



# Kiwanis®

EASTERN CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN  
L'EST DU CANADA ET DES CARAÏBES

July 2020

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## Governor's Message

My Fellow Kiwanians;

Covid-19 has tried to make an impact on us but Kiwanians have shown that that was not possible.

Everyone has shown the spirit and enthusiasm of Kiwanis by doing and providing for all those in need in your community. What we saw as impossible we all have made possible and that is doing the right thing by taking action. I encourage you all to keep that enthusiasm going through September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020.

We have grown, we have worked on member retention, we have built new clubs and above all we have increased membership, making use of the new members' waiver fee implemented by Kiwanis International from April 17 through September 30 2020. Overall Covid-19 has helped us grow Kiwanis. We have added over 500 new members which is an outstanding achievement realized by all clubs in our District.



I am pleased with our performance although we still have a few months work to do, but I am confident as we are on the right path building and making Kiwanis greater and generating more growth. We are committed Kiwanians and are taking decisive action to improve the performance of all clubs in the District. As we enter the fourth quarter, we are building a strong momentum and we are well positioned to deliver a top performance, with good and positive results. I'm excited about the progress we've made and let's grab the opportunity that lies ahead.

I thank each and every one of you for your commitment and dedication to serving our noble cause "Serving the Children of the world and your communities."

Governor EC&C

Bob Spellman & FL Mary





# The Man who Made a Difference



*Dr. John Button*  
Past Kiwanis International President

Kiwanis has lost a great Leader, a man of wisdom, diplomacy, courage, integrity, a man that everyone had respect for; that when he spoke there was a silence as every one listened to his inspiring and motivating words. It is with regret that we have to bear this sad news of such an outstanding individual.

Dr. John Button was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Ridgeway for over 40 years. He has set the bar at a level that will be difficult to reach. With all the accomplishments Dr. John has achieved, too numerous to mention but we all can remember the IDD and MNT Kiwanis worldwide projects that he led. A member of his club since 1978, Dr. John occupied the position of Club President, Lieutenant Governor for his Division, Governor of Eastern Canada and the Caribbean

in 2004 – 2005, served as a Trustee on the International Board of Kiwanis in 2009, elected to Vice President in 2012 and became the International President in 2014 – 2015 for Kiwanis International.

Dr. John was an amazing source of inspiration when addressing his audience and he poured out his strength to all. He was about fun and fellowship and was passionate about community engagement and service. Dr. John loved making the world a better place and this legacy will live on in the lives of all of us.



EC&C extends its deepest condolences to Debbie, Dr. John life partner. She was an inspiration to him and was always at his side and his children, Tim and Clare. May Dr. John rest in Peace, a **man who made a difference!**

Governor EC&C  
Robert (Bob) Spellman & FL Mary

## Editor's Note



COVID-19 stopped the 2020 District Convention but could not stop the Awards Recognition Ceremony and After-Party for the 2018-2019 Administrative Year on Friday, 29 May 2020 as the ECC District went virtual.

It was a grand coming together of the District on line to celebrate the successes of the year 2018/2019.

Kiwanis International Trustee Ronald Smith congratulated the District on its achievement. Eleven (11) new clubs were opened and the year ended with an increase of 6 members over the previous year.

He highlighted that the EC&C is the youngest District with an average age of 57; it is the second largest District in the Western Hemisphere and it has the highest percentage of women in membership at 45% in the North American District. That is commendable.

EC&C was one of eight (8) districts being recognized by the Kiwanis International Board for meeting the distinguished criteria during the 2018-2019 administrative year.

Congratulations to Distinguished Governor Melford "Mel" Clarke, the Distinguished Lieutenant Governors, Presidents, Secretaries and their teams as well as the individuals who were recognized for their dedicated and unwavering contribution as we continue to improve the world one child, one community at a time. Some lasting legacies are there as EC&C District continues to blaze the trail in volunteerism, flying the Kiwanis banner high.

Congratulations are also in order to the winners of the 2020 Signature Project. Job well done. Let's keep at it..

If you have been following the Kiwanis Clubs on facebook you would see the amazing work being done by Kiwanians worldwide in helping to battle Covid-19. I try as much as possible to capture some of the pictures and caption not only for EC&C District but to show the global impact of Kiwanis. Simply awesome!

The Kiwanis family and notably the EC&C District have lost one of its giants, Past Kiwanis International President Dr. John Button. As the tributes poured in you begin to realize the magnitude of his contribution to his community in which he served as a medical doctor and Kiwanis Leader and to the world where he travelled as KI president the year Kiwanis marked its most significant milestone - 100th year and he left his footprints.

Condolences to his wife Debbie and family, his club and the entire Kiwanis family. His legacy will live on. May his soul rest in peace.



