

October 2021

Kiwanis®

Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News



St. Gabriel Spreads the Love

Improving the world one child and one community at a time.



IN THIS ISSUE

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

DISTRICT NEWS

- 4 A Message from the Governor
- 5 Keeping the Faith, Immediate Past Governor
- 6-7 Another Grand Kiwanis Moment, Governor-Elect
- 8 2021 LaMissTenn Kiwanis Annual Convention
- 9 DCON Honors and Awards
- 10 Snap Shots of DCON Fun!!!
- 11 More DCON Fun!!!
- 11 Installation of Lieutenant Governors at DCON
- 12 Showalter Awarded Layperson of the Year 2019-2020
- 13 Green Awarded Firefighter of the Year 2019-2020
- 14 Deputy Jones Awarded Lawman of the Year 2019-2020
- 15 Denson Awarded Teacher of the Year 2019-2020

THE FOUNDATION

- 16 Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!
- 17-18 Foundation Awards Disaster Relief Grants to Cortana
- 19 Friends of the Foundation

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 20 Club Crime Insurance: An Essential in Today's Society
- 21 Farewell but Not Goodbye
- 22 Aspire to Inspire: To All Who Love and Care for Children
- 23 All Aboard! Key Leader South Express & Key Leader North Express

CLUB NEWS

- 24 Baton Rouge: Hiking with Cub Scouts
- 25 Baton Rouge Appreciates Healthcare Workers
- 25 Millington Goat Days is Back!
- 26 Big Easy Celebrates 30 Years with Love of Literacy
- 27-28 Cortana: Together We Can Go the Distance
- 28 St. Martinville Provides Disaster Relief Too
- 29 Dawn Busters Give Back to the Community

ON THE COVER:

St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club member Angela Martin Banks hands out a backpack full of supplies to Calleigh Francis on August 7th at the Hallelujah Gang Ministries' "Back to School Giveaway."
See more on Page 31.

CLUB NEWS CONTINUED . . .

- 30 Ponchatoula Shares the Love
- 31 St. Gabriel Helps with Backpack Giveaway
- 31 Natchitoches Donates Supplies & Uniforms

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON FACEBOOK

- 32 Amory Takes Care of Football Players
- 32 A Special Delivery from Ascension
- 33 Baton Rouge: Doing Great Things
- 33 East St. Mary Takes Care of Linemen
- 34 Broussard-Youngsville in Action!
- 35-36 Cortana Cares
- 37 Dawn Busters Spread the Love
- 38 Greenfield Sends Love to Students
- 38 Gulfport Honors First Responders & Hospital Heroes
- 39 Lucedale Hosts Character Pancake Breakfast
- 39 Lake Charles Treats Elementary School Staff
- 39 Kenner-North Cosponsors Blood Drive
- 40 Opelousas Pet Fest is a Hit!
- 40 New Iberia Gives Smiles to Kids
- 41 St. Bernard-Arabi: Doing Great Things!
- 41 Picayune Provides for the Children
- 41 South Lake Charles Spruces up School
- 42 St. Gabriel Distributes Masks to Schools
- 42 Stone County Organizes School Supply Drive Thru
- 43 Thibodaux: Making an Impact
- 43 Southwest Lafayette: Disaster Relief
- 44 Twin Cities: Fun and Banana Pudding for the Kids
- 44 Union City Gives Back
- 44 Vancleave Provides Water for Band

BACK COVER

- 45 Share Your Club's News!
- 45 Article Submission Deadlines
- 45 District Board of Directors & District Trustees
- 45 District Office Information



A Message from the Governor

By Rick Latiolais, Governor

Get Vaccinated or Stay Home

Yesterday I went to get a haircut. It is a shame that I have to pay for one. My hair stylist snips and combs, but we both know that this is just an act of futility. It makes me think that I'm getting something of value and the hair-stylist thinks she is doing a wonderful job. We both know that it is like mowing grass in the desert, no matter how you do it, it always comes out the same.

We do get into interesting conversations during the fifteen minutes I am in the chair. Our conversation this past session developed into a slightly heated discussion about people electing to take the vaccination and those electing not to.

She said it should not be any of my concern whether they got vaccinated or not. She said people should not be forced to vaccinate, that it was their right not to get vaccinated, and the government should not get involved in telling them what to do. She added that she did not really know what medications they are putting in your system.

My reply was that it was *very much my concern*. I want to be able to go to a restaurant, to see a movie, to enjoy a festival, or to shop in public without worrying if the person next to me is spewing out deadly Covid germs. I would like to be able to go to a hospital should I need to and not have to wait for a vacancy. As far as the government enforcing it, they have always maintained restrictions when it is for



the good of the majority. We are restricted to drive the speed limit, to wear a seat belt, to act in a moral fashion, and to produce products governed by safety regulations. As far as what is in the vaccine, well it is FDA approved. Think about it, we take over the counter drugs and when is the last time you looked to see what is in them? My doctor prescribes medications that I can't even pronounce much less investigate the chemical makeup of it.

So enough of this rant – Get Vaccinated – and “Suck it up Buttercup”.

IDA

Like **Laura**, this will be a service project we will be involved in for a long period of time. Thanks for your monetary donations, thanks for the supplies you have provided, thanks for your time, energy and skills. It is amazing for me to see how we wrap our arms around our neighbors in their time of need (***Together We Can Do Anything***).

Key Club and CKI

Homecoming is the week of September 13-17. Reach out and support your clubs. There are materials and supplies available to help them prosper even during this time of the pandemic. With a little perseverance we as Kiwanians can help them to build more clubs with more members and do more service for their communities.

Key Leader South

Linda Ramesy and Kiwanians from the Northern districts have done a marvelous job of establishing and running the Key Leader North program. Rebecca Huff has vowed to get Key Leader South established and operating. She has recently signed a contract for Camp Istrouma and reserved the weekend (March 11-13) for the retreat. Now it is time for the Clubs in the Southern districts to allocate funds, and find students available to fill up the Camp. Like me, I know you'd like to see this program flourish. Rebecca can be contacted at (318) 465-5447. If you'd like to see this in action you can volunteer to be a chaperone.

Next week I am off to Dallas to receive more training from Kiwanis International. Sadly, I will miss going to help build the club in Louisville, MS. I am confident that our highly competent team (led by Governor Patrice and Trustee Rogena) will produce another vibrant group of Kiwanians to provide more service to our district.

Au revoir tout le monde (Good bye all)!

Keeping the Faith

By Patrice Cusimano, Immediate Past Governor

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith...

2 Timothy 4:7-8

Although I have far to go before the Lord may deem to bestow on me the crown of righteousness, this past year has truly been a fight. Just before my year as governor began, Sal and I traveled to Lake Charles on Labor Day weekend with the Cortana Club to feed the folks impacted by Hurricane Laura. To end my year as Governor, we once again met up with the Cortana, Hammond and Ponchatoula clubs to feed folks impacted by Hurricane Ida. On Labor Day, we traveled with Alabama District Governor, Mark Kellerman, and another member of his club, Charles McCardle, to deliver supplies to Houma. On Saturday, September 18, several members of my club, Cortana, Third District and Dawn Busters will travel to Golden Meadow to feed folks a hot meal and deliver much needed supplies. Now that Hurricane Nicholas has drenched all of the damaged areas, our relief efforts will no doubt continue.

Although the main purpose of Kiwanis is not to be a substitute for the Red Cross and other relief groups, we feel compelled to help these communities that are filled with children in need of our help. The Kiwanis servant heart always beats the loudest when people are in need. As these communities begin to rebuild, their needs will change and Kiwanis will be instrumental in getting the children back into school by supplying backpacks, uniforms, books, and other supplies.



Aside from the disasters, this last quarter has been filled with other activities. We had a most outstanding District Convention in Biloxi. Based on the majority of reviews, everyone had an enjoyable time, especially dancing the night away to the '70's sounds provided by the best DJ of all time, Bob Blanchard. We take the critiques seriously, as we are always trying to make the District Convention a fun and worthwhile experience for our members. I'm already looking forward to Baton Rouge in 2022.

Shortly before District Convention, we opened a new club in Gautier/Ocean Springs, MS. The club is already off and running making an impact in the community. Next week, we will be opening a new club in Louisville, MS, and helping to boost the Columbus club. Boosting is a great tool for clubs that may be having difficulties growing, mostly due to COVID. We have specialists on both the district and international level who can help teach clubs how to seek new members, re-invent fundraising projects, and re-energize the current membership. Please reach out to me if you are interested in this

service.

To the clubs that have kept running the race despite hurricanes, COVID, locusts, etc., I applaud you! We need you to continue to attract new members and to reach out in your community with exciting service projects. Continue to fundraise – despite what you may think, people are willing to fund Kiwanis community projects because they see the good works that we do. Remember to wear your Kiwanis apparel often, even if it's just a trip to the grocery store. My club pinned eight new members last night! Each and every person stated that one of our members asked them to join! ASK! Use your social media platforms to advertise, brag, boast and celebrate your club's projects and successes.

I will close my last note to you as Governor by thanking each of you for opening your hearts, and often your pocketbooks, to help the children of Louisiana, Mississippi and W. Tennessee. Your service to this District will never cease to amaze me. I am proud to have been Governor of this great and historic district and will continue to serve wherever and whenever needed. We need more leaders to step forward to serve at the district level. I encourage you to consider serving as a Lt. governor and beyond. This has been one of the hardest jobs that I have had, but it is beyond measure the most rewarding. On September 30, I will finish the race. I will always keep the faith!

