announced that it has awarded \$8,500 in college scholarships to five area high school seniors. The scholarship recipients were introduced at the club's meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2005.

The 2005 Scholarship Winners are:

- \$2,000 – Lawrence W. Hastings Memorial Scholarship:  
**Matthew J. Wilson**, Elmira Free Academy
- \$1,750 – John C. Habin Memorial Scholarship:  
**Kathryn E. Conwell**, Elmira Free Academy
- \$1,750 – Dr. Edwin P. Krzesinski Memorial Scholarship:  
**Amber R. Gordon**, Southside High School
- \$1,500 – Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship:  
**Chelsea E. Ambrose**, Elmira Free Academy
- \$1,500 – Kiwanis Foundation Scholarship:  
**Timothy R. Krebs**, Notre Dame High School