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Break the ice



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

POLY LAT • KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Play time

This issue of Kiwanis magazine focuses on the importance of play in our lives. When we are youngsters, ideally life is all about fun and family. Play is our job. I remember growing up how I rushed outside with my brothers and sisters to play basketball, hide-and-seek and even chess. These are fond memories and I now enjoy sharing in these activities with my children and grandchildren.

Kids should be playful and carefree. Unfortunately, reality can be very different for too many children. As Kiwanians, our mission of service is to assist and steer children toward a better life not only with safe places to play, but with vaccines, educational opportunities and other necessities. Working to give children a stronger foundation makes our hearts full when we see smiles and hear laughter.

There are many events throughout the year that our clubs sponsor to brighten a child's day and give them reason to believe in their dreams. One of my favorite times of year is Christmas. In the Philippines, my club continues a tradition I started 25 years ago in honor of my daughter, who was born on Christmas Eve.

The Kiwanis Club of Inter-City Homes, Muntinlupa, Metro Manila hosts the Jollibee Party for children who are less fortunate. We have a mascot, gifts and games, and we give kids food to take home to their families.

Globally, our Kiwanis team is made up of hundreds of thousands of people around the world who come together to enrich the lives of children. When I say I like to celebrate, it is not frivolous. Celebrations recognize those who step up and achieve and can motivate those who need a little coaxing. This is my vision for this year's Kiwanis convention and the K.I.D.S. Awards (Kiwanis International Distinguished Service), which will be awarded at the member, club, division and district levels.

We know that as we get older, playtime is still important. It gives us something to look forward to when we engage with one another as we pursue common goals. Who doesn't have more fun at work when there's a congenial, lighthearted environment? It's the same in our club meetings. The more

fun we have, the more ownership we take in delivering meaningful experiences and opportunities to our kids and communities.



EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVE

STAN SODERSTROM • KIWANIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Daily integration

We all had our favorite games as kids. For me, it was "twilight tag." We played it all across the front yards of our street — and it got better as the sky got darker.

Since it's such a fond part of our childhood memories, "play" is easy to underestimate as a force in our lives. Even when we acknowledge the need for it — for adults as well as kids — we often think of it as the lighter half of life. Or maybe less than half.

But play is more than a release valve — a moment to blow off steam before getting back to business. It's part of the business of life.

Altogether, the articles in this issue make that point: We benefit by integrating play into our daily adult lives. Multiple studies have shown that playfulness is crucial to sustaining the relationships that keep us happy. And happiness, in turn, helps keep both our minds and our bodies sharp.

For me, that sense of connection is one of the most striking benefits of play. I've seen it in the Kiwanis family. Can it be a coincidence that the strongest Kiwanis clubs are usually the most fun for their members? As I've often said, the best incentive to become a Kiwanis member is to meet a happy Kiwanis member.

That shows how important play really is; it's even a factor in the strength of clubs and the growth of Kiwanis. And if fellow adults can see it when it's there (and when it's not), you can bet the kids in your community can. When it comes to play, you can't fool a child.

In fact, this issue features several members whose commitment to play enriched their service to kids — and their connection to their own youthful selves. In "The Games We Played" (page 16), members reminisce about childhood fun in their own words. We simply requested that people call and leave a message, and they did.

Author and change agent Kevin Carroll shares how play and sport can save and change someone's life ("Power Play," page 12). We also talk to Kiwanians in Texas who are teaching kids how to play chess ("End Game," page 17) and take a trip to Kiwanis Field in Brantford, Ontario, where kids hit the track and field, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Kiwanis.

We're glad so many of you are encouraging play, no matter what the game or the age. Because play is no childish matter for anyone dedicated to children. Now get out there and play!



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Letters

READERS OF KIWANIS MAGAZINE AND ITS BLOGS RESPOND TO RECENT FEATURES.

JOIN THE CONVERSATIONS AT KIWANISMAGAZINE.ORG OR EMAIL MAGAZINE@KIWANIS.ORG.



Rock art*

Great article, my era of music, loved all the artists, favorite Jim Morrison.