Pictured here are then Presidents Sasha, Yaniece, Marcel, KI President John Button, Presidents Winston, Marcia, Governor Serge, Presidents April, Debbie, Marline, Secretary Avril, President Richard and Lieutenant Governor Lloyd at the Kiwanis All Island Convention in Jamaica July 2015.

As we enter the masked era, it has now become obvious that we will be living with COVID-19 as we do with the flu, tuberculosis and other diseases. The onus is on each of us not to be complacent but to protect ourselves and those around us by obeying the protocols of our respective countries while we await the discovery of a vaccine.

Continue to keep safe in the new normal.

In Kiwanis Service,

Merdina Callum



## Kiwanis International and ECC District Awardees

### Distinguished Governor



Melford "Mel" Clarke  
Kiwanis Club of Cable Beach

**Kiwanis International  
Distinguished District Award**

**2019 Kiwanis International  
Distinguished Service Award**

Eliminate Project Award for 99%  
fulfilment of 2019 commitment

### Distinguished Lieutenant Governors of Excellency



Donna Coombs  
24 Jamaica Division



Pam Rodney-White  
23 East-Surry South Division



Glenda Miller  
25 Cornwall Division

### Distinguished Lieutenant Governors

Dennis Margueratt - 11 Loyalist Division  
Barry Willmott - 22 Sunshine Division  
Collington Powell - 23 West South Division  
Andre Kelly - 26 Trade Winds Division





## Kiwanis International and ECC District Awardees cont'd

### District Awards

#### Awards

##### **Ralph Taylor Memorial Gong**

Established in memory of an inspiring leader in Northern Ontario and is presented to the club that issued the best weekly/biweekly Bulletin in electronic or paper media.

##### **Laurent Girouard Award (Club Bulletin – runner up)**

Established by past Governor Laurent Girouard and is presented to the club that issued the runner up weekly/biweekly Bulletin in electronic or paper media.

##### **Fred McAllister Award**

Presented to an individual who has performed the most outstanding service to his/her local community.

##### **Godfrey Dyer Kiwanis Marketing Award**

In recognition of a club's contributions to Marketing, Publicity and the Promotion of Kiwanis.

##### **Award of Merit**

Provided by Past Governor Hedley Ivany, for the club secretary who has been judged to be outstanding (UNSUNG HERO).

##### **Interclub Award**

Presented to the club with the most and unique interclub

##### **Frank Summerhayes Award**

Presented to the Lieutenant Governor with the best Bulletin

##### **“Coup De Chapeau” Award**

Presented to the District Committee Chairperson for his/her outstanding contribution to the District.

##### **Spirit of Service Award**

Presented to a Kiwanian for enthusiasm, dedication and outstanding service to the District

##### **Citizen of the Year (Kiwanis Foundation of Canada)**

Presented to a recipient in recognition of their outstanding community service

##### **2020 Ray Allen Memorial Award**

This award recognises a Past Lieutenant Governor who continues to contribute and participate in club and division activities

##### **Most Outstanding SLP Advisor**

##### **Most Outstanding District Administrator**

##### **Division Growth Award**

##### **Club Growth Award**

#### Winners

Kiwanis Club of Stratford - Division 5 Black Walnut

Kiwanis Club of Fort Montagu - Division 22 Sunshine

June Thompson

Kiwanis Club of Linstead - Division 23 West

Kiwanis Club of Huntsville Muskoka - Division 8 Huronia

Rick Brooks

Kiwanis Club of Huntsville Muskoka - Division 8 Huronia

Kiwanis Club of Linstead - Division 23 West Middlesex South

Raghavan Vijay

Pembroke, Division 13

Christine King

Kiwanis Club of Fort Montegu - Division 22 Sunshine

James Steele

Kiwanis Club of Brantford - Division 5

David Emmerson

Fredricton, New Brunswick

Rick Brooks

Kiwanis Club of Huntsville Muskoka - Division 8

Irene Rolle, Kiwanis Club of New Providence - Division 22 Sunshine

Christopher Humber, Kiwanis Club of Spanish Town - Division 23 West

Division 24 - Jamaica North-East

Kiwanis Club of New Falmouth Division 25 - Cornwall





# BOARD RECOGNIZES 2018-19 DISTINGUISHED DISTRICTS

| MAY 26, 2020

Eight districts are being recognized for meeting the distinguished criteria for the 2018-19 administrative year. These districts achieved a net gain in membership and reached the new club opening goal set by the governor and 2018-19 Kiwanis International President Poly Lat. Overall, 433 clubs started serving new communities that year.

The Kiwanis International Board of Trustees bestowed the recognition on these members while honouring the memory of President Lat, who died in the last month of his term.

