Editor’s Note

Little G’Anna was 4 years old, the youngest in the group, when she won the Kiwanis Club of New Kingston Little Bee Spelling Competition. It was such a big deal to her parents, her father flew in from the USA to watch his little girl compete. G’Anna migrated to the USA shortly after but it is heartening to see her mother sending me her progress report every school term.

This action brings into focus a question I always ask; the clubs donate equipment, give scholarships, construct buildings, etc., but who is there to ensure the piece of equipment is serving the persons it was meant for; that the recipients of your clubs’ scholarships completed the requisite course, may need further assistance or they may now be in a position to join your club and give back to others as a Kiwanian; does the building needs painting refurbishing or do you need to refresh/upgrade the Kiwanis branding on the building?

I believe these projects are legacies of Kiwanis and should be monitored and maintained by the respective Kiwanis clubs and don’t forget the “Testimonials” - excellent marketing and PR opportunity.

G’Anna is now 6 years old and I look forward to the day when she will become a Kiwanis leader… Serving the Children of the World.

In Kiwanis Service,

Merdina
Governor’s Message

My Fellow Kiwanians.

This is my swan song and final newsletter article for the District.

On behalf of “Lady D” and my family, I want to sincerely thank all those Kiwanians who have supported me throughout my year as Governor of Eastern Canada & the Caribbean. I could not possibly list all of you to thank, but I do want to sincerely thank the 2016-17 class of LG’s and this years’ Board of Trustees’ who have worked so hard to make our year a success. It has truly been an honour and privilege to serve as Governor for 2016-17.

To date, we have opened up 5 new clubs and added 500+ new members to the District. But our work is still not finished and we need your continued support and efforts to end our year on a positive note of growth and member retention.

I want to wish Governor Designate Bobby Moo Young and the 2017-18 Board of Trustees the very best as they embark on their journey to strengthen our clubs and grow the District to the point where we can achieve the many objectives established by Governor Bobby and his Team. I know all of you will continue to support our District Board, the LG’s, Divisions and Clubs as they strive to strengthen their clubs and ensure that the member experience is a positive one. I will continue to serve the District in any capacity that GD Bobby asks of me in the coming year.

Let’s continue to do the good work of Kiwanis in our communities by forming new Kiwanis clubs and strengthening our Membership in order to “Energize The Dream that every child will be happy, healthy, safe and loved!!”

Best regards,

Phil Rossy
Governor 2016-17

“Energize The Dream.....that every child is happy, healthy, safe and loved.”
#KidsNeedKiwanis
The Annual Red Hills Health and Wellness Fair was held in June 2017 at the Red Hills Clinic and Red Hills Basic School. This was the third Joint Project between the Kiwanis Clubs of Meadowvale / West St. Andrew and the American West Indian Medical Association Incorporative (AWMA).

This year the visiting AWMA overseas medical team was made up of eight (8) medical doctors - 2 Gynecologists, 2 Pediatricians, 1 Urologist, 1 Dentist and 2 General Practitioners, along with 10 nurses and 3 other medical support staff.

The local support team comprised 2 Medical Doctors, 2 Nurses, 2 Dental nurses, 1 Dental Assistant, 1 Orderly, 1 Dentist (Dr. Thin) and 15 dental students from UTECH.- College of Oral Sciences There was also technical staff for Eye and HIV testing, 23 Kiwanians, and several other volunteers.

The teams partnered with several local sponsors, which included Lasco Distributors, National Health Fund, Lions Club of Kingston, Kirk Distributor, University of Technology, Jamaica Family Planning Board, SDC & Councilor Rohan Hall, Mrs. Juliet Cuthbert Flynn, MP, Forrest Hills Civic Association, Red Hills Community Development Association and, businesses in the Red Hills Area.

Four hundred and fifty five (455) persons benefitted from this project.

The Kiwanis Clubs of Meadowvale and West St. Andrew thank the medical teams, sponsors, volunteers and members for making this year’s Health and Wellness Fair the success that it was.

Scenes from the Health Fair
Congratulations to Division 17 on the formation of the Kiwanis Club of Lac St. Jean-est, the first new Kiwanis club in the Division since 1969 (48 years).

From left, Mélissa Brisson – daughter of LG Luc Brisson and member of KC Lac St. Jean-est, LG Luc Brisson – Mel Osborne award recipient, Governor Phil Rossy and Kiwanis Foundation of Canada Director Alain Bertrand.

The 16 new members of the Kiwanis Club of Lac St. Jean-est with Governor Phil.
In 2015, Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach (KCPB), Aruba as part of their strategy decided to identify projects that would create a long-term commitment with significant impact within the community. The idea was to direct some of the funds raised through the different fund raising activities towards a “signature” project.

A committee was setup to evaluate various proposals and assess areas of need in the community, primarily directed to our children.

Most of the kids in Aruba grew up playing in the Neptali Henriquez Park (NHP) and as such our club committed to help maintain the park. This was not a difficult decision.