Jean Igooe

Kiwanis Club of Northside Naples, Florida

**This photo feature appeared only on kiwanismagazine.org*



Simple kindness

Thank you so much for this article. My mom and dad, longtime Kiwanis and Key Club leaders, printed out and gave this article to all of their kids and their grand-kids this Christmas. I'm glad I found it and am sharing it now on social media.

Jim Wyatt



Laundry and literacy

What a significant activity!

Sylvia Tsai

Kiwanis Club of Wei Li, Taiwan



Correction

Ninfa B Araúz G, who wrote a letter to the editor about the feature "Bone Structure," (January/February 2019) is a member of the Kiwanis Club of San José, Panama. His club was incorrectly identified in his letter, which was published in the March 2019 issue.

PLAY

Play never told me you can't
or don't
or you shouldn't
or you won't.

Play never said be careful!
You're not strong enough.
You're not big enough.
You're not brave enough.

Play has always been an invitation.
A celebration.
A joyous manifestation.
Of the cans
and wills
and what ifs
and why not's.

Play isn't one thing. It's everything. Anything.

Play doesn't care what a body can or cannot do.
Because play lives inside us. All of us.

Play begs of us:
Learn together.
Grow together.
Be together.
Know together.

And as we grow older.
As the world comes at us with you can't
or don't
or you shouldn't
or you won't.
We come back to what we know.
That imagination will never fail us.
That words will never hurt us.
That play will always shape us.



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What's happening

TRENDS, TIPS, FACTS AND FIGURES FROM KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL



Key Leader expansion

Kiwanis International seeks to expand its flagship high school experiential leadership program, Key Leader, in 2019 and beyond by working with Kiwanis and external sponsors to host and fund Key Leader weekends.

Key Leader weekends are led by trained facilitators and materials are provided by Kiwanis International at a reduced rate for Kiwanis clubs. For more information about how your Kiwanis club, local high school, business or foundation can sponsor this experience for high school students, contact Dick Peterson at dpeterson@kiwanis.org.

Since its creation in 2005, Key Leader has helped more than 33,000 high school students identify their values, set goals, understand service leadership and build new connections throughout the United States, Canada, the Bahamas, Malaysia, Brazil, Cayman Islands, El Salvador and Singapore.

Speaker update

This year's Kiwanis International convention at Walt Disney World® Resort will feature a speaker each morning on the big stage. Here's a quick look at the morning lineup. Each begins at 10 a.m.

Thursday: Jim Collins, author of "Good to Great."

Friday: Global Health Update. Multiple speakers. Moderated by Kiwanis International Past President John Button.

Saturday: Dillon Kalkhurst, author of "Generation Everyone! A Guide to Generational Harmony at Work, School and Home"



The average number of calls made to **Member Services** at Kiwanis International per month. Do you have a question? Call us at 1-800-549-2647, ext. 411 (US and Canada), or +1-317-875-8755, ext. 411. Or email memberservices@kiwanis.org.

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Legacy of Play deadlines

Mark your calendars for April 12! Kiwanis-family clubs are invited to submit their proposals for the Legacy of Play contest, sponsored by Kiwanis partner Landscape Structures. The winning club will receive US\$25,000 in playground equipment.

Other deadlines to note:

May 10: Last day to enter projects

May 15: Voting begins

May 29: Voting ends

June 5-6: Judges choose winner

June 7: Winner announced

Check out kiwanis.org/legacyofplay for all the details.



Kiwanis receives award

Kiwanis International recently was honored with the Up With People 2019 Community Partner Award.

"Kiwanis International is extremely honored to receive this award," says Kiwanis International Executive Director Stan Soderstrom, who accepted the award during an Up With People fundraising gala this past March. "Our partnership is based upon shared values of engaged youth to impact communities that ultimately uplift children and families."

Up with People is a global education, service leadership and performing arts program that exists today to empower young people to be positive agents of change in the world. Since 2014, Up with People and Kiwanis International members have worked together to serve our communities, inspire youth and expand our impact in the world.



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The power of **PLAY**

WE ENCOURAGE KIDS TO DO IT. WE REMEMBER TIMES WHEN WE DID IT. SO MAYBE IT'S TIME WE GOT BACK TO THE PLAYGROUND.

