It is my honor and my privilege to serve as your District Governor for 2018-19. I personally would like to thank you for sending me the best board that I have been affiliated with. I was on two District Boards and also worked with Gov. Forbes Irvine as his executive assistant. I know every governor has the best board ever, but I will let you be the judge after our year.

Let me share a short example. During pictures at our last dinner at our training at Utica, one of our lieutenant governors gave a short report on the Eliminate Project. One of HANKS HELPING HANDS stated, raise your hand if you will give $20 if I jump in the pool. With that, off with the shoes and splash, $400 to Eliminate in three minutes.

My Governor’s Project this year is to send 100 military kids from Fort Drum to our Kamp Kiwanis. We will be raising approximately $45,000 to make this happen. We have no intention on taking any thing from the kids we usually send to Kamp, this is above and beyond. It’s approximately $170 per club. We are calling on our larger clubs to help our smaller clubs. Your lieutenant governor will fill you all in.

Distinguished Kiwanians, every year you go to our district web to find out what qualifications are needed to be a distinguished Kiwanian. We have all seen the form. Complete six out of eight. Well this year, you want to be distinguished? BRING IN TWO NEW MEMBERS. That’s it: TWO NEW MEMBERS.

Every club that participates in the Governor’s Project will receive a banner patch.

Every club with an increase in membership gets a banner patch.

You see this is how HANKS HELPING HANDS rolls. We will take us FROM GOOD TO GREAT. Why don’t you join us!
New Club Opening - A Chance To Spread Kiwanis To Our Communities

2017-18 was a fantastic year in new club opening as we opened 10 new clubs under the leadership of Past Gov. Candace Corsaro, Candies Team of lieutenant governors and The Formula Team.

It is only the fourth time that we have hit double digits in new club opening since 1989. Prior to 1989, we opened numerous new clubs. In 1986-87 and 1988-89 we opened 20 clubs both years, but for nearly the last 30 years we lost our way a bit. It has taken a while to get back on track and we are now there! So, let us keep the momentum going as Gov. Hank and his Helping Hands lieutenant governors have a goal of 10 new clubs as well for 2018-19.

The concept of The Formula has ended but the ideas behind it have not. I will be heading up New Club Opening with a team of Zone Chairs and Division Chairs and Past Gov. Eric Paul will be heading up all aspects of Membership as Gov. Hank chose to separate the functions as it existed prior to The Formula, which started October, 2013.

I’ve enjoyed working on The Formula Team for all 5 years of the program. I personally thank all those Kiwanians who worked for all five years and for those who joined along the way. There will be some overlap between Membership and New Club Opening, but that is not a problem but an advantage.

The Empire State Kiwanian

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The Empire State Kiwanian

Official Publication of the New York District of Kiwanis International

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2018-19 Events

Nov. 9-11, 2018:
Kiwanis Family Weekend, Villa Roma Resort, Callicoon
Feb. 14-17, 2019:
Mid-Year Conference, Desmond Hotel, Albany
March 22-24, 2019:
Circle K District Convnetion, Desmond Hotel, Albany
March 29-31, 2019:
Key Club Leadership Training Conference, Desmond Hotel
May 17-19, 2019:
Kamp Kiwanis Work Weekend and Open House, Taberg
June 26-29, 2019:
Circle K International Convention, Orlando, Florida
June 27-30, 2019:
Kiwanis International Convention, Orlando, Florida
July 3-7, 2019:
Key Club International Convention, Baltimore, Maryland
Aug. 15-18, 2019:
New York District Convention, Niagara Falls
Pediatric Lyme Disease  
DPG John Gridley

Neither conventional nor alternative medicine has all the answers about Lyme Disease. As sufferers of Lyme Disease you must stick together, share information, and move ahead as a united group, helping one another sift through the endless books, articles, and websites available.

Lyme Disease is set apart from other medical conditions because breakthroughs in Lyme Disease treatment often result from collaboration, cooperation, and research conducted by the Lyme Disease community itself, in comparison with breakthroughs in other areas of health research, which are often attained via outside research organizations such as pharmaceutical companies and universities. You can all learn from one another and in many cases, the personal experiences with helpful or harmful treatments can provide road maps for one another.