God bless America and
God bless each of you!

Another Grand Kiwanis Moment

By R. Bruce Hammatt, Governor-Elect

My wife, Joy, and I have been extremely busy working on a project for over three months - daybreak to sunset, seven days per week. The end was finally in sight, at least our part. I could finish it if I could just get to my computer and complete some paperwork that should take about a day. Tomorrow was Saturday and there was nothing stopping me from completing my designated task. Joy knew that.

On Friday evening, I had just sat down to rest and feast on whatever Joy had prepared for supper. Right on cue Joy asked "What do you have planned for Sunday?" I thought for a minute just how I was going to answer that "loaded" question. Instead of answering, I asked "Why, what did you think we ought to do besides go to mass?" And that is how, after over 48 years of marriage, decisions are made at our house.

I called my Lieutenant Governor designate for Division 8W, MiLisa York, and texted Lieutenant Governor for Division 8E, Donna Leggett, to see if they could use some help on Sunday. In a matter of minutes, things were set in motion for us to assist in a coordinated effort by the Cortana and St. Gabriel Kiwanis Clubs to feed 500 meals at a site in East Houma that was devastated after Hurricane Ida passed through the area one month earlier.

As I expected, these two leaders had everything planned down to the



minute. They had fully loaded all the vehicles and trailer with all the supplies necessary. Their entire group was going to meet up and caravan down to the location nearly two hours away at 5:30 on Sunday morning. However, since I was not totally sure I would not have to do some last minute item to complete my project, I told them that Joy and I would just meet them at the site in Houma on Sunday morning. And that we did.

We pulled into the parking lot of our cooking location just after the caravan had arrived. It was easy to see the enclosed trailer labeled for the Cortana Kiwanis Club. After all the "hellos" and "nods" were exchanged, with all of the Covid-19 numbers still being high in Louisiana, we got down to business. I was obviously "the new kid on the block" when it comes to cooking jambalaya. I did not really know what to do, but I knew if I followed master cook, Paul Savant, I would soon be on the way to helping out.

We lifted the large pot and placed it into the rolling burner stand built specifically for that pot. Paul told me the new pot and stand were recently purchased by their Cortana Kiwanis Club. The pot cooked enough jambalaya to feed 450 large meals of some of the finest jambalaya I have ever eaten. There was also another inconspicuous pot that was going to prepare the remaining 50 plates for the noon meal. I made a quick decision that I was going to work with Paul and the "big pot" instead of with the "little bitty" pot being amply handled by Marc Pater.

(If you already know how to cook jambalaya you can skip to the next paragraph.) We first dumped in a whole lot of cut-up sausage that Paul had cut and repackaged the day before. I know we put a whole lot because it was my job to turn the sausage over repeatedly until Paul finally said I was cooking the skin off them. We then started adding loads of chicken and then water. About the time my arm was ready to fall off from the mixing/stirring with the large stainless steel paddle, Paul said we needed to cut off the burner and put the top on the pot and let it simmer. Oh yea, I forgot to say that sometime during this process, just a little while earlier, we added a bunch of Cortana's special mix of rice and spices, they package up and sell as a Club fundraiser, to make all this ef-

Continued on Page 7...

WWW.LAMISSTENN.ORG

Another Grand Kiwanis Moment Continued . . .

fort “morph” into a truly great meal for 450 people! Once we removed the cover off the pot, I saw a fully prepared jambalaya ready to serve.

While us “cooks” were toiling over our pots, there were a slew of other volunteers doing something adjacent to us on other tables. I was really not sure exactly what they were doing while I was working, but obviously without their help we would have been in trouble. When I was finally able to stand up straight, all I saw was the line of vehicles that had formed in the parking lot and down the street. Those Kiwanians and students that came with the caravan had obviously been preparing all the rest of the fixings, cookies, water bottles, and other cleaning and baby supplies so desperately needed by the locals. As soon as Paul announced the jambalaya was ready, we were handed large spoons and empty styrofoam clam-shell hinged containers that we filled with a hearty meal as fast as we could handle. Within a very short time, our large pot of food had been reduced to a few grains of dirty rice. The large pot was emptied first and then the smaller pot was emptied.

Those “other” folks that were helping us were really the bosses and organizers around this fantastic event. Without knowing exactly, I assume Donna Leggett was probably the lead guru with primary support from MiLisa York and Lieutenant Governor designate Jennifer Kelly White (Division 4B) who also serves



Governor-Elect Bruce prepares the meat.

as the President of our District Foundation who provided the funds for the event via a disaster recovery grant.

In addition, Tiffany Domingue was responsible for bringing a number of young ladies, including her daughter, down from St. Michael the Archangel High School in Baton Rouge to help out in distributing the food and supplies to the citizens of Houma. The local community was notified about the event by a pair of local identical twins, that I believe could be elected co-mayors in that part of Houma. They were apparently very good organizers and knew most of the citizens that stopped by their first names.

If you followed my story the way it happened, I think you would see there was indeed a common theme. Yes, there were many other unnamed Kiwanians at this event that did their part to make it successful. However, all of the leaders, from when Joy told me what I was going to do on that date to all those that organized the event and made it happen the days and weeks before, were all women.

I think back to the first meeting I attended at my now home Kiwanis Club. At that time, there were no females in the club. It was not until 1987 when women were invited to join Kiwanis. I was thinking about the event, and all those women that made it happen, as Joy was driving us back to our Baton Rouge home. Yep, just another of my many Kiwanis moments that I enjoy so much.



St. Michael the Archangel High School students from Baton Rouge Morgan Domingue, Anna Medine, Ashlynn McVea and Riley Williams prepare snacks for the meals.

2021 LaMissTenn Kiwanis Annual Convention

The 103rd Annual Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International Convention was held in Biloxi, Mississippi from August 6th-8th, 2021. More than 250 Kiwanians and guests attended from all over the district and beyond. Special guests included International President Art Riley & Vickie Riley and Kiwanis International Membership Services Manager Bryce Kinder. Participants had a plethora of workshops to choose ranging from starting and growing clubs to fundraising and service leadership programs and everything in between. Many Kiwanians were recognized for their leadership and past Kiwanians were remembered. All who attended Governor Patrice Cusimano's celebration of the year 2020-2021 seventies style had a groovy time!



LaMissTenn Executive Director Charlie Ford presents International President Art Riley and Vickie Riley with a gift of appreciation.



International Trustee Gary Graham installs Rick Latiolais & Margaret Coady as 2021-2022 Governor & First Lady.



Pictured (left to right): Sal & Governor Patrice Cusimano, and Vickie & International President Art Riley.



Pictured (left to right): 2021-2022 Governor-Elect Bruce Hammatt, Joy Hammatt, 2021-2022 First Lady Margaret Coady and 2021-2022 Governor Rick Latiolais.



Division 1A Lieutenant Governor Cathy Fry and Region I Trustee John Fry present Governor Patrice Cusimano with a Tablet of Honor.

DCON Honors and Awards



Foundation President Jennifer Kelly-White presents a Tablet of Honor to Deborah Kurts of the Long Beach Kiwanis Club. Present is fellow Kiwanian Howard Lock.



Past Gov. Bruce Hammatt presents the Distinguished Secretary Award to Aca-diana-Lafayette Kiwanis Club Secretary & Region VI Trustee Kim Champagne.



Division 15 Lt. Gov. Tom Osburn receives a John T. Roberts award from Foundation President Jennifer Kelly-White.



District Foundation Secretary Cathy Simmons presents Circle of Honor Awards to the clubs that led the District in per capita for Annual Club Giving. In pictures from left to right, Div. 8E Lt. Gov. Donna Leggett accepts the 2nd place award for the Walker Kiwanis Club and New Orleans Kiwanis Club Pres. Steve Beale accepts the 1st place award.



Division 4B Lt. Gov. Marcel Lashover accepts the Kiwanis International Signature Project Award from Gov. Patrice Cusimano on behalf of the Dawn Buster Kiwanis Club's Turkey Fry Fundraiser.



District Foundation Secretary Cathy Simmons presents Circle of Honor Awards to the Lieutenant Governors representing the divisions with 100% participation from clubs in the Annual Club Giving Campaign. In pictures from left to right are Div. 4A Lt. Gov. Renee Picheloup, Div. 10C Lt. Gov. Jim Lytle, and Div. 15 Lt. Gov. Tom Osburn. Not pictured is Div. 10C Lt. Gov. Dr. Murrell Godfrey.

Snap Shots of DCON Fun!!!



Han Solo (Region I Trustee John Fry) and Princess Leia (Div. 1A Lt. Gov. Cathy Fry)



Disco Queen Gov. Patrice Cusimano and First Mate Sal Cusimano



LaMissTenn Executive Director Charlie Ford, Northshore Mandeville Secretary Lori Pausina, Sharon Ford and Northshore Mandeville Member Tatum Ruiz



2021-2022 Gov.-Elect Bruce Hammatt, Cortana Member Tiffany Domingue and Cortana Club President Rick Haddad



Div. 8E Lt. Gov. Donna Leggett and Incoming Gov. Rick Latiolais.



Members of the Cortana Kiwanis Club from Baton Rouge, La.

More DCON Fun!!!



Fun with New friends: Steve Lavender, Pres. of Columbus Kiwanis, Rogena Woods-Mitchell, Region III Trustee, & Arnie Williams, Pres. of Stone County Kiwanis

Lake Charles Kiwanis Members Libby Fernandez & Steven Ek



← Dawn Busters Kiwanis members Lorilei Bozeman & George Rojas

St. Gabriel Kiwanis member MiLisa York & husband Dennis →

Installation of Lieutenant Governors at DCON

International Trustee Gary Graham installed the 2021-2022 LaMissTenn Lieutenant Governors during the Prayer Breakfast at the District Convention in Biloxi, Miss. on August 8, 2021.