If you line up 20 people of all ages and ask what play means to them, chances are you'll get almost 20 different answers. Kevin Carroll has done it. Carroll, a speaker, author and change-maker, dedicates his life to sharing stories about the power of play. He's asked countless people what play means to them, and he's assembled a few of the answers into something of a poem for Kiwanis members to ponder. (See page 12.)

So, what is play to you?

As Kiwanians, we dedicate our lives to helping children in so many ways, and often it's through

play. We work with Kiwanis partner Nickelodeon for Worldwide Day of Play and partner Landscape Structures to bring playgrounds to communities and families. We value play and exercise and the things play can teach us all, such as teamwork, negotiation skills, empathy, caring, sharing and more.

But how do we as grown-ups play? What do you do to get in touch with your inner child? Do you make model airplanes? Golf? Do you teach kids how to play fun games from your childhood?

This issue of Kiwanis magazine is dedicated to the child in us all. We hope you'll be inspired and excited to get out and play.



POWER PLAY

AUTHOR, SPEAKER AND AGENT FOR SOCIAL CHANGE, KEVIN CARROLL OFFERS A PLETHORA OF PITHY AND PLAYFUL PROSE TO PONDER.

Story by Kevin Carroll

If I've learned one thing, it is this: Circumstances don't have to dictate one's destiny.

Here's how I know. My parents chose their addiction over raising their three sons. The pinnacle moment of my parents' neglect resulted in the three of us being "rescued" by a stranger, shuttled down to a Greyhound bus station in Bowling Green, Virginia, placed on a bus alone (ages 8, 6 and 3) and sent on a 200-plus mile, one-way fare to my grandparents' house just outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Without parents in my life, I resorted to finding my life lessons from many sources: businessmen and laborers, winos and alcoholics, drug dealers and users, sport coaches, my peers and old-heads at the playground, merchants, war vets, school teachers, librarians, custodians, food service workers and other kids' moms

and dads. I learned to be constantly on the lookout for any nugget of insight that would assist me on my quest to rise above my suffering and circumstances. I spent endless hours at the neighborhood playground, where I found my calling: a red rubber ball. That red rubber ball (you know: play and sports) and Preston Playground proved to be a catalyst in my journey from a hardscrabble upbringing filled with dysfunction, upheaval and uncertainty to becoming an author, a speaker and a global change agent. Preston Playground plus school plus the public library (coupled with an unexpected and uplifting community of encouragers) were all instrumental in my effort to rise above my circumstances. I know firsthand about the transformative power and value of play and sports and how it can save and change someone's life.

.....



In their words:

Read and heed

Consider some of my favorite quotes about the power of play and how you can incorporate play into not only the lives of children, but also into your own life. Think about it.

"You can discover more about a person in one hour of play than in a year of conversation." — *Plato*

"Play isn't the enemy of learning, it's learning's partner." — *Stuart Brown, The (US) National Institute for Play*

"Fresh air, nature and regular physical activity breaks are considered engines of learning." — *Finnish Education Philosophy*

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing!" — *George Bernard Shaw*

But then again ...

We all speak BALL

Sport and play are common human denominators and equalizers. No matter where you go in the world — regardless of socioeconomic, political or religious system — sport

and play are present. Stories abound about the use of sport and play as social innovation tools versus foes of the human condition — health, gender equity, social inclusion, homelessness, literacy, natural disaster, conflict and many others — and there are human catalysts who utilize it to inspire change and action. I support human catalysts all over the world who are using sport and play as social innovation tools. I participate with global organizations and support their efforts to advance the human condition via sport

So, as my grandfather used to tell me ...
"Don't talk about it ... BE about it!"

In addition to the play-related programs you already support, I suggest you explore these game-changing play and sport organizations and events to spark action:

Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play worldwidedayofplay.com

Get Up, Get Out and Go Play! This message has resulted in thousands of events and millions of kids being active and pursuing healthy lifestyles. (*Nickelodeon is a Kiwanis partner.*)

Beyond Sport beyondsport.org

This global organization promotes, supports and cele-

brates the use of sport to address social issues in communities around the world.