Congratulations to these districts, governors and district secretaries:

**Belgium-Luxemburg District**

Governor Jaak Michiels (posthumous)  
Governor Christian De Maesschalck  
Secretary Johan Henderix

**Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District**  
**Governor Melford Clarke**  
**Secretary James Steele**

**Japan District**

Governor Koji Yoshida  
Secretary Ken Sugita

**Malaysia District**

Governor Ivan Boon Wee Oh  
Secretary Stewart George Labrooy

**Nepal District**

Governor Sujan Shrestha  
Secretary Laxman Lamsal

**Philippine Luzon District**

Governor Rucil Contrevida  
Secretary Romeo Garcia

**Rocky Mountain District**

Governor Timothy Sheppard  
Secretary Kelly Steck-James

**Taiwan District**

Governor Yang Chien-Kung  
Secretary Hsiao Teng-Fa



# K-Kids Skip A Snack for Towels



The K-Kids at Eden Lodge Primary School launched their "Skip a Snack,...Buy a Towel" project on 25 October 2019. This launch facilitated by Kiwanis Club Pride of Barbados included an interactive session on "The Importance of Giving Back". This project is intended to teach the kids the importance of sacrificing something they like or love in order to give something to the needy.

On 11 December 2019, care packages consisting of washcloths and toiletries were presented to the Soroptimist Village during their Annual Christmas Luncheon. The kids entertained the elderly through song and poetry.

These children are learning from a young age the true meaning of volunteerism, selflessness and making sacrifices for the good of another. This project will mould these children into the adults our nation needs. We continue to serve the children and assist in developing young leaders.





# Moms Makeover



When parenting a child with special needs, the need for self care is even greater and is twice as challenging for other parents. As such Kiwanis Club Pride of Barbados (KCPOB) started its monthly project which will recognize and treat a parent raising a child with a disability.

The pampering includes massages, pedicures, manicures, hairstyling, makeup makeovers, photoshoots, lunches, dinners and many other treats.

KCPOB believes that it is important for these parents who rarely have a moment for themselves to be treated so they can continue to provide the best possible care for their children. The club completely supports an inclusive country and by extension an inclusive world.

This project is the first stage in the club's plan to increase disability awareness and facilitate a fully inclusive Barbados. Persons can definitely expect more projects promoting this goal.

## Pinewood Club Assists Hurricane Dorian Victims



### DONATIONS TO KIWANIAN ADRIANNA

Kiwanis club of Pinewood assisted one of there own members, Kiwanian Adrianna Gibson who has been volunteering in Abaco since hurricane Dorian passes with clean-up and rebuilding of that island. The club members and St Agnes Church collected dry foods, blankets water, clothing, toiletries, portable gas stove, and gas tanks.

Her sister Ms.Shandrick Gibson was present to receive the items on her behalf and shipped them to her.



### DONATIONS TO TWILIGHT HOME

President-Elect Genine Munroe and the Kiwanis Club of Pinewood visited the Twilight Senior Citizens Home in Pinewood Gardens where the feted, sang to the residents. Clean supplies were also presented to Mrs. Walker, the caretaker and owner of the home. She was also presented with a gift from the Kiwanis Club of Pinewood.





# Radiothon - Together We Can!



Voedselbankbonaire and Stichting Voeding op School Bonaire receive symbolic cheques from the presidents of Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk, Bonaire, Rotary Bonaire and Lions Bonaire, respectively Ricard Nicholson, Jeaniro Balentien and Edi Carolina.

Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk Bonaire, Lions Club Bonaire and Rotary Club of Bonaire raised a total of USD15,500 for two local foundations, Voedselbankbonaire and Stichting Voeding op School Bonaire, that are committed to helping families and children in need by making food packages available to them. In addition, a pallet full of long-life food items has been donated. All thanks to the generous donors of Bonaire. It was very emotional to see even small children putting their saved quarters in the collection box.

The Radiothon was held from 2 pm to 6 pm via Breezy FM and Mega Hit FM. Lieutenant Governor Edison Rijna opened the Radiothon simultaneously on both radio stations. The guests included deputy Nina den Heyer, the presidents and past presidents of Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary. In addition, members of the Toastmasters dialed in.

At Mega Hit FM, listeners requested songs in lieu of a voluntary donation. Family games were auctioned at Breezy FM. The three clubs are

very satisfied and surprised by the turnout, support and above all generous donations. After counting the deposits received afterwards, the total amount turned out to be USD 15,500! Voedselbank en Voeding op School each received \$ 7,750. Should more deposits come in, they will of course also be distributed between the two. All food items were also divided between the two foundations.

Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions would like to thank everyone who made this Radiothon possible and of course all the people of Bonaire who donated. Together we can!



# KIWANIS CLUB OF PROVIDENCE MONTEGO BAY STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME ESSAY COMPETITION

**F**or more than 100 years, Kiwanis International has been active in communities around the world helping children.

The Kiwanis Club of Providence Montego Bay stands proud as it celebrates its 30th anniversary. Thirty years of striving to uphold the mandate of Kiwanis International, thirty years of constantly finding fun and exciting ways to engage community students in activities designed to foster their optimal development.

