

## Eliminate Project

Kimberly Davis



Many Kiwanians were surprised to learn at the Mid-Winter Conference that The Eliminate Project is not over.

In 2015, New York District Kiwanians voted at the district convention to fulfill our pledge to Eliminate, which is \$1,796,314. We still have a long way to go. Our outstanding obligation, as of June 23, is \$454,676. This amount, due by the end of 2020, means that we need to be raising

an AVERAGE of \$10,826 a month. Although this is no small feat, we can do it!

You can donate any amount as an individual and there are three levels of recognition for higher donations: \$300, \$625, and \$1,250. The \$1,250 level gives you a Walter Zeller Fellowship, which includes a lovely medallion, pin, and certificate. Zellers will be available at the district convention in Lake Placid, and anyone purchasing one will be presented their medallion and pin at the event.

There are also a few clubs that have not donated at all and that is another place to start. Please ask your president or secretary to find out how much your club has donated to date. You can take a day and do a simple fundraiser (car wash, garage sale, bake sale, etc.) or do something more elaborate. Anything you and your club can do

will save lives. Every \$1.80 raised saves the life of a mother and her future children.

Here's the good news: between 2010-15, the number of babies dying from MNT (maternal and neonatal tetanus) has dropped by more than 40 percent, from 58,000 to 34,000. For the first time ever, it is estimated that less than 100 newborns die each day from tetanus. But we still have a long way to go.

Please ask one of the District Advocates how you and your club can help. For the Long Island and Metropolitan divisions, contact Brenda Leigh Johnson at (631) 316-3502; for Central to Western New York, contact Ron Parent at (716) 534-1953, and for Central to Northern New York, please contact me at (518) 536-0934. Together, we can fulfill our promise to Eliminate MNT for good!

## Key Club

John Goldstein



Greetings from the almost 13,000 Key Clubbers in the great New York District.

I am again writing this as I am preparing to take 34 students and 6 adults to the Key Club International Convention in San

Antonio, TX. This trip would not possible without the support of the Kiwanis Clubs that sponsor our Key Clubs. The clubs and divisions have been very generous to help fund the student cost to attend this convention.

This year at our annual Leadership Training Conference we had the largest convention since we have been in the Albany area with over 850 in attendance. I want to thank the Kiwanis clubs and divisions for their financial support of the conference.

We do however have a challenge. The New York District has just about the same

number of Key Clubs as we do Kiwanis Clubs. But, we have several Kiwanis clubs that sponsor more than one Key Club (one sponsors 6) and we have several Key Clubs that do not have sponsors. This does bring us around to Kiwanis membership and the Formula. Key Club is our best hope for the future of our organization, but if there are no Kiwanis clubs to sponsor Key Clubs then they will have no connection to Kiwanis. If your Kiwanis Club doesn't sponsor a Key Club - please think about it! I know that we here in the Great New York District will rise to the challenge.

## Pediatric Lyme Disease

DPG John Gridley



This year is predicted to be a particularly bad one for ticks and tick-borne diseases, whether you're vacationing upstate or just going for a walk in Central Park.

June and July are especially dangerous, since ticks in the second stages of their life cycle cause the most cases of Lyme disease.

Here are some ways to protect yourself from ticks. Avoid shady, wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter. Repellent with DEET is the most effective way to repel ticks, but those with picaridin or IR3535 work too, says Richard Ostfeld, Ph.D, a disease ecologist with the Cary Institute in Hudson Valley.

To get rid of a tick use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible; slowly pull out in an upward motion; and then wash the area with rubbing alcohol. See your doctor immediately if you experience flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, lethargy and body aches. You should also know that repellents don't actually kill ticks, so the best way to protect yourself

and your children from tick bites is to spray clothing - especially shoes and socks, which baby ticks love to latch onto - with permethrin. Though the ticks may still find you, they'll die before they have a chance to infect you. According to the CDC natural repellents include essential oils from rosemary, lemongrass, thyme and nootkatone. The EPA hasn't registered them as repellents but some studies have shown that they do keep ticks away.

So if you or your child or grandchild get bit by a tick go directly to you doctor, hopefully a LLD doctor and demand a blood test and to be put on antibiotics. Do not wait for the blood test results, start the antibiotics immediately. Remember that precaution is the best remedy.

## Monticello Has Baby Shower

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello is continuing to support the Warm Beginnings project.

Members recently purchased and donated newborn baby items to the Birthing Unit at Catskill Regional Medical Center in Harris. A beautiful hand-made baby blanket was also graciously donated. These contributions will be distributed to families in need to help bring their newborns home in brand new baby items.

## Northport-East Northport Assists Fire Victims

On the same day that their community was affected by a downtown fire, the Northport-East Northport stepped up by contributing \$1,000 to a fund raiser to help the affected tenants.

An early morning fire on May 23 on Main Street gutted Gunther's Tap Room, the legendary Northport bar once the favored haunt of Beat Generation writer Jack Kerouac, with the four apartments above the stores gutted also, fire officials

said.

The tenants lost everything.

Club President Jim McKenna called the club's board members the day of the fire and got approval to donate \$1,000 to help the tenants recover.