One of the best methods by which to communicate with Lyme Disease sufferers is a Lyme Disease support group. Historically, these support groups have involved actual in-person meetings. Now, because of technology, internet-based discussion groups are becoming more and more popular and accessible. Internet discussion forums provide a gathering medium in which Lyme Disease sufferers can get together to make new friends, sharing treatment information, supporting one another, and building a database of Lyme Disease information.

Although local support groups obviously foster deeper interpersonal relationships, internet support groups provide other advantages such as being accessible to everyone, no need to block off a time or day of the week, most information about Lyme Disease is being distributed on the internet, storage archives where past messages are identified and retained. Local support groups have attendance of anywhere from five to 50 people on average. Many of the larger internet groups have on average hundreds or thousands of members.

Naturally, internet discussion groups will never replace the interpersonal interaction that occur when people meet together in person. An added bonus is that the vast majority of the groups are available free of charge. There are dozens of online Lyme Disease support groups, three of the most useful and informative are the Lyme and Rife group, Lyme Community Forums and LymeNet.

As we approach the end of one Kiwanis year and begin another I would like to thank Governor Candace for her support of the Lyme Disease Foundation, Gov.-Elect Hank for his never ending support, and to all Kiwanians members of conscience, Circle K, Key Club and Builders Club for their support and continued support of the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation mission, "NO CHILD SHOULD HAVE TO SUFFER WITH THIS DREADED DISEASE". Thank you all for your overwhelming support.

Please continue to purchase the Britany Fellowship Award, First Level Emerald, Second Level Emerald, and the Joseph Michael Wuest Fellowship Award, as these awards are the only way we have to raise funds to pay the grants that we give out to Lyme sufferers.

In the year 2020 it will be 20 years since I founded the Pediatric Lyme Disease Foundation. To celebrate our 20 years of service to children with this disease on March 29, 2020 we will be having a gala celebration. So mark it on your calendars and please try attend.

The election ... will be extremely competitive and will take place at the upcoming Kiwanis International Convention, at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, June 27-30, 2019.

International Leadership  
Jim Mancuso

At the New York District convention during August in Syracuse, Peter Mancuso was unanimously endorsed through the New York District for Kiwanis International President. Peter is very thankful and humbled by the district's endorsement of his candidacy.

His campaign for this position now begins. The election for this position will be extremely competitive and will take place at the upcoming Kiwanis International Convention, at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida, June 27-30, 2019.

The International Vice Presidency is a stepping stone to become Kiwanis International President. If successful, Peter will be elected Vice President next year, then in 2020 he becomes President-Elect and in 2021, President. Peter will succeed to the latter two positions, which are non-elective. So, as you can tell the upcoming election is an extremely important one.

There is much which rides on this election for Kiwanis. Our beloved organization continues to need solid, principled leadership to address these very challenging times.

There is no one better suited to provide it than Peter. His professional background, Kiwanis experience, and temperament are perfectly suited to the task, and his record of Kiwanis achievements at every level of our organization is exemplary. You will soon be able to learn more about him and what he brings to Kiwanis on his campaign website, which is currently under construction but will be available soon.

Peter was elected International Trustee almost three years ago and has made us proud serving with distinction. He did what he promised. He challenged the status quo and made Kiwanis better in the process. He helped to make sure we spend our limited resources wisely with a focus on membership growth and we were fiscally responsible. He counseled our youth-based service leadership organizations and other Kiwanis districts domestically and abroad.

Three years ago, his campaign was themed "Together We Can Go the Distance." True to his word then, Peter is going the distance for us all as he is working hard to become our next International Vice President. As the campaign theme indicates this is a journey we are all on "together." Peter now asks for your support to continue the mission and "go the distance," for all of Kiwanis. He is ready to fulfill the promise he made to all of you three years ago.