Homeless World Cup homelessworldcup.org

The Homeless World Cup Foundation supports grassroots soccer/football projects around the world with the Homeless World Cup annual tournament aimed to support and develop grassroots projects that utilize the sport as a tool for social change.

One World Play Project oneworldplayproject.com

The unpopable One World Futbol originally was created as a solution for kids living in harsh conditions where standard soccer balls don't last long. Now its offshoot, One World Play Project, focuses on the transformative power of play for all.

love fútbol lovefutbol.org

love.futbol mobilizes and engag-

es communities to plan, build, manage, activate and redefine their own soccer/football pitches as sustainable platforms for social change.

Sports Outreach Chess Program sportsoutreach.net/programs/chess

This Uganda-based chess and mentoring program inspired the "Queen of Katwe" book and a Disney movie.

Imagination Playground imaginationplayground.com

This equipment system builds communities united by a belief in the importance of creative free play.

Playworks playworks.org

Playworks helps schools and districts make the most of recess through on-site staffing, consultative support, professional development and free resources. Playworks helps schools figure out what works well on their playgrounds.



and play. I'm honored to have a platform to raise my voice and share their remarkable stories about the power of sport and play as a game changer.

So what is play?

Some simple truths

I have been asking all sorts of people around the world for a while now: What is play? These answers are from friends, strangers, neighbors, celebrities, family, kids and men and women on the street I've met. Read them and then answer the question for yourself.

PLAY IS ...

necessary. play is tactile. play is active.
play is experiential. play is collaborative.
play is community. play is unpredictable.
play is inventive. play is creative.
play is hardwired. play is nimble. play is loud.
play is emotional. play is a ball.
play is spontaneous. play is serious business.
play is physical. play is fun. play is revealing.
play is cultural. play is energy. play is curious.
play is personal. play is knowledge.
play is skill building. play is imagination.
play is social. play is healing. play is instinctual.
play is art. play is marvelous. play is messy.
play is innovation. play is endless possibilities.

play is encouraging. play is terrifying.
play is joyful. play is discovery. play is digital. play is rural.

play is challenging. play is relaxing. play is a movement.

play is recess for the soul. play is purposeful.

play is the unknown. play is serious in business.

play is mistakes. play is games. play is freedom.

play is resourceful. play is wise. play is chaos.

play is a big box. play is untapped. play is laughter.

play is boundless. play is "aha!" play is multi-sensory.

play is primal.
play is ingenuity.
play is urban.

play is clever.
play is movement. play is timeless.

play is life-changing.

play is forgotten.

play is serious. play is global. play is soulful.

play is permissive. play is energizing.

play is empowerment. play is strategic.

play is a living lab. play is problem-solving.

play is visual. play is genius.

play is ...

.....
Kevin Carroll: author, play/sport advocate and living proof of the power of play! [K]





End game

TEXAS KIWANIS TEACH CHESS TO KIDS WHO LEARN STRATEGY ALONG WITH SOME IMPORTANT LIFE LESSONS.

Story and photos by Curtis Billue



As the chess board is being set, the students bristle with excitement. "Can anyone solve this puzzle?" asks Kiwanian Duane Solley. "Two moves for checkmate."

Hands and voices raise with possible answers. After revealing the answer

(it's a "queen's sacrifice"), the kids learn a lesson on patience. "Look how long it took us to find a two-move checkmate," Solley says.

Student Isaac Brown can't wait until next week's puzzle. During the breakout he asks Solley for another problem.

"It helps with problem-solving," says Lee Ann Cloud, teacher at Wilder Intermediate school. "The kids have to learn strategies to play the game of chess, just like the game of life."

The benefits of learning chess vary from better social skills, thinking before acting and learning from mistakes.

"Parents like chess club because it encourages memory and calculation," Solley says. "Children learn because it is fun."









Started six years ago by Duane Solley and in coordination with JoAnna Wold, community and schools social worker at Rose Garden Elementary, the weekly chess club has taken off at both Rose Garden and Wilder Intermediate schools in Schertz, Texas.