Pictured from left to right are: Debbie Stevens, Division 17; Bridgette Hardy, Division 8E; Edward Gautier, Division 13; Joel Davidson, Division 12; Court Crow, Division 9; MiLisa York, Division 8W; Thomas Long, Division 7; Jennifer Kelly-White, Division 4B; Renee Picheloup, Division 4A; Leighton Miller, Division 3; and Fred Hancock, Division 1A. Not pictured are: Oscar Brown, Division 1C; Albert White, Division 10B; Ralph Carter, III, Division 10C; Darren Green, Division 11; Jennifer Robertson, Division 14S; and Jaki Robinson, Division 15.

Showalter Awarded Layperson of the Year 2019-2020

Dan Johnson, Human and Spiritual Values District Chairman, was pleased to recognize Robert (Robby) Showalter at the District Convention prayer breakfast on Sunday, August 8th in Biloxi, Miss. Robert was proudly nominated by the Kiwanis Club of **St. Bernard-Arabi** for this prestigious award.

Robby has passionately served as a member of the St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club for 28 years. During his years of service, Robby has held numerous leadership positions including 2001 President and 2004 LaMissTenn District Division 4A Lieutenant Governor. He currently serves as Treasurer, Membership Chairman, and Chairman of Spiritual Aims (a Chairmanship he has held for the last 15 years).

As the Chairman for Spiritual Aims, Robby not only leads the opening prayer for his Kiwanis Club meetings, but he also offers inspiring faithful words of mediation. As the Chair of Spiritual Aims, he also coordinates the club's Annual Memorial Prayer Celebration. In this capacity he invites families of the club's deceased Kiwanis membership to attend the memorial event. Currently the club has 25 deceased members who are also honored and remembered by having their names inscribed on the club's Kiwanis Memorial Monument, which is located on the neutral ground on a major state highway in Arabi, La. Robby is dedicated to ensuring that all deceased member's names are immediately added to the Memorial Monument. Robby is also diligent in informing the club's membership of approximately 80 members of the request to pray for members who are experiencing challenging health conditions and or any other difficult circum-



From left to right: Robbie Showalter accepts the Layperson of the Year award from Dan Johnson .

stances affecting their quality of life. This also includes the families of our membership.

Robby also serves and volunteers on a number of civic, religious, and community organizations and projects. He is an active parishioner of Our Lady of Prompt Succor (OLPS) Catholic Church in Chalmette, La. and is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Rummel Council, 5747 where he was honored as the Knight of the Year in 2021. Currently he is serves on the OLPS Finance Committee. Robby generously supports, as well as fundraises for, the New Orleans' Archdiocese Archbishop Hannan Community Appeal. Funds for this appeal provide hope, help and loving care for the most vulnerable and needy throughout the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan communities.

Understanding the need to mentor adolescences in the community, in 2017, Robby was a cofounder of Driven Youth Organization LLC (DYO), a not for profit. Robby served as the

DYO's initial Board of Director's Chairman from 2017-2019. DYO's mission is to establish and enhance moral and character values for adolescences through the establishment of school clubs to serve the youth of the community. To fulfill this mission, 5 school clubs were established in St. Bernard Parish to provide a structure means for weekly meetings, known as Drive Clubs. At these weekly meetings, character, moral and value messages are promoted and shared with the students. Approximately 150 students attend weekly meetings. With an annual budget of \$40,000, plans are to expand this youth mentoring program to include a two-day leadership seminar.

Robby's spiritual creed lies within his awareness that faith must be practiced daily in one's prayerful life. Understanding and living this commitment, Robby participates in a nondenominational Bible study group that meets weekly. He is currently hosting the Bible study meetings at his home where approximately 10 men attend. In 2020, Robby was instrumental in organizing and developing a Men's Spiritual Conference that was held in New Orleans. Serving as a captain to promote this initial spiritual event, Robby's leadership role involved recruiting and encouraging men to attend the conference from within his OLPS church parish, along with encouraging family members and friends to attend. Over 1,000 men were in attendance for this inaugural event.

Thank you Robby for being a dedicated Kiwanian that is true to the mission of improving the world one child and one community at a time.

Green Awarded Firefighter of the Year 2019-2020

By Linda Ramsey & Anna Clark, Martin Kiwanis Club

Kory Green, who was nominated by the **Kiwanis Club of Martin, Tennessee** and won the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Fireman of the Year Award, actually lives in Dresden, Tennessee. He has worked for the City of Dresden as a Public Safety Director and the City of Dresden, TN Fire Department since 2000. The City of Dresden has a Volunteer Fire Department. He has worked for the City of Martin Fire Department in Martin, TN since 2005. Kory received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Science and Business from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2016. He has risen through the ranks to Captain and Deputy Chief in both Departments.

He currently holds many certifications and is an instructor and trainer for both departments. He has been involved in all aspects of work at both fire departments. He is an active fireman and responds to all fires and emergencies when on duty.

Jamie Summers, the current Fire Chief from the Martin Fire Department, provided a letter for his nomination packet that indicated that Kory was going to receive the Weakley County Medal of Valor for his courage and bravery when the tornado came through Weakley County this year on May 4, 2021. Kory was the first one on the scene, took control of the situation, and was responsible for preventing the loss of lives

and providing for the safety of others in the worst hit area in our county. Kory was recently surprised when he was presented with the Weakley County Medal of Valor!

In his personal life, Kory serves as a Deacon at Central Baptist Church in Martin and he also volunteers for the park system in Dresden as a volun-

teer coach for soccer, baseball, and softball. He has done that for several years now. It was truly an honor for the Kiwanis Club of Martin, Tennessee to nominate Kory Green for the LaMissTenn District Kiwanis Fireman of the Year. Thanks so much to the LaMissTenn District for this well-deserved recognition.



John Mayros (left), incoming president of the Martin Kiwanis Club, presents a plaque and check to Kory Green, the 2021 winner of the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Firefighter of the Year award. Firefighter Green works for both the Martin and Dresden, Tennessee, fire departments and is much respected for his work both locally and statewide. Others in the picture are firefighter Josh Wilson (third from left), the 2020 winner of the Kiwanis local and district Firefighter of the Year awards (West Tennessee has received back-to-back awards!), and Linda Ramsey, Martin Kiwanis member who nominated both firefighters and is a past Kiwanis Governor. Kory Green will present his \$250 award to the National Fallen Firefighter's Association. In 2020, Josh Wilson presented his award to the Anna Kate Wenz FIGHT Foundation, named for Mike and Jennifer Wenz's three-year-old daughter who died in March 2016 after a courageous battle against cancer.

Deputy Jones Awarded Lawman of the Year 2019-2020



Deputy Chaviss Jones of the Stone County Sheriff's Department, who was nominated by the **Kiwanis Club of Stone County**, won the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District 2020-2021 "Lawman of the Year" Award.

On March 13, 2021, Deputy Jones went above and beyond the call of duty to rescue four children from a burning vehicle that had been involved in a single-car crash on US Hwy 49. Thanks to his efforts, others on the scene, and the grace of our Good Lord, three of those children are alive and well. The children's oldest sibling passed away on impact of the crash.

During an interview by the local news station WLOX regarding Deputy Jones' heroic efforts, he remarked "I don't feel like a hero. I mean, to me, I was doing my job, I would do it again for anybody."

Deputy Jones began his career with the Stone County Sheriff's Department on October 26, 2015. He began as a reserve deputy and worked his way up to the part-time night shift roster.

Stone County Sheriff, Mike Farmer, stated that Deputy Jones is a dedicated member of the department and dedicated to the citizens of Stone County. His work performance and leadership have proven to coincide with the duties of a law enforcement officer.

Fellow deputy, Kevin Hinds, offered these words regarding Deputy Jones: "Chaviss Jones is not only one of the best law enforcement officers I know, but he is also one of my most trusted friends. He cares and provides for his family and friends, as any good man should. He does the same for the people who despise and hate him for no reason at all. Men like Chaviss Jones are few and far between, and go unrecognized nearly every day of their lives, with absolutely no complaint of being overlooked and underappreciated."

Deputy Jones' wife, Nicole, speaks these kind words of her husband: "Chavis Jones is a loving husband, devoted father, and dedicated deputy. My husband has a love for restoring an-

tique automobiles. He is committed to being a righteous, law abiding deputy as his job description states he should be. He is not biased. He is undoubtedly fair. He is courageous no matter what situation he may face doing his job to protect and serve. He is family oriented and loves to interact with his sons. He believes our sons should know the value of hard work and having great behavior. He is easily talked into doing science experiments with our oldest children. The younger kids are just as entertained by just having him home with us at night. Regardless of what type of people my husband meets, he is always encouraging success or righteousness."

The Stone County Kiwanis Club believes Deputy Jones daily lives out the objects of the Kiwanis to give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material value of life and encourages the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.



Denson Awarded Teacher of the Year 2019-2020

Kim DiVincenti Denson, who was nominated by the **Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge**, Louisiana, won the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District 2020-2021 “Teacher of the Year” Award.

Kim graduated from Broadmoor High School in Baton Rouge in 1988. She graduated from Louisiana State University in 1995 with a degree in Secondary Education, with a major in Social Sciences.