What can you do to help? First, plan to attend the convention in at Walt Disney World in June 2019 (registration should open in January). Next and also at the top of the list please do all you can to budget for and send voting delegates to the convention as well. Please don’t forget that past lieutenant governors can represent any club in your division, not just their own.

Thank you again for all that you will be doing over the coming months to support "our" campaign and elect Peter Mancuso as our next International Vice President.
Awards were presented and during the Annual Meeting of the District Foundation at the convention in Syracuse.

Peninsula Hewlett was honored for sending the most children to Kamp Kiwanis: 64. Three clubs tied for second place, with 35: LaGuardia, Maspeth and East Meadow.

The top division was Long Island Southwest with 96, followed by Queens West with 95 and Metropolitan with 94.

Kamp Executive Director Rebecca Clemence reported that the Kamp had 67 adult kampers this year, and 598 kampers during the child weeks.

There were 5 kampers who required one-on-one staffing, while 148 of the kampers had special needs. There were 42 children of military personnel.

Clemence reported that the impact on military families was made clear this year when they called a parent to report a bug bite and found they were talking to the parent in Afghanistan.

Re-elected to new 3-year terms on the board were Distinguished Past Gov. Joseph Aiello, Thomas Poccio and Anthony Merendino.

Udo Glosh being honored as a Convention Honoree for his years of service handling registration at district conferences and conventions. Speaking is Past Gov. David Booker; at right is Gov. Candace Corsaro.

District Treasurer David Vail being honored as a Convention Honoree for his work as treasurer for the District and for the District Foundation.

Above, the scene at the Gala Governor’s Dinner. At left, Gov. Candace Corsaro makes farewell address at the banquet.
International Trustee Peter Mancuso was endorsed by the convention to run for Kiwanis International Vice President next June at the Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando, Florida.

Here is the text of the resolution:

Resolution of the New York District of Kiwanis International, Inc.

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso became a Kiwanian in 1987 when he joined the East Meadow, New York club, and is a Distinguished Past President of his club; a Super Distinguished Past Lieutenant Governor of the Long Island South Central Division; a past Director of the New York District Foundation; and a Distinguished Past Governor of the New York District; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso has served on many club, division, district and international committees, including as Chair of the International Committee on Resolutions and Bylaws, and as a member of the International Committee on Growth and of the International President-Elect Advisory Panel; and served as the New York District International Leadership Chair and as Parliamentarian for

our district and district foundation for many years; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso was appointed to serve as a Trustee of the Kiwanis International Foundation in 2008, which is now known as the Kiwanis Children’s Fund, and served as its 2012-2013 President, during which administration it exceeded its goal in Eliminate Project grants; implemented and adopted new donor recognition policies; enacted a Code of Ethics; and adopted a Donor’s Bill of Rights; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso was elected as a Kiwanis International Trustee in 2016, and has served with distinction on various Board committees and as the Board Counselor to many districts and to Circle K International; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso has been recognized as his club and division’s Kiwanian of the Year and has received many other honors for his Kiwanis service, including Life Membership, the Centennial Award, the Tablet of Honor, and the Diamond Hixson, Diamond Zeller, District Foundation Diamond Kaiser and KPTC Fellowships. He and his wife Karen are also past New York District Kiwanis and Circle K Convention Honorees; and

WHEREAS, Peter J. Mancuso is employed as a Nassau County, NY Assistant District Attorney; is an alumnus of MIT and the Cornell Law School; and is a past president of his local bar association and his chamber of commerce;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Delegates assembled at this 101st Annual New York District Convention expresses its appreciation for his leadership and commitment to the mission of Kiwanis service to others, and unanimously endorses the election of Peter J. Mancuso to the office of Kiwanis International Vice President at the 2019 Kiwanis International Convention in Orlando, Florida, and heartily pledges the efforts of all members of the New York District in support of his candidacy.

Adopted this 18th day of August, 2018.
The Aktion Club of Sullivan County held its third annual car wash Aug. 18 at the SullivanARC location on lower Broadway in Monticello.

The members warmly greeted each customer and did an outstanding job washing the cars, tires and windows with sponges and brushes.