In the midst of the pandemic, Coronavirus, The club ceased the opportunity to engage students in an essay competition. This was merely to understand how the students were coping during the crisis and more importantly to aid in their academic development.

The essay competition topics were: (1) Write a letter to your classmates telling them why it's important to stay at home during COVID-19..... for the Builder's Clubbers and (2) COVID-19, online learning and its impact on me for the Key Clubbers.

One arm of Kiwanis is Service Leadership Programme (SLP) whose focus is to assist students to develop good leadership skills and character building. Providence firmly believes that readers and writers become great leaders.

On June 8, 2020, students who undertook the challenge were recognized and were celebrated because they are all winners. Commendations to the parents, advisors and teachers who worked with the students ensuring that they were involved. Special thanks to the sponsor.



At front, Key Clubbers - 1st place Arnav Chatani (Heinz Simonitsch School), 2nd place Richari Allie-Brown (Alcar Academy), Builder's Clubbers - 2nd place Shanae Brown & 3rd place Khamali Hines (Albion Primary & Junior High), 1st place Osheana Small (Granville All Age).

Back Row, President Designate Kay Franis, Chairman Audrea Thomas, Director Merdell McCabe, Co-chair Tisa Anderson, Kiwanian Kimberley Spence

Together we can make a great difference.  
Stay tuned as Kiwanis Club of Providence Montego Bay continues to help children one community at a time.

## Nassau A.M. donates Scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 Bahamas Primary School Students



Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M. donated two (2) - \$1,000.00 Scholarships to be presented to two (2) nominees of this year's Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, President Roshann Miller was elated to be able to realize one of her major goals and objectives for this administrative year to once again partner with The Bahamas Primary School Student of The Year Foundation (The Foundation) and recognize two deserving students.

Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M. remains a loyal supporter of The Foundation's goal to develop Bahamian children into brighter more outstanding students. Through this Awards Program, everything is done for the students' benefit and it affords them a head start as they transition into high school and begin a new journey.

The cheque in the amount of \$2,000 was presented to Foundation President & CEO - Ricardo P. Deveaux by president Roshann Miller and Youth Services Chairman, Delvano McIntosh. Mr. Deveaux noted that The Foundation was indeed pleased and grateful that despite what is

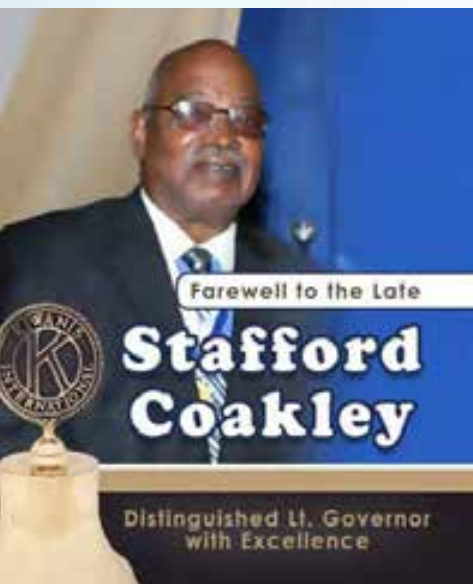
happening in the Bahamas and globally as a result of COVID-19, the Kiwanis Club of Nassau A.M. made the donation to reward the efforts of the students.

This National Awards Recognition Program is for 6<sup>th</sup> Graders in the Bahamas and the nominees compete for scholarships and prizes. Nominees are judged on (i) contribution to school life, (ii) academic achievement, (iii) extra-curricular achievement, (iv) community involvement and (v) overall quality of the portfolio submitted. All scholarships must be used for secondary education purposes only.

One hundred and twelve (112) students will compete in the 2020 Bahamas Primary School Student of the Year Awards Program.

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual National Awards Ceremony was scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2020. However, The Foundation postponed the 2020 Awards Ceremony until Saturday, July 25, 2020. It is anticipated that various members of Nassau A.M. Kiwanis Club will provide usher service at this event.

# Tribute to Stafford Coakley, Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence



The District lost one of its 39 year Kiwanis veterans recently. Stafford Coakley served the Kiwanis Club of Fort Montagu with distinction. Stafford served his club in various capacity before becoming president in the 1986-1987 administrative year and achieved the coveted title of Merit President as it was in those days. He was best known for his guidance and mentoring of Kiwanians, some of whom have become Distinguished Presidents and Distinguished

Lieutenant Governors. He was best known as an entertainer and a traveler – attending almost all District and International Conventions with his wife Joan.

Below are some tributes from Kiwanians who have worked with Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence (DLGE) Stafford.