She taught at Tara High School in Baton Rouge from August 1998 - May 2013. She has taught at Baton Rouge Magnet High School (BRMHS) from August 2013 until the present where she teaches World Geography. She is the Key Club faculty advisor at Baton Rouge Magnet High.

Kim has been recognized as an outstanding teacher and has received the following awards:

- *East Baton Rouge Parish Outstanding First Year Teacher 1996-1997*
- *Tara High School Teacher of the Year 2001-2002*
- *Tara High School Teacher of the Year 2009-2010*
- *East Baton Rouge Parish Teacher of the Year 2009-2010*
- *Louisiana Regional Teacher of the Year 2009-2010*
- *Baton Rouge Magnet High School Teacher of the Year 2015-2016*
- *East Baton Rouge Parish Teacher of the Year 2015-2016*
- *Key Club Lawrence C. Catha Advisor of the Year Award 2016-2017*

The diversity and cultural experiences that Ms. Denson provides her students was captured in an article in the



Baton Rouge Kiwanis members Joy & Bruce Hammatt present the Teacher of the Year Award to Kim Denson at the Red Stick Kiwanis Installation. Pictured to the left of Kim is her father Phil DiVincenti, BRMHS Key Club Kiwanis Advisor from Red Stick Kiwanis.

Baton Rouge newspaper, “The Advocate,” on April 15, 2015. The article was titled “BRMHS Project Immerses Students In Another Country’s Culture.” The article and pictures can be found at this link: https://www.theadvocate.com/baton-rouge/news/article_cdb0cddf-2236-5a7d-b796-67df5ee6a8e9.html

Even though Ms. Denson works at a school that the Baton Rouge Kiwanis club doesn’t sponsor, she is always willing to have her Key Club students help with any service projects that the Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club sponsors. The BRMHS Key Clubbers have assisted at the club’s annual Pancake Day Celebration, helping set up the day before and working all day for the event including



Kim with BRMHS Key Clubbers

cleaning up. During the pandemic this last year, they helped put labels on “to go” boxes and filled syrup cups for the club to serve pancakes to the Baton Rouge General Hospital staff of over 1,400. They most recently helped the club clean up the Sweet Olive Cemetery for a Kiwanis One Day Project. Sweet Olive is the oldest black cemetery in Baton Rouge and is spread over 5 acres. The property is kept up through a few volunteers. Ms. Denson was very happy to organize her Key Club members participation in such a worthwhile project.

Kim DiVincenti Denson is always there for the children at Baton Rouge High Magnet School. For the annual Geo-Journey contest, members of the Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club have routinely been asked to judge the competition. Although the contest was not allowed last year because of the pandemic, we are certain the students will be excited to “travel the world” next year with Ms. Denson.

Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!

By Cathy Simmons, Foundation Grants Chair



The District Foundation raised \$5,410 at the District Convention in Biloxi, Miss. from August 6-8, 2021 raffling gift baskets - the most ever raised in the 15+ years of gift baskets!!! Forty-four clubs participated by donating 55 gift baskets. One hundred percent of funds raised goes back into the Foundation for grants and scholarships. Thank you to all of the participating clubs!!!



Foundation Awards Disaster Relief Grants to Cortana

By Cathy Simmons, Foundation Grants Chair



Division 8E Lieutenant Governor Donna Leggett, Cortana Kiwanis, advertises in LaPlace. Donna coordinated relief efforts in Ponchatoula, Cut Off, Houma and LaPlace.

A huge shout out to the **Kiwanis Club of Cortana** for hitting the ground running to reach out and help their surrounding communities in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida. Early September had them cooking jambalaya and giving out relief supplies in Ponchatoula. Upon realizing the need was greater than anticipated, they reached out to the **LaMissTenn District Foundation** and applied for a Disaster Relief Grant of \$1500, so they could assist the communities in Cut Off and Houma. Other Kiwanis Clubs (**Third District** and **Dawn Busters**) assisted with Disaster Relief Grants, for a bigger impact. No sooner did they complete their report to the Foundation and send in receipts, they applied and received another Disaster Relief Grant to serve their jambalaya and bring relief supplies into the community of LaPlace the following weekend!

If your club would like to apply for a disaster Relief Grant (up to \$1500) to bring immediate/essential relief into a community affected by a natural disaster, go to: www.lamisstenn.org/disasterrelief and click above the picture for the application. For more information or to donate to the Disaster Relief, go to: www.lamisstenn.org/disasterrelief



The Cut Off volunteer team



The Houma volunteer team

Continued on Page 18 . . .

Foundation Awards Disaster Relief Grants Continued . . .



The LaPlace volunteer team from Cortana Kiwanis.



The jambalaya cooks in Cut Off were Cortana members: Glenn Kidder, Daryle Gauthier, Tommy Mackey and Robert Cheramie.



Joining Cortana Kiwanis in Cut Off are (left to right): Div. 4B Lt. Gov. Marcel Lashover (Dawn Busters), LaMissTenn Foundation President Jennifer Kelly-White (Thibodaux), Div. 4A Lt. Gov. Renee Picheloup (Dawn Busters), Gov. Patrice Cusimano (St. Bernard-Arabi), and Gov.-Elect Rick Latiolais (Acadiana-Lafayette).



2021-2022 Governor-Elect Bruce Hammatt of Baton Rouge Kiwanis, stirs the pot in Houma with Cortana Kiwanis volunteers Marc Pater, Richard Leggett, and Paul Salvant.



Division 4A Lieutenant Governor Renee Picheloup, Dawn Busters Kiwanis, organizes supplies to give away in Cut Off.



Kiwanians and volunteers gather together for prayer before serving the LaPlace community.



Kiwaniis District Office
 5253-B Dijon Dr.
 Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4393
 Ph: (225) 769-9233 | Fax: (225) 769-9215
 foundation@lamisstenn.org
www.lamisstenn.org/foundation

FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

Help Strengthen The Foundation's Endowment Fund

We have had founders of the LaMissTenn Kiwanis District Foundation, followed by pioneers forging the dreams of those founders, build the endowment funds bigger and better each year. Your District Kiwanis Foundation has given more funds back to YOU and YOUR CLUBS through grants due to the Endowment Fund. Your continued support CAN and DOES make a difference!

- An annual tax-deductible donation of only \$120 - or make it as easy as a donation of only \$10 per month! Set your "Friends" pledge up on a recurring monthly credit card charge to maintain your status as a **Friend of the Foundation** every year!
- ANYONE, not just Kiwanians, may become a 'Friend of the Foundation.'
- Receive a distinctive **Friend of the Foundation** lapel pin.
- For every \$1,000 donated, you have the choice of River of Life Fellowship, John T. Roberts Fellowship plus other levels thereof.



Sample of lapel pin



Friend of the Foundation Donor Information Form

Name: _____

Kiwanis Club: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

My total gift/pledge is \$ _____ *Remember your \$120 Friends of the Foundation donation is tax deductible.*

I wish to make my donation by:

- Check (payable to "Kiwaniis District Foundation")
- Credit Card
- Cash

For Credit Card Payments:

Card Number _____ Exp. Date (MM/YY) _____

Name as it appears on credit card _____ Card billing zip code _____

Signature _____ Date _____

I would like my credit card payment of \$ _____ scheduled (choose one):

- Monthly Quarterly Semiannually Annually

Beginning _____ and ending _____
 (MM/YY) (MM/YY)

Thank you for your generous support of the Kiwanis District Foundation!



CLUB CRIME INSURANCE: An Essential in Today's Society

By James H. "Chuck" Morgan, III, District Risk Manager • Email: chuckmorgan47@aol.com • Ph: (225) 921-2295

As all of you know, Kiwanis International provides a General Liability insurance policy including directors and officers liability coverage for every club. This is great coverage to protect our clubs, members, and volunteers from "civil liability" for injury or damage to others caused by Kiwanis fault or liability. However, it does NOT provide coverage for any losses by the club from "criminal" activity resulting in a loss to the club. Such "Crime Insurance Coverage" is available at a very reasonable cost through the "Optional" insurance program offered by Kiwanis International. An "Optional Insurance Resource Guide" describing this coverage is sent to each club in early August each year. Given the severe increase in crime in our country, this is coverage each club should have to protect the club's financial assets from criminal acts.

The crime policy contains a broad definition of theft and includes coverage for falsified receipts, petty cash theft, phony invoicing, and armed robbery of club funds. It also includes coverage for computer theft, safe burglary, and embezzlement of funds. It protects the club from dishonest acts resulting in financial loss committed by volunteers, members, officers, and employees. The cost of this excellent coverage is VERY reasonable: a premium of \$145 per year, per club with \$10,000 coverage subject to a \$250 deductible. Higher coverage limits are available for very little extra cost with a bit higher deductible.

Some examples of the type of losses that have been experienced illustrate the need for clubs to protect themselves with this Crime Insurance:

The club has for many years operated a very successful concession stand at a local festival where it clears from food and



drink sales as much as \$3,000 per day over a two or three day weekend. On the way to the bank each evening to night deposit the day's receipts (as much as \$5,000 gross) the club treasurer is accosted by two armed gunmen who demand the bank bag. Luckily the treasurer is uninjured, but the \$5,000 in club funds are stolen. There is NO COVERAGE for that loss under the General Liability policy which excludes losses resulting from criminal acts. This loss results in the club being unable to operate the concession over the next two days. The impact of this theft is a substantial reduction in club projects which depended upon the club making a profit from this concession.

