

K-Kids Mickie Leamey

## **K-KIDS IN YOUR KOMMUNITY**

One of the main objections clubs seem to have about starting the K-Kids program in a local elementary school is the need to influence a principal, teachers and/or others that such an organization is viable in the school. Advisors may need to be paid, class schedules (including buses home) may have to be altered. The Circle K'ers, Key Clubbers and Builders that may be needed to work with the younger students may have their own schedules.

Well, put that objection on the side, and read the following paragraphs, which can be found in the K-Kids International web site <http://www.kkids.org/kkids/about>

K-Kids is the youngest and fastest growing service organization for elementary students worldwide. These clubs are ideally suited for students in grades 1 through 5 (ages 6 to 12).

K-Kids is a "student-led" communityservice organization, which operates under school regulations and draws its members from the student body.

K-Kids clubs can also be established in a community-based organization. Such organizations might include, but are not limited to: community library, Boys Club, Girls Club, YMCA, YWCA, or a church.

So, for only \$150, your Kiwanis club and any other organizations which may co-sponsor it, including your sponsored youth branches of the K-family, can start a service organization without necessitating school district approval. Imagine a Saturday morning or afternoon program at the local library, tying in the international reading projects with the service programs. Or, working on organizing a bicycle rodeo at the local houses of worship where you can work with the students of all ages on the Governor's Project.

Yes, it will require commitment from the members of your club to make sure someone is available at every meeting, but think of the publicity it can generate announcing this new club at any of these public locales. Maybe it can be an after school program based someplace in your community. Also, every parent bringing his or her child(ren) to this project is a potential member.

Of course, school-based clubs might be

## **Averill Park Schools Receive Peace Poles**

Kiwanis Club of **SAND LAKE**, Van Rensselaer Division – donated peace poles to schools in the Averill Park Central School District, jointly with the Averill Park School District's Service Learning Program recently.

Immediate Past Kiwanis Club President Jim Rogers was on hand for the ceremonies at each of the schools where the peace poles were provided and was asked to give some remarks. He was joined by Liz Finn, the Director of the Averill Park School District Service Learning Program.

Colorful peace pole ceremonies were held at the local schools, including Algonquin Middle School, George Washington Elementary School, Poestenkill Elementary School, Miller Hill-Sand Lake Elementary School and West Sand Lake Elementary School. During the Peace Pole Ceremonies, all students in each school were involved in some way, either a flag bearers for all 192 nations or as audience participants.

The Averill Park High School peace pole is currently being displayed in the school library. A Peace Pole Ceremony is planned for the beginning of the next school year in October on United Nations Day to dedicate the peace pole.

Each peace pole is four-sided. They stand about eight feet tall (before being secured in the ground) made of western red cedar with the phrase "May Peace Prevail on Earth" written on each of the plaques in eight different languages. Students, teachers and administrators in each school were involved in selecting the eight languages for their school's peace pole.

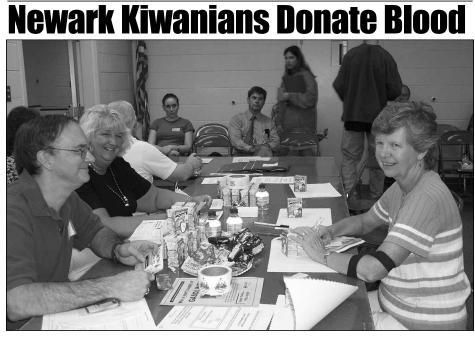
Sand Lake Immediate Past Kiwanis Club President Rogers said, "The Peace Pole project is wonderful way for our young people to learn about and to respect the many, varied nationalities of the world." Added Rogers, "What better way to learn about our friends and neighbors through the world than through an experience of peace and understanding."

## With Sympathy

It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the passing of the **son of PLG and Mrs. Joseph Popolo** (Long Island North-1993-1994). Written expressions of sympathy may be sent to: Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Popolo, 270 South 8th Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757

From DPLG Sal Puglia – I had met **PLG. Willie Richardson** in my "earlier" Kiwanis days. I had also met Vivian (wife) when she was President of the Kiwanis Club of North Amityville. Some of my earliest memories were of the famous "fish fry" held by that Club and to which Lou Bongiorno and I dined (more than once). Please join me in expressing heartfelt sorrow for the passing of PLG Willie Richardson. I am certain that our thoughts and prayers are with the Richardson Family.





Newark Kiwanians Steve Goebert and Brenda Westcott talk to blood donor Ruth Dantz.



preferential, as the students are already there. But, it also takes time for administrators to approve the idea and for faculty or others who want to be paid for their time to be located. By opening up a K-Kids program in a local gathering place, you can get started as soon as details are worked out with the powers that be of that locale.

Try and avoid the controversy of discrimination (keeping it nonsectarian, for example, if held in a church, temple or mosque, unisexual if held at a YM or YWCA). As usual, *Continued on Page 11* 

**10** EMPIRE STATE KIWANIAN November/December 2004 It is with profound sadness that we inform you of the passing of **Don Hamilton**, of the Geneseo Kiwanis Club. Written expressions of sympathy may be sent to: Marlene Hamilton, 11 Jacqueline Way, Geneseo, New York 14454.

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It is Minisink Valley's sad duty to announce the passing one of our Charter members, **John R. Manning**. John was Minisink's Charter President in 1957 and a Distinguished Lt Governor of the entire Hudson River in 1974-75. Condolences may be sent to: John R. Manning Jr., 111 East Holley Street, Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida 34737

Newark Kiwanis Volunteer Nicole DeNeef donates blood for the first time while her children, Lillian and Isaac look on.

The Kiwanis Club of **NEWARK**, Finger Lakes Division – Newark President Sandra Marcano reports that the American Red Cross recently held a blood drive at the Presbyterian Church in Palmyra sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Newark.

A Red Cross volunteer Nicole DeNeef,

decided to donate blood for the first time. Her children, Lillian and Isaac are proud of their mom.

Kiwanians Steve Goebert and Brenda Westcott were at hand at the blood drive canteen to lend a helping hand.