There was no charge for the car wash; however donations and tips were gladly accepted; $150.02 was raised. This money will help the club fund various community service events.

The Aktion Club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Monticello and Woodridge.

KPTC Annual Meeting is Nov. 15 at Northwell

The annual meeting of the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Center Foundation will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 15, at Northwell Health System, 2000 Marcus Ave., New Hyde Park.

Those attending will be updated on the important work of the foundation and the KPTC. The leadership of the foundation will help you better understand how you can support the fundraising and public visibility efforts. The health care professionals of Northwell Health will update us on their lifesaving work and how our efforts have supported their work.

The meeting is not limited to presidents and secretaries, all Kiwanians were welcome to attend.

It is a great opportunity to hear about our important Kiwanis - Northwell Health partnership.

In order to provide a light supper, we need a count of attendees, please RSVP JOECORACE@AOL.COM 917-282-9498
As we begin our new year, 2018-19 under Governor Hank, From Good to Great, as First Lady my project will be KRAFTS for KAMP! I am hoping this great New York District will help me in getting as many crafts as possible for the camp. They are in dire need of certain objects. If you consider how many children there are at camp on a daily basis and all of the different ages that do crafts, at all different times throughout the day, you can see why they need our help.

Here is a list of items needed. Each lieutenant governor will be collecting these items from your clubs or individuals within your division. They will be brought to the Mid-Winter Conference in February. During Saturday at the Conference, we will box them up and Distinguished Past Gov. Joe Aiello along with others will transport them to the camp before the 2019 camping season begins.

With any project, it all becomes a success with you, your members, clubs and divisions help. On behalf of the governor, myself and the camp, we thank you for your support.

Let us make a difference.

Here's a list of supplies that could be donated:
- Fabric dye (multiple colors)
- Lanyard
- Packaging Tape
- Pool noodles
- Large white roll paper
- Hot glue sticks
- Curling ribbon
- Twine

(cost subject to change and does not include transportation) this will require $46,500.

If every club, all “262” of us participated, it’s around $180 per club.

The plan is not to reduce the number of kids usually sent to Kamp, but for the Fort Drum Military Children to be added to the usual total.

This is Up and Beyond our current commitment. Starting with Fort Drum, we then can encompass the other military bases.

The clubs that currently send military children the goal is to provide "additional" funding for military children from your respective areas.

Something’s worth considering, to end with the projects and fundraisers that everyone shared are nothing short of amazing. Your dedication to your communities was shown time and time again.

As we start another year, under the leadership of Hank Baker and his Team, I look forward to supporting Hank’s vision and helping in any way I can.

A lot can be learned about what happens in the New York District by attending the conventions. Please put the dates for the following conventions on your calendar. Mid-Year (February 14-17, 2019, Albany), International (June 27-30, 2019, Orlando, Florida) and New York District (August 15-18, 2019, Niagara Falls).

I want to thank Frank Romeo for a great gentlemanly campaign. A big Thank You goes out to all my friends and new friends throughout the district that voted for me. It was a rewarding feeling after such a long campaign to know that I have your support. I look forward to seeing you during my year as Governor-Elect.

Geneva Donates to Kiwanis Family Support Fund

The Kiwanis Club of Geneva presented a check in support of the Kiwanis Family Support Fund at Golisano Children’s Hospital in Rochester on Aug. 15.

Receiving the donation was Past Lt. Gov. John Hanratty, who chairs the Finger Lakes Division’s Golisano Committee. The division has supported the children’s hospital for more than 30 years, and in 2015 completed a $75,000 pledge to support the construction of the new Golisano Children’s Hospital.

The Kiwanis Family Support Fund is used by the hospital’s Social Work Department to assist families with non-medical expenses which accrue in connection with the hospitalization of a child in the family.
Waterloo Aktion Club Makes Donations

On Aug. 13 the Waterloo Aktion club make donations to three community organizations and to a family with a child with severe health problems.

The club donated $150 to the House of Concern in Seneca Falls.