"He offered to volunteer here at Rose Garden once a week his entire life," jokes Wold, "and he's very dedicated to teaching children who have no knowledge of chess."

The kids seem to love the program and the recognition. Twice a year, the Kiwanis Club of San Antonio Army Residence Community Golden K visits with chess T-shirts and awards for the students.

"The students appreciate them coming; they get excited when they see their gold vests," says Wold. "It's been a wonderful partnership, and we look forward to it all the time."

Student Alex Simon knows

that playing more makes a difference.

"Practice makes perfect. You're not going to be the best chess player after one game," he says.

Student Wyatt Cravey says he learned a life lesson from chess.

"I've learned not to rush my school work," he says.

For some kids, playing chess gives them a goal. Layton Keller likes learning how to use the pieces, in hopes that he "can defeat my brother, who usually wins." And Isaiah Jenkins hopes to beat his dad. "He said he'd buy me a chess board if I beat him," Jenkins says.

Emotions during a game range from intense concentration to expressive surprise. Some are lopsided wins, with most of a player's pieces being captured.

However, Kainen Cuello puts it in perspective.

"If you lose or win, you always learn your lesson, and you get better," Cuello says, adding that everyone makes mistakes.

As the games wrap up, each student shows a gesture of sportsmanship, shaking hands with their opponent. It's the same way they started the match.

When asked about how to deal with defeat, Calleigh Keiser says it's more about having fun and making friends:

"I just say, 'Great game,' and I'm OK with it."

Presley Durden agrees:

"If you lose, it's still fun because you played the game." □



◇ THE GAMES ◇ WE PLAYED

WE ASKED AND YOU ANSWERED. NOW WE ALL WANT TO GO OUTSIDE AND FIND SOME FRIENDS.

Memories supplied by Kiwanis members

“What d’ya wanna play?”
It was the rallying question that called us into the streets, alleys, backyards and barn lots, where no adults were around to organize us or enforce the rules.

“I don’t know. What d’ya wanna play?”

No one ever wanted to be the first to answer, because the first suggestion was always shot down.

“Four square!”

“We played that yesterday.”

“Hide-and-seek?”



“Nah, that’s for babies.”

“Hopscotch?”

“Nobody has chalk.”

“I know! Let’s play tag!”

“Yeah. You’re it!”

And off we’d go, racing through our childhood.

Outdoor games are among our most precious memories.

Kiwanis magazine asked members to share favorite stories from a time when having fun was as simple as kicking a can, scooping up jacks or obeying “Simon.”

Here’s what we played.



HIDE-AND-SEEK

We had a big grassy lot next to our house owned by an older couple that let all the neighborhood kids play ... hide-and-seek, two-hand touch football, kickball, cowboys and Indians, Army (I was always the nurse), red rover, ring around the rosie, Chinese jump rope, hopscotch, marbles or freeze tag. It was fun, safe and the memories are lasting forever.

MOTHER MAY I

Mother May I was a fun game with as many kids as you wanted to play. A leader would give a direction such as, "Take three giant steps," and the person would have to respond, "Mother May I" before taking the direction.