A dishonest Treasurer of the club had check-signing responsibility as well as access to the checking account. He set up a fictitious vendor who allegedly provided services to the club. He wrote checks to the vendor and took the money supposedly paid to this vendor resulting in a loss to the club over several years totaling more than \$50,000. He was caught, prosecuted, and imprisoned, but had no money to pay restitution. The club just lost that money by virtue of his dishonest, criminal acts.

A club operates a thrift store where they sell donated items to raise money for pro-

jects. They clear as much as several thousand dollars over a weekend. During one afternoon a riot breaks out in the area, and several rioters/vandals enter the store destroying and stealing the merchandise, as well as the cash on hand. They then torch the store building resulting in a total destruction of the location and contents. The club loss is due to the vandals' criminal acts, and thus no coverage under the General Liability policy. The club projects cannot be funded.

These examples tell the sad story of club loss due to the lawlessness of our society. These losses could possibly have been avoided, or perhaps minimized, with the club "Crime Insurance" offered by Kiwanis International. Please note that this optional coverage is only available for purchase by Kiwanis Clubs if the Club Crime Coverage Application is submitted with the applicable premium amount **BY NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 31, 2021**. It must be received by the Kiwanis underwriter shown on the application by October 31 each year. Please discuss this important coverage with your Board, and timely submit the application and premium to protect your club from such losses.

As your District Risk Manager, I will be happy to assist your club in filling out the application for this coverage, and helping you submit it timely. This **MUST** be done and paid for by Oct. 31, 2021, for you to have the coverage for 2021-2022. A new application must be submitted with the premium each year. So, even if you had this Crime Insurance in 2020-2021, you **MUST** submit a new application for this coming year. If I can help, please contact me, as follows: Phone: (225) 921-2295 or Email: chuckmorgan47@aol.com.

Farewell but Not Goodbye

By International Trustee Gary S. Graham, Membership & Engagement Chair



As I write this, we do not have the final counts for the 2020-2021 Kiwanis year membership numbers. It has been a year full of challenges with Covid and now the Delta variant as well as hurricanes for the second year in a row. We lost some clubs and some members, but we added both as well. Governor Patrice worked hard to encourage our District and many clubs strengthened in response. Now we wait. We have done well over the past few years in adding new clubs and growing membership and we stopped the severe bleeding.

Our membership declined but only slightly and one year we grew. We're on the right path to make Kiwanis in LaMissTenn bigger and better than ever despite the setbacks beyond our control. We will know soon how we fared this year, but I am optimistic we will come through this period better for it. The spirit of our District is strong and the desire for service for

children is unparalleled. We will not let Mother Nature discourage us. We're much stronger than we realize, and we will continue to work to grow our District.

However, I will not be taking the lead in this year. As many of you may know, I was elected as an International Trustee at the Salt Lake City Educational Conference in June. I am honored to serve at the next level of Kiwanis and look forward to making Kiwanis better globally as well as locally. However, the District Membership Chair is an international level position, and I cannot hold two positions simultaneously.

I have had to give up the district chair but there is a very capable young woman who is stepping up to take over. Dorothy Kemp is a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge and a Past Governor of CKI in LaMissTenn. She currently serves as the faculty advisor of the LSU CKI and has presented sessions at convention on the generational differences that Kiwanis must address to attract younger members to service.

She is well positioned to continued to lead our efforts to grow our membership. I will continue to work with her and her team as my new responsi-

bilities will permit. As a Past Governor and District Membership Chair I have been afforded the wonderful opportunity to meet so many great Kiwanians in our District and see the great love and enthusiasm in our members for helping children. I know that we will continue to carry on in this new century the traditions and service of this Great and Historical District of Kiwanis International as we have for over the past one hundred years.

As the old saying says it's not how many times you get knocked down, it's how many times you get back up that matters. We'll get through this period and be better than ever.



Gary Graham and Dorothy Kemp clean Sweet Olive Cemetery on Kiwanis One Day 2020. This year Kemp, Baton Rouge Kiwanis member, will follow in Gary's footsteps as District Membership Chair.

Aspire to Inspire: To All Who Love and Care for Children

By James A. "Jeems" White, III, Past Governor

This column in the first issue of the new Kiwanis year is dedicated to "All Who Love and Care for Children." It is a reprint of the winning entries of a contest to find the most caring child. The five stories speak for themselves. As Kiwanians there is no doubt we have seen many similar children and it is these "Kiwanis Moments" which motivate us to "improve the world one child at a time."

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.

The winners were:

1. A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there.

When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'

2. Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about adoption, I was adopted.' What does it mean to be adopted?', asked another child. 'It means', said the girl, 'that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!'



3. On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile.

'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged.' 'Discouraged?', the boy asked with a Puzzled look on his face... 'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet.'

4. Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen.

On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement.. 'Guess what, Mom,' he shouted and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me . . . 'I've been chosen to clap and cheer.'

5. An eye witness account from New York City, on a cold day in December, some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering With cold.

A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!'

'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply.

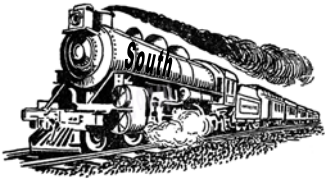
The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel.

By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.'

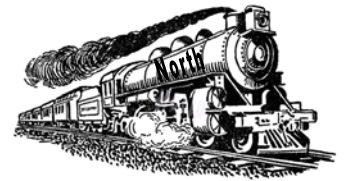
As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her: 'Are you God's wife?'

SHARE WITH ALL WHO LOVE AND CARE FOR CHILDREN.

Hope this put a smile on your face and maybe a tear in your eye. It Sure did mine!



All Aboard!



Key Leader South Express & Key Leader North Express

By Rebecca Huff, Key Leader District Chair of the South & Linda Ramsey, Key Leader District Chair of the North

Key Leader South

DATE: March 11-13, 2022
LOCATION: Camp Istrouma, Greenwell Springs, La.
CONTACT: Rebecca Huff, rebecca720is@aol.com

Key Leader North

DATE: April 29 - May 1, 2022
LOCATION: Camp Lakeshore, Eva, Tenn.
CONTACT: Linda Ramsey, mramsey2@utm.edu

KEY LEADER SOUTH & KEY LEADER NORTH REGISTRATION: \$250 for regular participant/\$150 student facilitator

Registration will open in January 2022 and information will be provided in the January issue of the LaMissTenn District News. If anyone needs information for parents, teachers, students, Kiwanians, or sponsors, you can find information at the Kiwanis International website, www.key-leader.org.

All chaperones at each event must take some Youth Protection training. Visit www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/training/risk-management/youth-protection/up-training-resources for training. Chaperones need to take 1, 5, and 8.

The Kiwanis Key Leader Website has been updated, and there are new resources including a personality test, and chaperones check-list. Chaperones should be identified 5-6 weeks prior to the event. Normally visitors are allowed, but this year visitors are not allowed during the events. It's important for student facilitators to arrive early.

This year, school principals will be notified that the student facilitators have been selected and permission will be asked for them to leave school early as he/she needs to arrive for special training prior to the event. One of the forms that the students bring with them to Key Leader, Community Values, has been updated and also includes a photo release.

Both Key Leader programs will abide by the camp's requirements depending upon the current COVID situation. Last spring, the Key Leader programs ran without a hitch. Health prescreenings were performed and temperature checks were held every morning and every night. Masks were required for all group activities and social distancing was practiced. A cabin was designated for isolation if needed. No one had any health issues during the weekend. Also, parents or teachers were asked to bring the students to camp rather than providing group transportation.

Next spring the cost will be the same, \$250 for regular participants, \$150 for the student facilitators, and the adult chaperones are free for devoting their time and energy to help supervise the students.

Sponsors will be found for anyone that needs one, and the District Foundation will provide some scholarships. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Key Leader District Chair of the South, Rebecca Huff (rebecca720is@aol.com) or Key Leader District Chair of the North, Linda Ramsey (mramsey2@utm.edu).



Key Leader is a weekend leadership program for high school and graduating 8th Grade students.

Its mission is to inspire young people to achieve their personal best through service leadership.

Baton Rouge: Hiking with Cub Scouts

By Governor-Elect Bruce Hammatt, Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club

How many of you would wince if I told you there was a “natural resource jewel” located north of St. Francisville just over the Louisiana state border near our State prison at Angola? Well, there is. It is commonly known as “The Waterfalls of Tunica Hills.” However, the jewel is officially known as the Clark Creek Natural Area. It is a 700 acre area and home to nearly 50 waterfalls up to near 30 feet in height. No, it is not a Niagara Falls, but you also don’t need to go traveling to our Canadian border to find them!

The Tunica Hills, which is a narrow strip of land along the eastern side of the Mississippi River is a very unusual habitat. It was formed many years ago primarily of loess soils that were deposited during the old, geologically speaking, dust bowl days. If you can, imagine the dust blowing across our midwest areas after the glaciers, and heading to the east. Now imagine what would happen if that dust blew over the Mississippi River flood plain, picked up moisture, and settled on the natural banks on the east side of the River. Over the years, this thick wind-blown soil became home to many unusual plants and wildlife. Although wind blown soils can be found all over the



world, the three major deposits of loess soils similar to the Tunica Hills occur only in two other areas; on the eastern shore of the Missouri River opposite Omaha, Nebraska, and in China.

There is another characteristic to this loess soils that cause large boulders to be found along the streams and eroded landscapes. These “boulders” are not rock, even though they may be “rock hard” during droughts. These boulders are really made up of local clays that are remaining after the soils are leached by the heavy rainfall events that frequent this part of Louisiana and Mississippi.