Together with some members of the Board of the NHP we deliberated and came up with the idea to put a new playground with a “Pirate Ship” theme as the location of the park is close to our beaches.

We also discussed the option to partner up with organizations in our community such as Marriott Care Foundation, S&L General Contractors and Bon Bini Cargo Services to help us realize this project.

The Total cost of the project was approximately AWG 110,000 (US$ 61,800) and was ordered and installed within ten (10) months.

Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach plans to continue with of projects like this in different neighborhoods around our Island in order to provide our children with playground to promote healthy activities in their neighborhoods.

For more information about Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach, please visit our website at www.kiwanispalmbeach.com or our Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/kiwanispalmbeach.
The Kiwanis Club of Woodlawn, Division 20, Bluenose, invited by the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Halifax, manager of the thirteenth (13th) Annual Great East Dartmouth Community Picnic and Barbeque returned to prepare and serve hot dogs to guests.

This picnic is sponsored by local community members of the Nova Scotia legislature and of Halifax Regional Municipally City Council. This was the club’s 13th year involvement in the event.

Members enjoyed the event and the opportunity to meet and serve the community and this was shown by a participation rate of 87%.

On Saturday August 19 the Kiwanis Club of Nassau hosted a back to school drive in the parking lot of St. Cecilia’s Church. Club President, Desmona Armbrister who led the group in this community outreach project indicated that it stands out from some of the Club’s other projects in that the effects of the Back to School Drive could be seen and felt immediately.

Members and private partners donated items such as composition books, glue, Oxford geometry sets, scientific calculators, rulers, erasers, pencils, pens, folders, folder sheets, sharpeners and many more.

The club packed 200 backpacks for children ranging from Preschool age to High-school. McDonald’s also stepped in and donated gift cards for a free hamburger to recipients. In addition to backpacks the club treated the community to light refreshments during the event. School supplies were also packed and sent to students in Andros.
On Wednesday 9th August the Kiwanis Club of Bridgetown (KCOB) hosted the District Governor of the Key Club International’s Caribbean Atlantic District (CAD), Chantal Corbin and some members of her team - Lieutenant Governor Division 2, Chelsey Austin; Lieutenant Governor Division 3, Gabrielle Green; Bulletin Editor, Rickan Alleyne; Webmaster, Nathan Padmore; Secretary, Courtney Nurse; Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Matthew Weatherhead and Treasurer, Michelle Nurse.

In keeping with the work of mentoring, the invitation to the CAD Governor and her team was the second such event at KCOB, the first being early in the term when the Presidents of three Key Clubs and the only Circle K (at UWI Cave Hill) shared the head table and each participated in an element of the weekly meeting’s format.

President Rory handed over the meeting to the Dist. Gov. Chantal and her team and the fun started. They broke the ice and shared knowledge with wonderful use of the game show, JEOPARDY. Kiwanis, Key Club, History and few other topics were offered for questions which ranked from $100 - $500 - only Alex Trebek was missing from the night (host of the TV version of Jeopardy).

After the fun and truly enlightening session of Jeopardy, members of the CAD board made oral presentations to the Kiwanians present, each echoing the need for greater Kiwanis involvement and support locally, in their clubs and projects.

CAD Governor Chantal shared details of her own Project entitled “The Wish List”. The project aims to grant wishes to unsuspecting yet deserving, less fortunate individuals in the islands which make up the Caribbean Atlantic District.

The aim is to raise US $1250 through district fundraisers and allocate US $50 per gift with one wish being delivered each day between December 1 and 25, 2017 in the various islands.

President Rory in thanking Dist. Gov. Chantal and her team for their efforts, pledged to continue close ties for the rest of his term and further committing to focusing his first year after presidency on Key Club mentoring. Referencing his president’s conference speech he said “…we will work closely with and alongside our sponsored clubs on their projects and have a level of social interaction, experienced two decades ago when (he) first joined this club……back to basics!”

He then made a personal donation of US$150 to “The Wish List” project and confirmed that another similar amount will be donated to the Eliminate project on behalf of Dist. Governor Chantal.

A truly memorable night was had by all.
Since June, the Kiwanis Club of Génipa de Ducos has been appealed to help five families whose children are registered to primary classes.

Le CCAS (Communal Center for Social Actions) in Ducos submitted the names of five children from 6 to 10 years old (boys and girls).

The Club bought all the required school supplies for them.

At the first meeting of the club after summer on Aug. 28, 2017, we hosted those children and their parents. In addition to the school supplies, we also offered a rucksack to each of them.

The children were very happy as they knew that they could start this school year with serenity.

We wished to each of them a very successful year and asked them to never quit whatever which problem they have to overcome.
The members of Kiwanis Club of Bridgetown (KCOB) in collaboration with members of staff of our Corporate Partners BICO, an ice cream and frozen foods company united to collect donations of cash and food items for the less fortunate in the community.