President Tonya shares fond memories of DLGE Stafford who served as her advisor this 2019-2020 administrative year:

"In June of 2019, DLGE Stafford and I had a conversation on me taking the helm as president for the 2019-2020 administrative year. We agreed to meet up for lunch to talk things over and chart my course to leadership of this great club. As a result I gain a new mentor as he agreed to guide me as my advisor for my presidency. The wisdom and knowledge that he shared with me definitely contributes to the well-rounded leader I am today. It is never easy to lose someone so close, especially when they have made such a positive impact on your life. The short span of time which we shared seems like many years and my memories of him will last for a lifetime. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Take your rest DLGE Stafford."

Pierre Liliberte; his Governor of Eastern Canada and Caribbean 1990-1991 wrote:

I'm shocked and saddened to hear the sad news about my dear friend Stafford. My deepest sympathy to his wife Joan, his close family and all his friends both in the Kiwanis Club of Fort Montague and in Division 22. I first met DLGE Stafford at the Hull District Convention in 1990 and I discovered a great person, supported by his partner in life, Joan.

Each time I went to Nassau, Stafford was there to meet me at the airport and always had a program set. He was so proud to invite me when the first female club was chartered, the Kiwanis club of New Providence. Stafford was also part of our E.C. & C. District team when we started Young Children: Priority One and the first project in the Bahamas Division was a Vaccination Campaign for Children. Thank you Stafford for the person you have been and for what you did for Kiwanis in the Bahamas. I will remember you.

Past Lieutenant Governor Lambert Longley served as President during the 1990-1991 administration under DLGE Stafford and wrote:

DLGE Stafford was a true Kiwanian. He loved working with and advising other Kiwanians. He and his beloved wife Joan rarely missed a convention. The Kiwanis Movement has lost a great member. He will be missed. May he rest in peace.

Lieutenant Governor Christopher Rahming of The Bahamas Sunshine Division 22; 2019-2020 Wrote: To Joan and family, we are thankful and will be forever grateful for DLGE Stafford Coakley being part of our Kiwanis family. His thoughtfulness and hard work will always be remembered. He was exceptional and made a difference in the lives of so many Kiwanians. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory.

District Trustee, Region F, Henry Gibson wrote: My most heartfelt condolences to DLGE Stafford's wife Joan, the rest of his immediate family and The Kiwanis Club of Ft. Montagu. May his soul rest in peace.





## Kiwanis Foundation of Canada and its donors provides aid to Bahamas Kiwanis and the Community

Hurricane Dorian battered The Bahamas at a category 5 last September leaving 17% of Bahamians on the Island of Grand Bahama and Abaco homeless. After the deadly storm which lasted approximately 72

hours was over, which was recorded as the worst since 1931, many people died, and seven months later some are still missing.

Help came almost instantly for The Bahamas Kiwanis from the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada, other Kiwanis clubs in Canada and partners. The Kiwanis Foundation of Canada immediately put into place, a team to lead a fundraising effort. KFC Vice President Greg Holland and KFC Secretary Chuck McIlravey were selected from the KFC Board and the team selected DLGE Christine King and DLG Sandra Butler to be the on the ground support for fund distribution.

Bank accounts were set up and the committee met by telephone every week to discuss requests for funding and moved quickly to see that our Kiwanis Family in need was supported without delay. Over Three Hundred and Eighteen Thousand Dollars (\$318,000) was raised. This was the largest single Disaster Relief Fundraiser by the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada and it was completed in 3 months.

The delivered much needed help and hope for Kiwanians; hurricane survivors in the Bahamas, while also bringing much needed help to the community particularly the Grand Bahama



Children's home on Grand Bahama and The Patrick A Pinder School in Abaco. In all, thirty five (35) Kiwanians and their families were helped.

At February, 2020, the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada committed approxi-

mately Two Hundred and Thirty Five Thousand Dollars (**US\$235,000.00**) to The Bahamas Hurricane Relief Fund. One Hundred and Fifty eight Thousand (**US\$158,000.00**) has been distributed to Kiwanians and Service leadership Program Students displaced from Abaco and Grand Bahama Islands. Thirty Thousand dollars (**US\$30,000.00**) was also donated to the Grand Bahama Children's Home. Five Thousand Dollars (**US\$5,000.00**) approved for the School feeding program at the School on Abaco Island. The Foundation is committed to this relief and recovery program and the remaining funds will support ongoing services for the community long-term recovery in the impacted communities.

### Thanks to our list of donors:

The Kiwanis Foundation of Canada  
 Eastern Canada Kiwanis Clubs  
 Kiwanis District of New Jersey  
 Kiwanis District of Florida  
 Kiwanis District of the Carolinas  
 Kiwanis District of California  
 Kiwanis District of Montana  
 Kiwanis International Children's Fund



### Kiwanis Foundation of Canada cont'd

In the last six months since Dorian's impact, The Kiwanis Foundation of Canada through its Bahamas relief committee, continue to assist the devastated Kiwanians. Relief building supplies, emotional support, housing, food, clothing and construction assistance were given. The three Kiwanis Club members affected had various needs and we were overjoyed that they could have been helped in a strategic yet personal manner.

