

Peninsula Hewlett Holds Tribute to Veterans

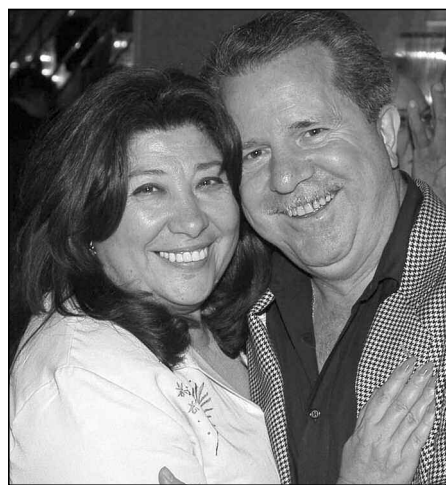
The Kiwanis Club of the **PENINSULA, HEWLETT**, Long Island Southwest Division – held its first Salute to Veterans Night at Pompei Restaurant in West Hempstead under the direction of Chairman John Jonza. More than 100 guests were in attendance to pay tribute to the veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the conflicts in the Gulf and Afghanistan. Club president Ralph DeSena of Lynbrook said, “We wanted to do something special for the military, because this sort of thing doesn’t seem to happen much.”

The evening included videos saluting the men and women of World War II, the troops serving in Iraq, and a third honoring the members of the Peninsula Club who served in the armed forces. A dance band played music from the different eras, and the Nassau County Police Pipe Band later brought the crowd to its feet with a rousing performance. The program concluded with an emotional candle-lighting ceremony led by Mrs. Jeanette Urbina of Baldwin, whose son, Wilfredo, lost his life in Iraq.

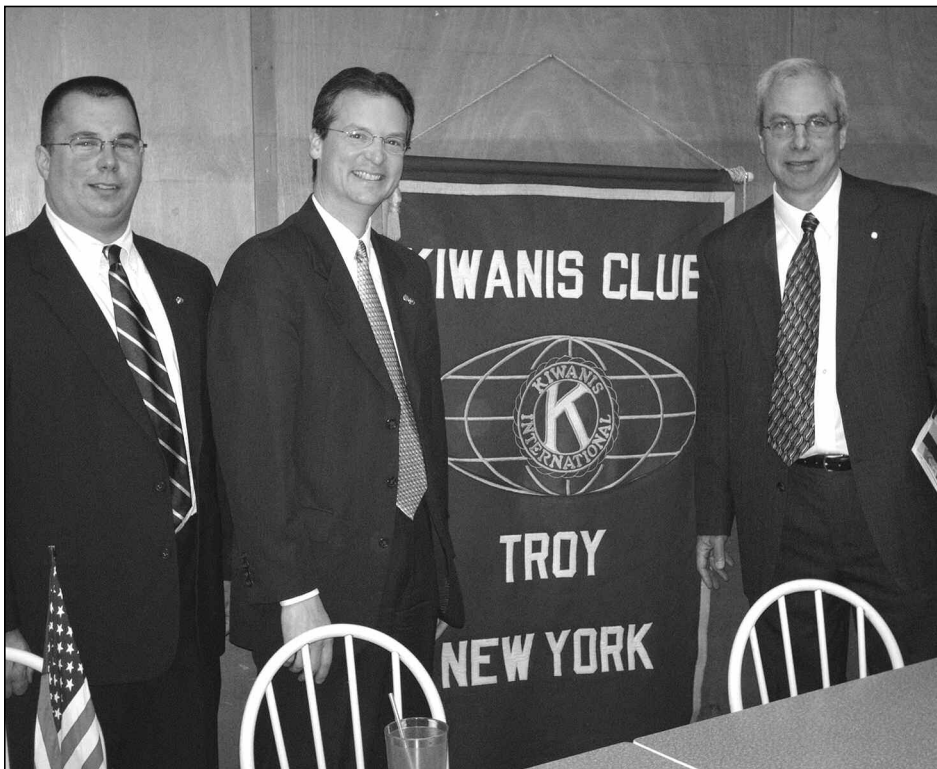
“It was a very moving night,” said President DeSena, “and we hope to make it even bigger and better next year.”

Peninsula has seventy members, and is part of the Long Island Southwest Division of Kiwanis International, led by Lt. Governor Joanne Giretti. The club meets each Wednesday evening at Goldie’s Restaurant in Valley Stream.

Photos at right: Peninsula Kiwanians and friends enjoy a special evening of tribute to veterans.



Troy Kiwanians Welcome New Member



Christopher Burke was inducted into the Troy Kiwanis at the May 2nd meeting and was sponsored by Vice President, Karl Cote. Mr. Burke is the Executive Director of Unity House in Troy. Since joining Kiwanis, Mr. Burke has participated in the Chicken Bar-B-Que, a Troy Kiwanis community service project.

Merrick Give Students “Write” Stuff

The Kiwanis Club of **MERRICK**, Long Island South Central Division – Twenty-eight students from families-in-need in Merrick and North Merrick were able to go off on the first day of school with every item on their teacher’s list of required school supplies, thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Merrick and the generosity of the community.

For the third consecutive year, Club members manned stations outside four local pharmacies over two weekends in August, collecting glue sticks, notebooks, pencils, folders, etc., as well as cash contributions. Using those donations and money raised during the year through various fundraisers, Kiwanis then purchased whatever needed supplies were not donated, along with a backpack for each child and a \$100 gift card to buy new clothes.

More than 20 Kiwanians and family members then gathered at School Supply Chairperson Bernie Stein’s home to go over every child’s list, fill the backpacks and then deliver them in time for the start of school on Sept. 5. “It was an extraordinary team effort and one we should all be proud of,” Stein said, noting that community support made this year’s drive “overwhelmingly successful.”

The drive was so successful that after filling all of the backpacks, there were enough school supplies remaining to answer an urgent call from a Kiwanis club in upstate Binghamton, which was hit hard by flooding this summer. At the New York State District convention Sept. 9, incoming Merrick Kiwanis president Kim Scharoff presented the Club’s donation of additional school supplies to be distributed to families in the area of New York’s Southern Tier. New York State Kiwanis Governor David Rothman told the convention about Merrick’s annual School Supply project, and recognized the club for its achievement.

“I am delighted to be able to fill every backpack for our kids in Merrick, and then



Members of the Kiwanis family sorted through the hundreds of pounds of school supplies to find every item on each student’s list, then filled the backpacks and delivered them in time for the first day of school.

have enough left to be able to help some other kids and families that suffered through tragic losses this summer,” said Kiwanis president Ilene Dixel. “When a kid can go off to school on the first day knowing they have all the supplies that their classmates have, we are helping them start off the year in a positive way. I am so proud of our community for supporting the work we do.”

Medical Supplies Available

As a result of his late wife’s illness, Dr. Gordon Harris has certain medical supplies and durable medical goods that he would like to donate to any medical agency/nursing home/hospice/etc. that could use them. The list of items includes a hospital bed with rail, over-the-bed tray table, wheelchair, intravenous tree, and a walker, also, syringes, injectable saline, tracheotomy tubes and related supplies, ambu-bag for manual ventilation, suction catheters and related suction supplies, and albuterol sulfate.

Please contact Dr. Gordon Harris, 516-527-6380, har441@optonline.net

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