The club also presented $150 to the Finger Lakes Youth Sports, which sponsors sports programs for handicapped children.

They also donated $300, the proceeds of a chicken barbecue the club recently had, to Trevor’s Gift, a program in the Waterloo School District to make sure students have food on days school is closed.

Another $100 donation was made to a local family with a child with severe health problems.

The Waterloo Aktion Club is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Seneca Falls-Waterloo.

Islips, Bay Shore Honors Veterans

In support of the Governor’s Project “No Veteran Left Behind”, the Kiwanis Club of the Islips (The), Bay Shore held a Red, White and Blue Ball at Marconi Manor in Islip April 27. It was an event with music and food with our local veterans in attendance.

A large portion of the money raised was given to Rena Sylvester at Suffolk County Marine Corps League to mail care packages to deployed military personnel. A recent beneficiary was Patrick Williamson from 106th Airborne. He is stationed in Iraq.

Islips (The), Bay Shore Kiwanians members have put their heart and soul into this project. We are in the midst of planning our annual Car Show, which will be Red, White and Blue themed. Some of the proceeds from that event will go to benefit veterans as well.

Additionally, members have been volunteering to cook for veterans, collecting toiletries and essentials, and bringing in guest speakers to shed light on the struggles many veterans have to endure. A recent speaker, Frank Romeo, is a veteran who suffers from PTSD. He will be homeless for 3 months, walking 750 miles from Buffalo to Bay Shore. He will be blogging daily and would like to bring awareness to the need for there to be an open dialogue with students about the results of war.

Amityville Hosts Veterans

Veterans and their family members residing in Amityville were treated to a summer BBQ at the Amityville Beach on July 29. It was a well-attended affair with our Division’s Lt Governor Chris Lindsley and his family joining in.

Amityville Kiwanians decorated our beach pavilion, cooked various dishes, served drinks, brought desert, provided entertainment, and topped off the evening by presenting the club’s own Charlie Woodman with his 60-year membership pin and certificate.

Charlie is a WWII Veteran; the Battle of the Bulge is a painful memory still. He is a Chevalier in France’s Legion of Honor, and the club’s most senior member (he joined the Kiwanis Club of Amityville April 1958).

On Aug. 17, Charlie celebrated his 95th birthday Charles Woodman receives his Legion of Honor award.

On Oct. 5, the Kiwanis Buddy Bench was officially dedicated and installed at Northwest’s playground by Amityville Kiwanians.

A Buddy Bench is a place for children to makes friends. A "safe place" which signals other children to approach and interact in a friendly manner.

It is especially intended for children who have a difficult time making friends in a new setting (new school), or children who are the victims of bullying.

Inclusive Playground Equipment Added in Brighton

On July 9, after more than two years of fundraising and planning, the Brighton Aktion Club and Brighton Kiwanis Club cut the ribbon on a Sway-Fun Inclusive Glider and added it to the Brighton Kiwanis Playground located behind Town Hall in the town of Brighton.

This glider represents one of the first pieces of truly inclusive playground equipment in a public park in Monroe County, and allows wheelchair-bound children and able children to play together.

The Brighton Aktion Club first came up with the idea for a piece of inclusive playground equipment, and then held a year-long fundraiser selling more than $2,000 worth of hand-crafted magnets. The Brighton High School Key Club and the University of Rochester Circle K members (along with Brighton Kiwanis members) aided the Aktion Club in this endeavor.

Central Adirondacks Honors its SLP Clubs

At a Central Adirondack Kiwanis meeting June 21, Diane Amos, Health/Family Consumer Science Teacher and Town of Webb School Key Club Advisor reported on the outstanding year of community service performed by the Key and Builders Clubs of the Town of Webb Union Free School.

Amos thanked Central Adirondack Kiwanis the sponsor of the Key and Builders Clubs. "You Kiwanis Members give hope and possibilities to our students. You are a role model to them. Serving our community. Showing them how important it is to help others. You believe in what our students can do and become”.