The Grand Bahama Children's Home which houses 40 children and was badly damaged will also be beneficiary of contents replacement and other needs through the Foundation once the pandemic allows for work to restart.



Mrs Sheila Smith Executive Director of the home is grateful for the donation and plans a celebration when the children can return to their dwelling.



The School breakfast program at the James A Pinder School which is the brainchild of Distinguished President Paul Knowles will also get an injection of \$1,000 monthly for the next 5 months to ensure students are fed a healthy hearty breakfast every morning in a safe learning environment.

Here Luna says she's eating all of her breakfast so she can grow big and strong

# Battling Covid-19



## Kiwanis Club of Aruba & Former Key Clubber donate Laptops to needy students



Members of Kiwanis Club of Aruba presented a donation of 8 laptops to Colegio San Nicolas to assist students in need with their course work. This donation was done in partnership with a former Key Clubber of Colegio Arubano.

The principal of Colegio San Nicolas, Mr. Hubert Goedgedrag, thanked our club and the former Key Clubber for the donation and at the same time provided our club members present with the most recent updates about the students and the school.

## Kiwanis and Soap for Hope lend a (clean) helping hand

Kiwanis Club of Calgary from Kiwanis Western Canada District partnered with Soap for Hope YYC to distribute sanitizer and soap to Calgary's most vulnerable during the pandemic.





# Battling Covid-19



## Kiwanis Donation helps Volunteers make Face Shields



A medical face shield manufactured by Kenesky in London. (Photo courtesy of Kenesky Manufacturing Inc. via Twitter)

Local volunteers will be making 3,000 more face shields for healthcare workers across Sarnia-Lambton. The feat is being made possible through a \$5,000 donation from the Seaway Kiwanis Club.

The club said this small group of volunteers, affiliated with the Forest Legion, has already provided 2,000 of the face shields to over 40 local organizations free of charge.

The group isn't looking for publicity for their efforts but is welcoming donations are welcome to create more face shields (contact - [lcmacovid@gmail.com](mailto:lcmacovid@gmail.com)).

The Seaway Kiwanis Club also donated \$3,000 each to the Inn of The Good Shepherd and St. Vincent de Paul Society to provide food for those in need.

No Frills also contributed \$500 in food toward the cause.

## St Thomas brings Joy to the Homeless

The Kiwanis Club of St Thomas generated smiles and, in some cases, tears of joy to 60 homeless and otherwise disadvantaged citizens in the parish on Friday. The service club delivered hot meals and essential items to help them, at least for the time being, ride out the economic hardships caused by COVID-19.

According to president of the club, Remayla Campbell, the project, part of its Meals on Wheels programme, was done in tandem with Kirk Distributors and Food For The Poor. She shared that the club plans to target about 120 persons during its next project in August, so that other persons can benefit.



A member of the Kiwanis Club of St Thomas gives care packages to a resident.



# Battling Covid-19



Kiwanis Club of Montego Bay donates food items and bleach to Garland Hall Children's Home in St. James.



Kiwanis Club of New Kingston prepares Care Packages for University of Technology Student Nurses and Midwives.



# Battling Covid-19



## Kiwanis Club of Stratford puts \$8,000 toward local COVID-19 relief efforts

The Kiwanis Club of Stratford recently donated \$8,000 in food, supplies and funds to three local organizations helping those most in need during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Galen Simmons  
Post media, Canada

Thanks to a recent donation of food, supplies and funds by the Kiwanis Club of Stratford, two area food banks and the United Way Perth Huron are able to better serve some of Stratford's most vulnerable residents during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Tuesday, the local Kiwanis Club announced it had put \$6,000 toward helping both the Stratford House of Blessing and Stratford Salvation Army food banks restock their shelves, and \$2,000 toward the United Way Perth-Huron's COVID-19 urgent needs fund.

"It came from an announcement from Loblaw's – from Galen Weston. He was talking about the need to reach out in the community," Kiwanis Club of Stratford president David MacLennan said. "One of our board members, David Evans, said this is something we should look into. So he did some investigating as to where the funds could best be placed in order to to facilitate getting food into the hands of people who need it."

Following a banner year for club revenue, thanks to the Kiwanis Eastern Canada and Caribbean District annual convention being held in Stratford last May, MacLennan said the club was able to immediately reallocate \$8,000 to be split among the three organizations.



For the two food banks, the club's board of directors worked with Giant Tiger in Stratford to purchase and deliver the food and supplies needed most.

"The food that came in from the Kiwanis Club filled in some gaps that we had," said House of Blessing executive director Theresa McMurray. "There have been

changes to how we operate our food bank. Normally, people would be able to choose what they need, but during the pandemic we've had to put together pre-made baskets for people. So that donation allowed us to fill in those holes for food that we were missing."