On July 31st, I headed up to the Clark Creek Natural Area with about a dozen cub scouts and their parents. These youngsters were members, and future members, of Cub Scout Pack 428 that our **Kiwanis Club of Baton Rouge** has been sponsoring for almost 30 years from the Baton Rouge Foreign Language Immersion Magnet (BRFLAIM) school. Assistant Pack leader Michael Strain and I lead the group since Gary Graham had to stay back in Baton Rouge to tend to his new duties as Kiwanis International Trustee. Michael was in the lead car and I was in the trailing car. I will say here that I mostly “trailed” the group all day long, even on the hikes!

The temperature was in the mid-nineties with the heat index reportedly around 110. To me, it definitely felt that hot. With my new knee replace-

ment and my poor eyesight I decided to stay out of the cooling stream, but I assure you I got as wet as any of the children who were playing in the waterfalls or climbing on the large mud boulders.

We visited a few of the waterfalls and ate lunch while the scouts were building dams in the stream. We were able to make it out of the Natural Area before the afternoon rains were expecting to start. When I made it back to the entrance I was quite grateful that I was coming out while others were walking down the trail to the waterfalls. It could only be hotter and get very slippery when the showers were to hit.

I first visited the waterfalls with my older brother 50 years ago. It has changed a lot since then, but much of what excited me at that time is still there. The scenery is phenomenal. Many plant and animals that live in the area are found no where else in the region. The straight up and down soil structure of these hills are quite stunning to see. If you have never visited the area, consider going. Please take a child and have their eyes opened to this beautiful area and remember, Kids Need Kiwanis!



Baton Rouge Appreciates Healthcare Workers

By Joy Hammatt, Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club

The Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club made treats for the Our Lady of the Lake Urgent Care and the ICU nurses at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital on August 14th in appreciation for their long hours of hard work during the pandemic.



Goat Days is Back!

By Mike Caruthers, Millington Kiwanis Club

A fun time was had by all! After a hiatus in 2020 due to covid, the Millington Kiwanis Club once again held *Goat Days*. *Goat Days* is an annual festival attended by thousands to enjoy the goats, arts & crafts, great food, and a Kiddie Land. The Millington Kiwanis Club has hosted Kiddie Land for several years as a major fundraiser. This year, we had over a thousand children aged 2 years to 14 years having a blast in the Bounce House, Obstacle Courses and Slides. The Key Club of Millington Central High School pitched in to assist. This year it was only a one day event and everyone was thrilled to be able to attend this fun festival, again.



Big Easy Celebrates 30 Years with Love of Literacy

By Pat Blazio, Big Easy Kiwanis Club

The Big Easy Kiwanis Club celebrated their 30 year anniversary. Six members received the *Legion of Honor Award*. Founding members included: Calvin Johnson, Ret. Judge & First Club President; Atty. C Gary Wainwright; and Charles Marshall. Other recipients were: Angelique Strother, 27 years; Lydwina Hurst, 25 years & Past Lieutenant Governor; and Rev. Joseph Tilly, 24 years & President-Elect. Members, family and friends enjoyed the celebration at the historic Dooky Chase's Restaurant.

Lieutenant Governor Renee Picheloup installed the club's 2021-2022 officers and board. It was an honor and a privilege to bestow our annual club scholarships. President Cassandra Williams and President-Elect Sharon Henry awarded St. Augustine High School Senior Tyler Lee and Holy Cross High School Senior Mark Robinson with our 2021 Scholarships.



Commemorations from Mayor LaToya Cantrelle, State Representatives Matthew Willard (Dist. 27) and Royce Duplessis (Dist. 23) were given at this momentous occasion organized by Past President Patricia Blazio.

To culminate the club's anniversary and to serve the children, club members collected 37 books for the Signature *Love of Literacy* Project. Many books by African American authors and illustrators were donated by members, family and friends. Families with children attending New Orleans' Creole Tomato Festival selected books that sparked their imagination and learning. Thankful families were from as far as New York, Seattle and Alaska.



Together We Can Go the Distance

By Donna Leggett, Cortana Kiwanis Club



Cortana Kiwanis served in Hurricane Ida relief efforts with our first stop in Ponchatoula, Louisiana. While LaMissTenn Governor Patrice Cusimano was making plans with her leadership team, immediately following this latest devastating hurricane, on how clubs can work together to serve the needs of south Louisiana, our own Daryle Gauthier volunteered to cook jambalaya on Labor Day weekend.

The **Kiwanis Club of Ponchatoula** quickly agreed to host us at Kiwanis Park. The Tangipahoa Parish area took a huge hit with high winds and rain. Governor Patrice, along with her husband Sal and Billy McGoey of the **St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club**, drove over to provide assistance.

Approximately 30 volunteers from **Cortana,**

Hammond, Ponchatoula, St. Bernard-Arabi and Baton Rouge Kiwanis Clubs (many still without power in their own homes) came together to serve this community. The Hammond and Ponchatoula clubs provided water, cookies, utensils, and go boxes. An advertisement was placed in the local newspaper inviting linemen, law enforcement, healthcare workers and anyone in need of a meal to come for a delicious plate of jambalaya and supplies. We met a group of linemen from Brandon, Mississippi.

Daryle Gauthier led the cook team of Glenn Kidder, Richard Leggett and Marc Pater in cooking three pots of jambalaya –



Continued on Page 28 . . .

Together We Can Go the Distance Continued . . .



enough to feed 500 people. The serving team from Cortana included Brigette Castine, Kristie Daspit, Heather Folks-Givens, and Donna Leggett.

More trips to devastated areas are in the works thanks to the LaMissTenn District Foundation Disaster Relief Fund. Cortana Kiwanis will continue to provide jambalaya and collect necessities such as cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items for those who have been displaced by Hurricane Ida and those who are still in desperate need of assistance.

We all enjoy coming together to serve in this time of need. Our mission to serve “One child and one community at a time” was in full display and will continue to be in full display.

St. Martinville Provides Disaster Relief Too

By Michelle Broussard, St. Martinville Kiwanis Club

The St. Martinville Kiwanis Club along with members of their community joined together to help out victims of hurricane Ida. With items collected they were able to cook over 100 hamburgers and supply victims with cleaning products, household items and even items for the kids. The Lafayette Woods subdivision was hit hard by this storm, but the neighbors’ gratitude and smiles were still there. God bless all affected by the storm.



Special thanks to The St. Martinville Kiwanis Club’s 2021 Pepper Festival Queen Shelbi Guidry for assisting with the club’s Hurricane Ida relief project.



Dawn Busters Give Back to the Community

By Sal LaRock, Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club

Hurricane Relief Efforts



Members of the **Dawn Busters Club** joined other community organizations to serve 1000 lunches to the Lafitte community that was hit very aggressively by Hurricane Ida this past September. A levee about 7½ feet tall surrounds most of the area. It remained mostly intact, yet Ida's surge easily topped it, flooding the interior causing catastrophic damage. Many were left stranded in attics and on rooftops.

Also, to help out, Paula Sanchez of the Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club networked with the Mercy Chefs Organization to deliver meals to seniors in need as the result of the Hurricane. Thanks to all who helped in the club's hurricane relief efforts.

Back to School Back Pack Giveaway

Dawn Busters Kiwanis members helped their corporate partner, Telemundo TV station, to give out 500 school bags for school children at the start of school.



Summer Fun with Rocky the Rooster

The Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club's Rocky the Rooster Reading visited the local Parish Recreation summer camp programs in designated areas at the request of the Jefferson Parish School Board this summer.



Ponchatoula Shares the Love

By Lisa LaCour, Ponchatoula Kiwanis Club

In the midst of Covid-19 Delta variant restrictions and the devastation of Hurricane Ida, the **Ponchatoula Kiwanis Club** rallied together to show our community some love. We were blessed to find ways to show our appreciation and support to our local teachers, staff, and administration; as well as, help serve our linemen, first responders, and community after a devastating hurricane.

We were disheartened to learn that we would not be able to have our annual Teacher Prayer Breakfast due to the rise in cases of the Covid-19 Delta variant. We quickly reached out to our club members and our community to ask for items to fill goodie bags for the teachers, staff, and administration at six of our local schools. Many of our members, along with a few **Ponchatoula High Key Club** members, met the Thursday night of August 26th to stuff the 375 bags. We filled the bags with post it notes, clips, chocolate and other snacks, inspirational Scripture verses; and our club purchased fifty



\$20 Walmart gift cards that we randomly distributed amongst the 375 bags. Roux and Brew, a Ponchatoula restaurant owned by two of our very own Ponchatoula Kiwanians Randy and Kayla Tomeny, donated 300 free drink coupons to put in the bags. Also, two of our local attorneys and both past Ponchatoula Key Clubbers, Parker Layrisson and Jeff LeSaicherre, donated \$100 worth of gift cards and \$100 to purchase items respectively. Our local Subway also donated \$5 coupons.

On the Friday morning of August 27th, we met to distribute the goodie bags. Sham, Joey, and I delivered the bags to Ponchatoula High and Martha Vinyard Elementary. Pete and Danny delivered bags to Perrin and Tucker Elementary. Helen and Don made the deliveries to Ponchatoula Jr. High and D.C. Reeves Elementary.

When **Cortana Kiwanis Club** of Baton Rouge reached out to us and offered to come and cook 500 plates of jambalaya to serve linemen, first re-

sponders, and our community after the devastation of Hurricane Ida; our club was more than happy to host and help serve at the event held at our log cabin in Ponchatoula Kiwanis Park on Sunday, September 5th. Members from the Hammond and St Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Clubs including Division 13 Lt. Governor, Ed Gauthier and Past Governor for the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International Patrice Cusimano. Donna Leggett, Lt. Governor, Division 8W from the Cortana Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club was also present and serving.