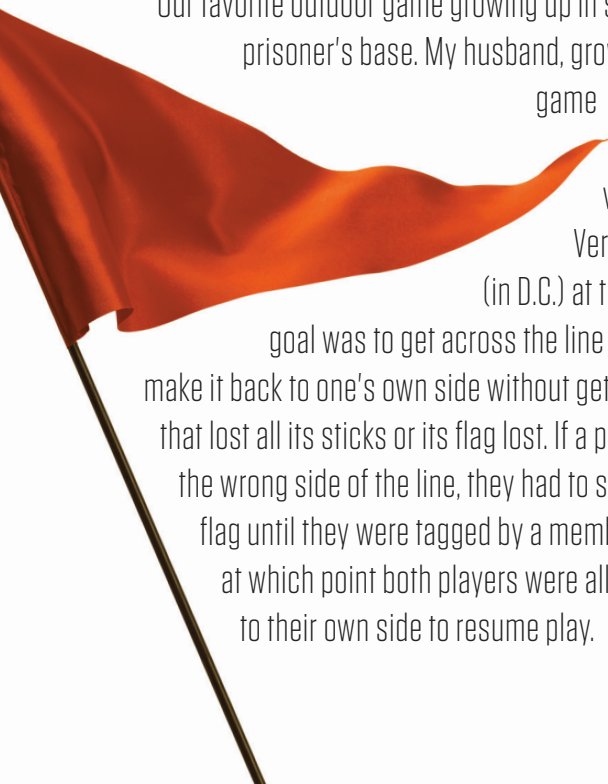
RED ROVER

Red rover. ... We always played in our front yard with many of the neighborhood kiddos. It was not unusual to have 20-plus kids. So much fun.

I always got a running start to break the line when it was my turn, and since I lived on a farm, I had the strength to do it. But I held tight when the other team was chosen.

CAPTURE THE FLAG

Our favorite outdoor game growing up in southern Vermont in the 1940s and 1950s was prisoner's base. My husband, growing up in Washington, D.C. ... played a similar game called capture the flag. In both cases, the game started with two teams on either side of a line dividing the play area. There were piles of sticks (in Vermont) or a piece of cloth on a stick (in D.C.) at the back of the play area, and the goal was to get across the line and grab a stick or the flag and make it back to one's own side without getting tagged. The side that lost all its sticks or its flag lost. If a player was tagged on the wrong side of the line, they had to stand with the sticks/flag until they were tagged by a member of their own team, at which point both players were allowed to return directly to their own side to resume play.



SWING HOCKEY

I grew up across the street from a community park called Berry Park ... heavily shaded by elm trees. The city at one point put a telephone pole across the forks of two of these elm trees, about 20 feet off the ground. From it hung two swings. ... We'd put a small flat rock on the ground between the swings, which were about four feet apart. We'd (step) back as far as we could reach with our feet on the ground, standing on our tiptoes, and draw a line in the dirt behind us. Then we'd stand there and on the count of three, we'd let go. And the swing would arc toward this rock, and we would try to knock the rock over the opponent's end line. Each time you'd do that, that was a point. ... We played this game for hours, and we called it swing hockey.



KICK THE CAN

Kick the can ... but only after dark.

We had a gentleman who lived down the street who was blind. He would play with us and be "it." Even without seeing, he could still catch us trying to kick the can.

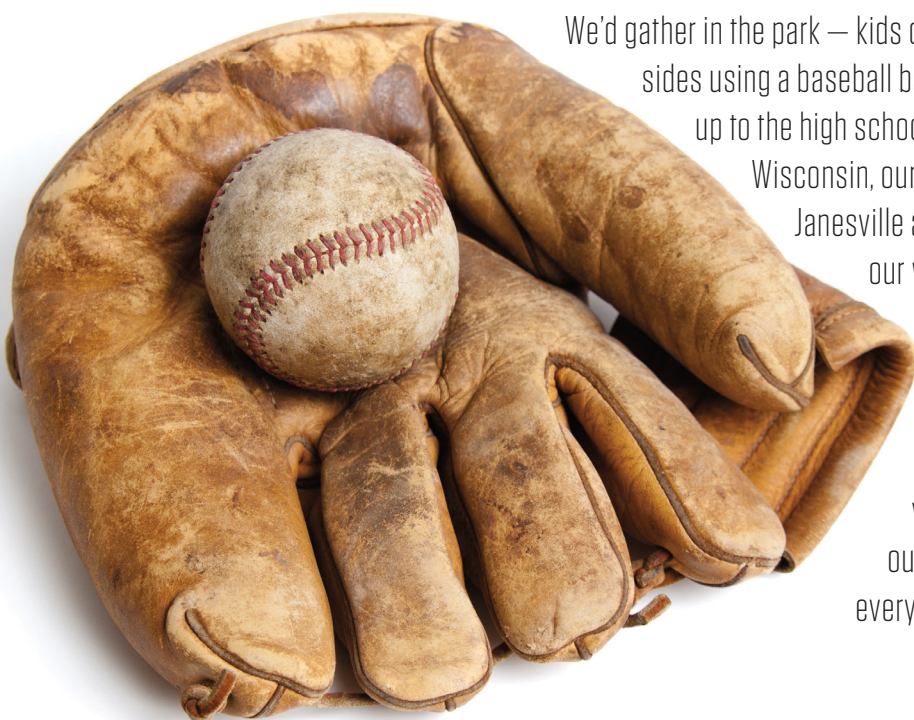
BASEBALL

Scrub. It was baseball with three players: batter, pitcher and outfielder. We constantly rotated positions. It was just like kickball in that regard.