Without Stratford's citywide food drive – which provided a much-needed boost in donations to local food banks every spring for the last few years, but was cancelled this year amid the ongoing pandemic – McMurray said donations like the Kiwanis Club's are crucial to keeping House of Blessing's shelves stocked.

"Our situation is similar," said Capt. Mike Mailman of the Salvation Army food bank in Stratford. "We had to move to a pre-packed hamper system, so everybody gets the same items. So we started running out of certain things faster than others and (the Kiwanis donation) was really helpful. We have had other donations, but this one is a really nice big bump to help fill in the gaps."





The Kiwanis Club of Stratford recently donated \$8,000 in food, supplies (cont'd)

As for the club's donation to the United Way, MacLennan said the organization's urgent needs funds is a great way to ensure that \$2,000 can go towards helping as many local organizations and individuals as possible.

"It says it right there – 'urgent needs' – and I think there are urgent needs in the city," MacLennan said. "This COVID-19 has really put some stress on people and we thought (the fund) would be a good venue to address any other needs."

MacLennan said he and the Kiwanis Club of Stratford's board of directors have been meeting regularly via video conference, and he expects the club will announce additional donations to local organizations as the pandemic continues.

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Capt. Mike Mailman of the Salvation Army food bank in Stratford shows off the shelves he was able to restock thanks to a recent donation of food and supplies by the Kiwanis Club of Stratford. Submitted photo

The Kiwanis Club of Toronto Foundation, in April, provided \$75,000 in community grants to Toronto based charities and non profit organizations that serve children and families . The grants were to provide food to help people affected with COVID-19. The Boys and Girls Club of East Scarborough, ESBGC, was nominated by DLG Stuart McCormack. Stuart and ESBGC continue to enjoy a relationship that spans 30+ years.



Food Manager Marilyn of Utcha and DLG Stuart

# Battling Covid-19



## 10-year-old harpist creates song, video to say 'thank you' to essential workers



**Alexa Rose Yeo, 10, of Goderich, Ont., wrote and performed the song 'Light in the Darkness' as a way of saying thank you to essential workers.**

Alexa Rose Yeo, 10, of Goderich, Ont., was halfway through preparing her own composition for the 2020 Kiwanis Music Festival when the novel **coronavirus** pandemic forced the cancellation of the festival in mid-March.

Yeo said she wanted to finish the song and she began to think of how she could use music to thank essential workers.

"My mom showed me videos of doctors and nurses working in China and Italy to help fight COVID-19 and she told me that Canada was preparing for the virus to come here," Yeo told Global News.

"So I decided to finish writing the song and dedicate it to front-line and essential workers and I want to let other kids say thanks too."

Once the song — named "Light in the Darkness" — was complete, Yeo says her mother Crystal Brennan-Yeo took to Facebook to ask for "thank you" messages from other kids to be included in a video. "Videos started coming in like right away. My mom taught me how to edit on iMovie so I spent about three hours editing," Yeo explained.

*"Even though kids are young, we still understand how scary it is to be working during this difficult time with the virus."*

Posted on Alexa's ***The Hometown Harpist*** Facebook page on March 23, Brennan-Yeo says the video had over 13,000 views as of April 28.

"It was so exciting too when the video was put out and Alexa was like, 'oh my gosh, we reached 20 views!' She's now, like, we're just over the moon that it's had over 13,000 views," Brennan-Yeo told Global News.

"Recently she was contacted by a kindergarten teacher who wanted

to use the video in her lessons for Superhero Day," she added.

"There's like seven kindergarten teachers and so the message would go out to all of the children so that they could make signs to acknowledge front-line workers. In response, Alexa's recorded this personal message to all of the children inviting them to be heroes themselves by staying at home, washing their hands, listening to parents and caregivers.

"She even explained to them that even though they are kids, that they have a voice and they should use it to do good in the world."

Yeo first became interested in the harp after attending the Goderich Celtic Roots Festival with her mother and has been playing the harp for six years.

Her mother also found herself enamored with the instrument and also takes lessons, including monthly group lessons with other adults.

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**Jacquelyn LeBel** 980 CFPL  
April 28, 2020



# Battling Covid-19



## Kiwanis Club donation to help provide masks for local healthcare facilities

There are approximately 400 volunteers assisting with sewing caps and masks

Apr 29, 2020 1:28 PM By: SooToday Staff



The Kiwanis Club of Lakeshore has donated \$1,000 towards the Days for Girls Program to provide cotton to sew caps and masks for local healthcare facilities, including the two hospitals, nursing homes, and the hospice in Sault Ste. Marie.

The request came from Gabi Doleski, who organizes the Days for Girls program, a proud project of the Zonta Club of Sault Ste. Marie and Area. There are approximately 400 volunteers assisting with sewing the caps and masks.