Our club gave out of state linemen past years' Ponchatoula Strawberry Festival shirts to take back home with them or to use if they needed a clean shirt while working hard and staying in our town to get our electricity back up and running. Our Ponchatoula teachers and community are very appreciative and thankful for all the support and help that Kiwanians have done for them during these stressful times.



St. Gabriel Helps with Backpack Giveaway

By MiLisa York, St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club



The Kiwanis Club of St. Gabriel took part in the Backpack Giveaway at the St. Gabriel Community Center on August 7, 2021 sponsored by Hallelujah Gang Ministries. Pictured is one of their newest members, Angela Martin Banks, sponsored by Club Secretary and incoming Lt. Governor for 8W, MiLisa York. Angela is proudly following in her late father's footsteps, Mr. Jerome Martin Sr. Angela expressed a desire to be part of an event over the summer for the children of St. Gabriel. MiLisa placed Angela as Chairperson over the Kiwanis portion of the event and Angela ran with it and did an amazing job. Thank you Angela!

Pictured: Elementary school student Calleigh Francis is excited to receive a new backpack full of supplies from St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club member Angela Martin Banks for the start of the school year.

Natchitoches Donates Supplies & Uniforms

By Kaitlyn Hamm, Natchitoches Kiwanis Club

For many school districts like Natchitoches Parish, the burden of buying extra school supplies for the classroom is left on the teachers, who we can all agree do not get paid enough as it is. For the past two years, the **Kiwanis Club of Natchitoches** buys uniforms for all 9 elementary schools in the Natchitoches Parish School District but this year they wanted to do more.

During the months of July and August, the Kiwanis Club of Natchitoches reached out to teachers and principals in Natchitoches Parish to determine their specific school supply needs.



Needs ranged from pre-sharpened Ticonderoga pencils to disposable face masks, hand sanitizer, backpacks and more.

The Kiwanis club came together and bought many items on the list, for all 9 schools plus reusable bins because everyone knows storage can be a teacher's

best friend. Next year, the club has plans to turn this annual effort into their official signature project and expand the scope further.

“All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and somebody who believes in them.” – Magic Johnson

Amory Takes Care of Football Players

Amory Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

During the scorching hot month of August, the **Kiwanis Club of Amory** donated cases of water to the Amory High School and Amory Middle School Football Panther teams!!!



A Special Delivery from Ascension

Ascension Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **Kiwanis Club of Ascension** presented Bluff Ridge Primary School with a donation of physical education equipment. This project was made possible by a New Club Grant awarded by Kiwanis LaMissTenn District Foundation. The club meets biweekly at Frank's Restaurant in Prairieville.



Baton Rouge: Doing Great Things

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Unstuff the Buss

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club members Casey Coughlin, Gary Graham, Bruce Hammatt, Ashley Pomeroux, and Joy Hammatt helped unstuff the bus and bag school supplies for elementary school children in East Baton Rouge Parish schools. The event took place at Westdale Heights Academic Magnet Elementary on July 29th.



Neighborhood Walk

Baton Rouge Kiwanis Club members Bruce and Joy Hammatt joined in the Gardere Neighborhood Walk - Meet and Greet with law enforcement officers on July 12th.



East St. Mary Takes Care of Linemen

East St. Mary Parish Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Thanks to the East St. Mary Parish Kiwanis Club members for preparing a hot meal for some of the Coast Guard and Lineman/Utility workers being housed in the Morgan City area on the evening of Sunday, September 5th.



Broussard-Youngsville in Action!

Broussard-Youngsville Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Sprucing up the Park

On the morning of September 25th, some of the **Broussard-Youngsville Kiwanis Club** members joined the City of Broussard staff to show some love to Arceneaux Park. The weather was beautiful for a Saturday of service!



Supplying Equipment to Schools

On the one year anniversary of the **Broussard-Youngsville Kiwanis Club's** founding members got out into the community and shared the Kiwanis Love. Through grants made possible by the LaMissTenn District Foundation they were able to provide much needed supplies and equipment to ARCA High School and Youngsville Middle School.

Packing the Backpacks



A huge thanks goes to the members of the **Kiwanis Club of Broussard-Youngsville** for helping the Gifting Project and their pack-the-backpack event on August 16th! Working together is what Kiwanis is all about!

Cortana Cares

Cortana Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Taking Care of Healthcare Workers

Cortana Kiwanis sent snacks to healthcare workers on Covid units at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center and Baton Rouge General Hospital. Club members wanted to show their support during this particularly difficult time. This gesture was greatly appreciated.



Back to School at Broadmoor Elementary School

Members of Cortana Kiwanis served as back to school helpers on the first day of school and throughout the rest of the week for Broadmoor Elementary. They wish their Lil' Bucs a wonderful school year!



Continued on Page 36 . . .

Cortana Cares Continued . . .

Cortana Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Helping Brave Heart

Cortana Kiwanis members volunteered at Brave Heart, Children in Need the morning of August 10th. They had a good time wrapping Christmas gifts, working on Life Books and arranging inventory. Volunteering were: Mike Baldwin, Brigette Castine, Tiffany Domingue, Leslie Harris, Keith & Tammy McDavid and Donna Leggett.



Special Delivery

Members of Cortana Kiwanis donated a car load of school supplies to Broadmoor Elementary on August 9th just in time for the new school year! Pictured in the supply room with School Coordinator Kim Jackson are Donna Leggett, Keith McDavid, Tammy McDavid and Pam Smith Morgan.



Serving the Children of Our Community

In August, Cortana Kiwanis members Mike Baldwin, Patricia Anderson, Keith & Tammy McDavid processed used uniforms for St Vincent de Paul for redistribution to students in an 11 parish area.



Lending Library Work Day

On July 17th, Mike and Donna Baldwin hosted Cortana Kiwanis volunteers for a fun Saturday of painting libraries and labeling books. Soon these ten Lending Libraries will be placed in the community for parents, grandparents or any caring adult to read to children at home and extend learning beyond the school day. Volunteers were: Mike And Donna Baldwin, Jim Frederick, Donna Leggett, Wanda Magee and Jeff Wittenbrink.



Dawn Busters Spread the Love

Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Hurricane Ida Cleanup

To close out a great week of service, **Dawn Busters Kiwanis** headed over to their friends at Ecole Classique for a Hurricane Ida cleanup day. They were joined by Ecole Classique Key Clubbers, staff, alumni as well as members of the Church of Latter Day Saints.



Feeding the Community of Lafitte with Special Guest Harry Connick, Jr.

Gretna Economic Development Association and the **Dawn Busters Kiwanis** were at it again feeding the community of Lafitte after being inundated with water by Hurricane Ida in September. This time they were joined by New Orleans native, Harry Connick Jr.! They even managed to rustle up some donations for a recovery event in LaPlace later that October.



Greenfield Sends Love to Students

Greenfield Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **Greenfield Kiwanis Club** was honored to partner with the City of Greenfield, TN for the community School Supply Drive for incoming Greenfield students. Also, as a new club, Kiwanis of Greenfield applied and was awarded a \$1000 grant from the Kiwanis Foundation. The club decided the best use for the grant would be to supply 150 hygiene kits to Greenfield School "The Hive" High School students in need.



Gulfport Honors First Responders and Hospital Heroes

Gulfport Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Gulfport Kiwanians enjoyed serving first responders on September 11th from the Gulfport Fire Department and Gulfport Police Department at a Blessing of the Boots and Badges.

Also, on September 21st, the club donated over 100 bagged snacks to Memorial Hospital to show appreciation for the heroes at Memorial.



Lucedale Hosts Character Pancake Breakfast

Lucedale Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The **Lucedale Kiwanis Club** hosted a FUN Character Pancake Breakfast on the morning of Saturday, September 11th. The event took place from 9 a.m. until noon at the Lucedale Church of God. Tickets were \$8 per person and included breakfast and pictures with 10 different character. Guests were allowed to take pictures with their phones and personal cameras.

Characters available for photographs included: Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Cinderella, Elsa, Spiderman, the Hulk, Snow White, Moana, Transformer Optimus Prime, and a Star Wars Storm Trooper. Breakfast included: pancakes, syrup, fruit toppings, chocolate chips, whipped cream, sausage, orange juice, and milk. Everyone had a fantastic time at this successful event.



Lake Charles Treats Elementary School Staff

Lake Charles Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Thanks to **Lake Charles Kiwanis Club** members Jim Meyer and Lyle Van Horn for delivering snacks to the Henry Heights Elementary School staff to help with their first day of school for the 2021-2022 school year!

Thanks to all the staff for stepping up to ensure the students are staying healthy and safe, and continuing to learn during COVID-19.

Kenner-North Cosponsors Blood Drive

Kenner-North Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Kenner North Kiwanis and the Chateau Estates Civic Organization cosponsored a Blood Drive on July 29th. Pictured are members from Kenner North Kiwanis Gene Katsanis, Larry Sevenker & Rita Bazzou, Sid Bullard from the Civic Association, Bob Bales CECO President & some of our blood donors.