We'd gather in the park — kids of all ages — and choose sides using a baseball bat. When us young ones grew up to the high school level in Johnson Creek,

Wisconsin, our team had to play schools in Janesville and Madison in order to make our way to the state tournament.

My class had 54 students — smallest school to ever make it to state. Lessons learned when we were young: We played together by our own rules, and we cheered everyone on.



HOPSCOTCH

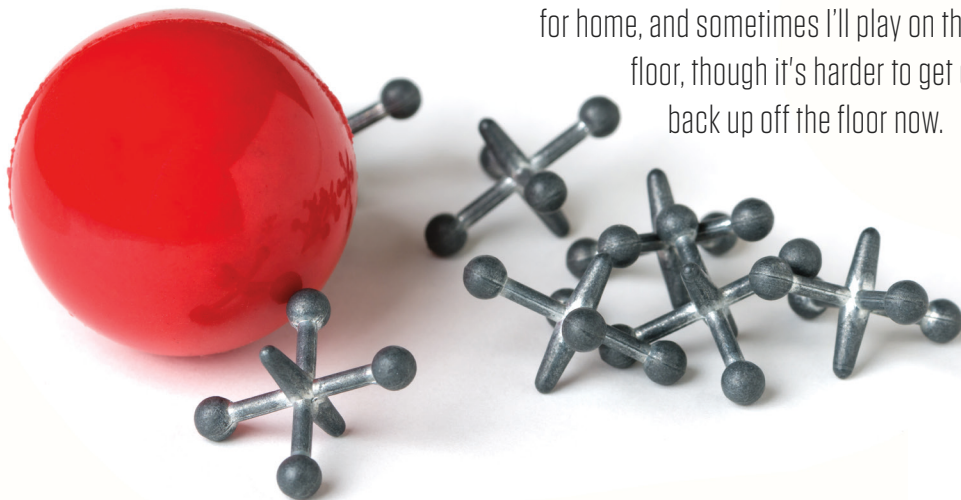
Hopscotch was my favorite because I played it by myself when no friends were around or together with a group of girls. My favorite memory was using "fancy" charms as markers. My friends and I would try to outdo each other with our markers. I loved using the chalk to draw the hopscotch game on the ground. That was always special to get it just right.



JACKS

My friends and I loved hunkering down on the walkways at recess and digging our jacks and balls out of our pockets for lengthy and quite advanced competitions!

I loved to play jacks at recess. ... I (recently) bought myself some jacks for home, and sometimes I'll play on the kitchen floor, though it's harder to get down and back up off the floor now.



FOOTBALL

I was the girl in my neighborhood ... with seven boys. Flag football was the name of the game, and I was quarterback. I worked well in the position until I got hit by a 200-pound boy. My mother ended my career as a quarterback.





Get in the **GAME**

**GOLF CAN SHARPEN YOUR MENTAL SKILLS. GET YOU MUCH-NEEDED EXERCISE.
RAISE SOME MONEY FOR YOUR FAVORITE CHARITY. TEACH LIFE SKILLS.
SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?**

Story by Scott Michaux

GOLF

has never been hipper. That might not be saying much regarding a sport lorded over for centuries by stuffy officials in blue blazers and green jackets, but in the new millennium, Judge Smails from *Caddyshack* is fading as the stereotype of a golfer. You don't have to spend all day at some hardscrabble municipal course dealing with slow players or invest all your savings in a private club membership to get the golf experience anymore. High-tech digital driving ranges like Topgolf have turned the game into a social, pub-entertainment experience that any group of friends can enjoy, regardless of skill level or gender. Short courses and elaborate putting courses are proliferating at world-class destination resorts that cater to bucket-list buddy trips. Since Tiger Woods burst onto the PGA Tour in 1996, the best golfers in the world have become regarded as such elite athletes that other major league superstars like Steph Curry, John Smoltz and Tony Romo aspire to become professional golfers in the next phase of their athletic careers. Participation studies show golf — particularly popular

off-course options — is drawing a more diverse crowd than ever with the latent potential to alter the face of the game as its popularity grows.