Amos reported that the 42 members of Key Club performed 1,512 hours of community service during the 2017-18 school year. There were 14 members of Builders Club performed 294 hours of community service. Key Club had 9 members who served over 30 hours, 7 members over 50 hours and 1 member who performed over 100 hours of community service. Builders Club, a Middle School Service Club, had 7 members who served over 30 hours of community service.

The 42 Key Club members are 43 percent of the eligible school population and the 14 Builders Club members are 30 percent of their eligible school population.

At Town of Webb School graduation, 9 graduating seniors, Fern Bailey (150 Hours of Community Service); Kendra Carnell (300 hours); Emily Greene (163 hours); Shawn Hansen (225 hours); Ryan Johnston (152 hours); Laura Levi (214 hours); Macgregor Ritz-Kenny (171.5 hours); Tyler Rudolph (153 hours); and Paige Schweinsberg (184 Hours) will be presented with Distinguished Key Club Community Service Awards and will wear a blue cord on their gowns at graduation.

Various fund-raising events generated funds that were donated to: Old Forge Library Annual Elk Walk $150; Local Food Pantry $444; Kiwanis Eliminate Project $90 and Students participating in Tapestries of Life Mexico trip $500.

An event of special note was Relay for Life where 25 members participated and raised $4,852.

Key and Builders Club members participated in the following activities: Old Forge Half Marathon, Inlet Adirondack Kids Day, Old Forge Library Elf Walk, Old Forge Ballet, TOW School Webb Way project, Sponsored movie for Elementary Students, Can & Bottle Drive, Old Forge Christmas on Main St., Kiwanis Christmas for Kids gift wrapping, Kiwanis Holiday Movie for Kids, Reading to Elementary Students, Painted Kiwanis Main St. Benches, Relay for Life, assisted at Nicolls Church Mission Boutique annual Kiwanis FREE Car Wash, Assisted Town of Webb Historical Society with set up of annual yard sale, AYSO referee and bake sale for annual student musical.
Kamp Kiwanis 2018
Circle K Members Help Close Kamp for the Season

As the last few happy kampers came and went and the cabins finally stood empty, on the last weekend in September Kamp Kiwanis found itself filled to capacity with a rather irregular demographic - Circle K members.

Each year at kamp closing, the New York District Circle K sends caravans of members from colleges all over the state to participate in the District Large Scale Service Project, or DLSSP.

One of the largest service events held in the district, this year more than 180 Circle K members were able to take part in the cleaning of canoes, the takedown of the teepee, the painting of cabins, and the storing of benches and tables to ensure the kamp is in tip top shape for the start of next year.

After the work was done, in typical New York Circle K spirit members put on a fashion show and a bonfire to celebrate what they had accomplished. Overall, it’s clear that every one of the more than 1000 service hours completed made a lasting impact on the kamp, as well as in the minds of the Circle K and Kiwanis members that were there to make it possible.

Fordham Honors K-Kids

Fordham Kiwanis hosted in June the "Moving Up" Ceremonies for 130 fifth graders "Taking the Next Step Forward" graduating from PS205 Fiorello Laguardia Elementary School. More than 1,200 family and Bronx community members watched students each receiving certificates of promotion to the sixth grade.

Fourteen members of the Fordham Kiwanis K-Kids Club were honored for their two years of community service. Shown in the photo are K-Kids each wearing a member pin. Six of them received other school awards for outstanding leadership, academic excellence, and humanitarian service.

Faculty member Myrlene Michel received New York District’s "Everyday Hero Award" from Past Kiwanis International President Tom DeJulio who cited her six years of service as K-Kids Advisor.

Monticello Supports Program for Veterans

The Kiwanis Club of Monticello recently donated to B.A.T.S (Begin Again Transitional Services) for veterans. The mission of B.A.T.S. is to assist veterans who are transitioning into civilian life and need some assistance in housing as well as in support services.

Kiwanis board members Martha Johnson and Sheila Lashinsky toured their beautiful new home for veterans in Liberty with B.A.T.S. Vice President Anthony Covington Sr. and volunteer Thelma McIver.