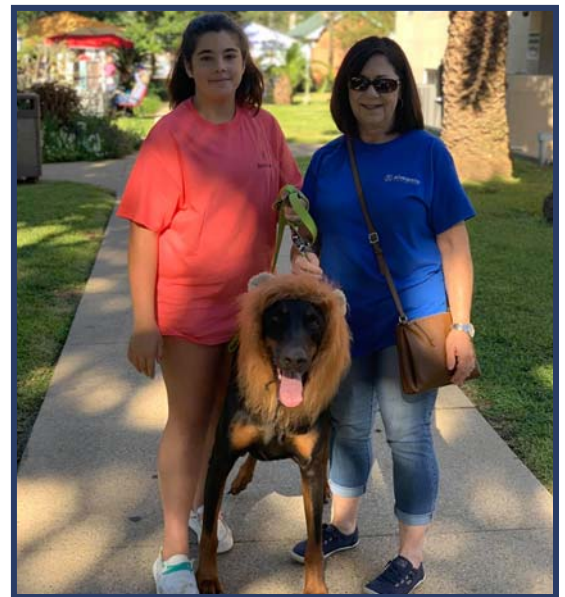
Opelousas Pet Fest is a Hit!

Opelousas Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

The Opelousas Kiwanis Club's *First Annual Pet Fest*, benefiting the Opelousas Animal Shelter, was a hit! The event took place on Saturday, September 25th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Courthouse Square in Downtown Opelousas.

The club partnered with Opelousas Main Street, Inc. to present a Promenade fashion show for pooches. The Pooch Promenade runway models looked "paw-some" on the red carpet as well as others who just came to support! Awards were given for Best of Show, Best Dressed, and Best Personality.

This family-friendly festival was filled with kids' activities such as a fun jump, balloon artist, and a petting zoo. For parents, there were many amazing vendors ranging from jewelry, baked goods, face painting, Cajan Asian infused food, and so much more! There was also live music by Alyse Young and a photo booth to take photos with pets. The club members sincerely express their "pup-preciation" for all who came out to show some love!



New Iberia Gives Smiles to Kids

New Iberia Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

In September, the New Iberia Kiwanis Club donated much needed new backpacks to the children of the Boys & Girls Club. The club gave a few smiles to some wonderful kids!



St. Bernard-Arabi: Doing Great Things!

St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Members of the **St. Bernard-Arabi Kiwanis Club** would like to thank everyone who contributed, assisted and came out for the multi-family garage sale held by the club on July 31st at the Knights of Columbus Hall! They sincerely enjoyed the fellowship with their wonderful community and hope everyone took home something to remember them by until next year!

Also, once a month members help serve the community down at the St. Bernard Catholic Church Food Bank. Pictured to the right are club members serving at the St. Bernard Catholic Church Food Bank on August 10th.



Picayune Provides for the Children

Picayune Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On July 20th at a meeting of the Picayune City Council the **Picayune Kiwanis Club** was pleased to donate \$11,699 for an ADA compliant Merry Go Round for installation at Friendship Park. The club hopes this brings many hours of enjoyment to the physically challenged children of this area. Present for the presentation were President Tom Milar, Billy Brunson, Tim Hart and Steve McDonald. Accepting the donation was City Manager Freddy Drennan and Mayor Jim Luke.



South Lake Charles Spruces up School

South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On August 7th, several **South Lake Charles Kiwanis Club** members gathered for a community service project at Brentwood Elementary School to get the front entrance dressed up for the opening next week.



St. Gabriel Distributes Masks to Schools

St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On August 11th, members of the **St. Gabriel Kiwanis** went to Math Science Arts Academy East and East Iberville Elementary/High School and distributed masks to the children and staff. The masks were donated to the St. Gabriel Kiwanis Club by Louisiana Environmental Action Network. Special thank you to members Melvin Lodge, Angela Martin Banks, Reginald Grace and Jessie Thomas for taking time out of their busy schedules to serve the children of St. Gabriel!



Stone County Organizes School Supply Drive Thru

Stone County Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

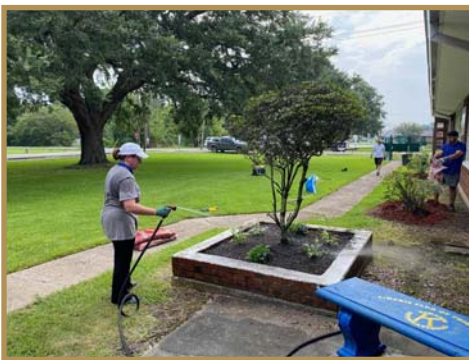
Stone County Kiwanis held a School Supply Drive Thru Pick-up on Saturday, July 17th, from noon - 4 pm at Blaylock Park. The community was asked to bring children and their school supply lists for their classrooms to the pickup. The club thanks everyone who contributed and made this a successful school supply event! And special thanks to all the excited children that came to the park! The club wishes all students a great school year and hopes they enjoy their new supplies!



Thibodaux: Making an Impact

Thibodaux Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Thibodaux Kiwanis members were out Saturday, July 31st working hard on CM Washington Elementary School Campus! They wish the teachers, students and staff at CM Washington Elementary School a safe and healthy school Year!



Southwest Lafayette: Disaster Relief

Southwest Lafayette Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Also, on July 27th, the **Thibodaux Kiwanis Club** donated bean bag chairs for the cozy corner of Friends of Beyond the Bell. The Beyond the Bell program was started in 2014 and is for students ages 12 and under. The after-school program aims to help ensure the safety of children, assist working families and inspire learning and growth.



Kiwanis Southwest Lafayette members volunteered at the Love Thy Neighbor Supply Drive at Northgate Mall on Thursday, September 2nd for those affected by Hurricane Ida.

Twin Cities: Fun and Banana Pudding for the Kids

Twin Cities Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

Members of the **Twin Cities Kiwanis Club** had a GREAT time on August 23rd at the Fulton Independent School Jump Start Event! They gave away lots of school supplies and met a bunch of terrific kids.

And on September 16th, fun and banana pudding was had by all at a Banana Pudding Cook Off between local non-profit organizations! Organizations gave out their best pudding samples to visitors who made monetary donations to vote for their favorite. Even though the Twin Cities Kiwanis Club was not the top money team, they were winners because they had a great time with their community and will get to help local kids with the proceeds!



Union City Gives Back

Union City Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

On August 26th, **Union City Kiwanis Club** members Joe Ward and John Cagle volunteered to feed the senior citizens at the Obion County Fair. It's always GREAT to see Kiwanis members giving back.



Vancleave Provides Water for Band

Vancleave Kiwanis Club Facebook Page

During the very hot month of July, the Vancleave **Kiwanis Club** members donated water to the Vancleave High School Band. Got to keep the babies hydrated!



Share Your Club's News!

By Tiffany Domingue, District Bulletin Editor

Submit your article or photographs:

EMAIL: tiffany@lamisstenn.org

ARTICLES & PHOTOGRAPHS: All article submissions must be attached in an email as a Word document along with picture captions. *Please submit original articles written by your club's members. We cannot use pre-published articles due to copyright laws.* Do not include photos within text documents; send as separate attachments in the highest resolution TIFF or JPEG file if possible. *Please send one Word document along with pictures attached together in one email. Multiple stories per club should be sent in one Word Document preferably an overview of each story in one article.*

DEADLINES:

The deadline for article submissions is always two weeks before the publication's date. Here are the deadlines for the 2021-2022 Kiwanis Year:

January 2022 Issue = Deadline: December 17, 2021

April 2022 Issue = Deadline: March 18, 2022

July 2022 Issue = Deadline: June 17, 2022

October 2022 Issue = Deadline: September 16, 2022

Include this information:

CLUB: Club, Division Number, and Author

EVENT: Make sure to answer: **what** was done, **why** it was done, **who** benefited, **when** and **where** it occurred, **how** it was accomplished, etc.

ACCURACY: Please double check all dates, locations, etc., and be sure that all names are spelled correctly. While we do our best to correct issues if we notice them, we do not have the resources to confirm this type of information.

PHOTOGRAPHS: If you're shooting a service project, look for an action photo of the volunteers in progress or interacting with children. Shoot from the front – we are not likely to use a shot with mostly backs. Use as high a resolution as possible. Captions may not always be published, but it is helpful if you can identify subjects.

AND REMEMBER . . . THE BEST SHOT WINS THE COVER!

Keep in mind, the cover photograph for the District News Magazine will be selected based on clarity, service, and emotion.

We want photographs showing how your club impacts the community!



"The Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District News" is the official publication of the Louisiana-Mississippi-West Tennessee District of Kiwanis International

2021-2022 LA.-MISS.-W. TENN. DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Governor Richard Latiolais

Governor - Elect R. Bruce Hammatt

Immediate Past Governor Patrice Cusimano

Executive Director Charles H. Ford

DISTRICT TRUSTEES:

Region I

John A. Fry, *Union City, Tenn.*

Region II

To be elected

Region III

Rogena Woods-Mitchell, *Vancleave, Miss.*

Region IV

Marcel Lashover, *Dawn Busters, Metairie, La.*

Region V

Michele Crosby, *Denham Springs, La.*

Region VI

Kimberly Champagne, *Acadiana-Lafayette, La.*

Region VII

Malissa Sweeney, *Natchitoches, La.*

DISTRICT OFFICE INFORMATION:

Charles Ford, Executive Director:

charlie@lamisstenn.org

Tiffany Domingue, Administrative Assistant:

tiffany@lamisstenn.org

Phone: 225-769-9233

Toll Free: 866-526-7986 (LAMSWTN)

Fax: 225-769-9215

Toll Free Fax: 866-669-9215

districtoffice@lamisstenn.org

www.lamisstenn.org

MAILING ADDRESS:

La.-Miss.-W. Tenn. Kiwanis District Office

5253-B Dijon Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4393

HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.