The Kiwanis Club of Lakeshore financially supports the Days for Girls Program each year, contributing to the production of washable, reusable feminine hygiene products for developing nations worldwide.

"The members of the Club have been supporting Days for Girls for a number of years and we are pleased to be able to contribute these funds so volunteers, who are dedicating time to sew masks and caps for our frontline healthcare workers, will have plenty of fabric needed," said Giselle Chiarello, president.

Previous to the COVID-19 pandemic, the local Days for Girls team met monthly to sew and package together the DFG basic kits (Portable Object of Dignity). The Kiwanis Club and Aktion Clubs of Lakeshore have been supporting this initiative not only financially but through service.



# Battling Covid-19



The Children's Fund is helping Kiwanis clubs tackle the digital divide that has been exposed by the coronavirus



The Kiwanis Club of Kanata-Stittsville is also using a grant from the Children's Fund to fill technology gaps in Eastern Ontario, said club President Glynn Knee-bone. Working with the Kiwanis Club of Bytown, the Kiwanians are working with public and parochial school boards to find students who need computers.

While school districts were loaning computers to families, the Kiwanians are buying Chromebooks that students can keep. Before receiving the grant, the clubs had raised enough money to purchase 60 computers; the grant will allow the clubs to give away an additional nine to 11 Chromebooks through the program it's calling Kiwanis Computers for Kids.

The clubs don't meet the families but have learned about their circumstances, Knee-bone said. For example, computers have been given to Canadian First Nation families; a family who recently immigrated to Canada from Equatorial Guinea; a family with five siblings, including two with learning delays; and siblings living with their elderly grandmother.

Knee-bone said the club, which recently celebrated its second anniversary, was considering a computer

project before the pandemic forced students to stay home. "We knew this was a problem, but no one knew how large it was until COVID-19 happened," he said.

Response to the program from school officials has been overwhelming.

"The pandemic will pass but this initiative by our partners in the Kiwanis clubs will have far-reaching implications for students to help achieve equity and excellence," the Ottawa Catholic School Board wrote to the Kanata-Stittsville club.

While delivering food hampers in Scarborough, Tobago, Shelly-Ann McPherson-Price said her club learned about the obstacles facing families in their community. She heard about a family with six children who were all trying to do their schoolwork on their father's smartphone.

The Scarborough Kiwanis club is using its grant from the COVID-19 Response Program to provide food, laptops and internet service to 30 children in six families.

# P.E.I. residents embrace a small return to normalcy with ice cream and warm weather

Michael Robar  
(michael.robar@theguardian.pe.ca)

As spring heats up and some restrictions around the coronavirus (COVID-19 strain) pandemic are lifted, Islanders are emerging if the steady, social-distanced line at Kiwanis Dairy Bar in Victoria Park is any indication.

On Sunday, with plenty of sun and temperatures near 20 C, it was a perfect day to get out of the house to grab some ice cream and plenty of people, like Sean Gallant, were taking advantage.

"It's something I've been looking forward to for the last couple weeks," he said. "I have ice cream dreams."

Gallant, with skateboard and roommate in tow, was bound for the nearby skatepark, but not before getting a strawberry sundae.

Despite describing himself as "not a social guy," Gallant said he was missing simple outings like this and beyond being delicious, the sundae is a hopeful sign of things to come, he said.

"It shows there's a light at the end of the tunnel with these restrictions getting lifted ... it's good to see it (improve)."

While the Dairy Bar had a late opening this season due to COVID-19, operator Basil Hambly said business is mostly normal, with the nice weather making for busy days.

"We can't complain, you know. A lot of people have been stuck inside the house the last few months and want to get out and the park is just the place to come and people are very excited."



Sarah Hamilton, from left, Dan Watts and his daughters Rose and Rainna enjoy some ice cream and onion rings from the Kiwanis Dairy Bar in Victoria Park on Sunday. - Michael Robar/The Guardian

For Dan Watts, the normality of going out for a walk and getting some ice cream on a gorgeous, hot day was a way to help his daughters during these unusual times.

"We're also just getting them to burn off some steam."

Watts' partner, Sarah Hamilton, said while they have continued to get the kids out for walks around the block, other easing restrictions will help the return to normal even more.

"Now that the trails are open, we'll go out to Fullerton's or Bonshaw."

Hambly, though more hopeful, had similar thoughts as the Kiwanis club thinks about ways to celebrate the Dairy Bar's 65th anniversary. Due to restrictions, it's unlikely the club can have a large event. Instead, the plan is to have several smaller events throughout the summer to honour the occasion.

Regardless, Hambly is happy to be of service to the community.

"We love seeing the people coming and chatting and doing it again."

Sean Gallant, left, and roommate Brady MacWilliams enjoy some ice cream in Victoria Park before heading to the skate park to soak up some of Sunday's beautiful weather. Michael Robar







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