The collection activities took place over two consecutive weekends on the west and east coast of the island respectively. KCOB AND BICO then use the inputs collected to create food hampers for distribution across the island to needy families.

As a “thank you” gesture, BICO served ice cream to members of the public.

This event is now Kiwanis Club of Bridgetown’s (KCOB) second signature project.

Each year, Kiwanis clubs around the world join in a day of service. Kiwanis One Day currently is held on the fourth Saturday of October. In 2017, Kiwanis One Day will be observed on October 28.

Kiwanis One Day is a great opportunity to bring together the Kiwanis family of clubs to focus on local community service. It’s an example of our belief that kids need Kiwanis—kids in the community need Kiwanis to provide programs and services no longer available because of school and municipal budget constraints, and kids who want to be in youth clubs need Kiwanis club members as mentors to help them thrive, prosper and grow.

Start planning today for Kiwanis One Day: visit www.kiwanis.org/clubs/member-resources/service-projects/kiwanis-one-day
In countries worldwide, there has always been much concern about decent wages, working conditions and working hours. Some may argue that not everyone is adequately compensated for the work they do. In fact, some can never be adequately compensated because their jobs are immeasurable, mainly because the functions and responsibilities are difficult to quantify and are borderless.

The clergy falls into this latter category and so when the Kiwanis Club of New Kingston, as part of their annual recognition of outstanding community leaders, sought to honour two deserving servants of God recently, it was considered without reservation.

The very Reverend Dr Burchell Taylor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Half-Way Tree, and Anglican Venerable Archdeacon Patrick Garth Cunningham of St Luke's Anglican Church in Cross Roads, both in St Andrew, have offered exemplary innovative leadership and spiritual guidance in the various communities where they have together served for over half a century. Their individual ministries have had positive, transforming and relevant impact on their congregations as well as people outside of their churches.

Reverend Dr Burchell Taylor was cited in part as "a statesman of the Christian Church and he's highly regarded and respected within the Christian community by basically all denominations. He is regarded as one of the best theologians of the Caribbean and a great thinker".

Marginalised Concern

In equal prominence, Venerable Archdeacon Cunningham was cited as one who "loves and serves God in many ways, but he shows particular care and concern for the marginalised, especially those afflicted with HIV and AIDS".

In a moving ceremony, dubbed 'Thank You, Pastor', president of the Kiwanis Club of New Kingston, Paulette Kirkland, lauded the honourees as dedicated citizens and encouraged them to continue to offer outstanding service to the community. She congratulated them for giving of their time, talent and resources through counselling/guidance sessions, outreach programmes and prayers in times of needs, among other services.

She recognised that even as her club honours these stalwarts of the cloth they, too, are honouring and glorifying God. She thanked their families for the love and support they provide to them so that they are able to offer such selfless service in pastoral ministry.

Emcee for the event, President Claudette Carter, shared with the audience some of the ways in which they can honour their pastors personally and corporately as a church through prayer, showing appreciation, buying gifts and cards, obeying the bible and serving in the church. She added that the church can advocate for better salaries, organise a caring team to look after the pastor and his family, and pick up their medical expenses.

As carried in the Gleaner September 4, 2017
Reflection
The Kiwanis Club of Providence team, led by President Sharon Palmer was proud to dedicate and hand over the construction of the well needed roof to the Retirement Basic School that houses over sixty (60) early childhood students. This was made possible with the kind support from the Montego Bay community and its members pledged to make the housing of the children more comfortable.

Tamara Henry who represents the Early Childhood Commission for Zone 26 in lauding the tremendous work of the club stated that this intervention has contributed to the aesthetics of the school’s learning environment and most importantly to the certification of the institution as an Early Childhood Education facility. Pastor Richard Keane of the Family Church on the Rock was present as a “seed sower” to the project and offered prayer and blessing. He also gave much praise and adoration to the Kiwanis Club and pledged his Church’s support to future interventions at the School.

In a tearful thank you, Principal of the school, Eleanor Graham, expressed admiration for the gracious intervention of the Club. Chairman Marviet Longman gave a history of the Club’s involvement over the years in providing lunch room, sick bay and toilet facilities. She noted that the community and the Institution is now a better place because of the assistance from Kiwanis.

The Kiwanis Club of Lakeshore partnered with the Aktion Club of Lakeshore and the Algoma Autism Foundation to create a new and unique event for the city to raise funds called “The Teddy Bear Picnic”.

Activities included tours of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library Storybook area and Fire Department as well as fun and games, Kiwanis fishing simulator, face painting and art and craft. Bear Paw cookies and juice boxes were free for all the children in attendance.

Corporate businesses sponsored Teddy Bears in various categories that were to be auctioned to raise funds that would be divided between the three charities. The categories were: Premium Bears, Standard Bears and Mega Bears.

Premium and Mega Bears were done by live auction and the Standard Bears were done via silent auction.