GOLF CHARITY

Golf might not rank up there with football, basketball and baseball as America's favorite pastime, but there is one aspect of the game that leaves every other sport in its wake: charitable giving.

Golf is a major driver in fundraising and charitable giving in America — to the tune of about US\$3.9 billion per year, according to a recent study conducted by the National Golf Foundation. In 2015, roughly 12 million participants in 143,000 events at 12,700 golf facilities in the United States generated an average of \$26,400 per function in charitable proceeds that benefited everything from youth to health to education to environmental causes.

Meanwhile, the PGA Tour dwarfs all other professional sports organizations in charitable giving. In 2018, all the tours under the PGA Tour umbrella — which also includes the Champions Tour, Web.com Tour and minor professional tours in Canada, Latin America and China — generated a record \$190 million for more than 3,000 charitable causes.

The PGA Tour's all-time charitable giving surpassed \$1 billion in 2005, \$2 billion in 2014 and currently stands on the brink of crossing \$3 billion this year with its total already reaching \$2.84 billion.

"Through the world of golf, the PGA Tour and its tournaments — backed by its network of volunteers — drive positive impact at unprecedented levels to support and improve local communities," says Jay Monahan, the PGA Tour commissioner.

Professional golf's impact doesn't stop there, with many male and female pros establishing their own foundations to benefit their home communities. We see individual examples of this every year, such as LPGA star Stacy Lewis winning for the first time in three years and donating her entire \$195,000 winner's check to Hurricane Harvey relief in her adopted home state of Texas.





Kevin and Brittany Kisner Courtesy Getty Images

"We're going to be able to help people rebuild houses and get their homes back, and that's more important than any win," Lewis said after her 2017 victory in the LPGA's Cambia Portland Classic.

PGA Tour veteran Kevin Kisner and his wife established the Kevin & Brittany Kisner Foundation in their hometown of Aiken, South Carolina, to benefit local organizations that promote children's fitness, health, education and opportunities to participate in sports.

Kisner's second annual "Clays, Greens and Strings" outing and

concert at Sage Valley Golf Club included fellow tour pros Justin Thomas, Zach Johnson, Stewart Cink, Brian Harman, Luke List and Kevin Mitchell and generated more than \$200,000 to support kids in the Aiken/Augusta area.

"Ever since I began my career in professional golf, a personal goal has always been to establish a foundation focused on children and their well-being," Kisner says. "Brittany and I are grateful that we have the opportunity to live in such a caring community. We want all children in the area to have the opportunity to flourish."

Kiwanis clubs around the world know the power of a golf tournament for fundraising efforts. See page 35 for a small sampling of Kiwanis golf projects.

PRO TIP

If you're just starting out and are serious about taking up golf as a hobby, the first thing to know is: DO NOT try to learn how to do it from a magazine. The most important tip you can start with is seeking out a local professional for a lesson on the basics of how to grip the club, address the ball and take a swing. Trying to develop those fundamentals on your own is a recipe for creating bad habits and a lifetime of regret on the golf course. Once a knowledgeable set of eyes points you down the right fairway, feel free to figure out your own unique way of navigating the game for the rest of your life.

Here's the No. 1 piece of advice courtesy of Jack Nicklaus, the greatest champion in the history of golf with a record 18 major titles.

"Probably the best lesson I ever had was one of the first lessons I ever received. I was about 10 or 11 years old, and my instructor Jack Grout was the head professional at Scioto Country Club in my hometown of Columbus, Ohio," Nicklaus says. "What he taught me is not something you can find in a book, on a video, in some infomercial or on the back of a box of the latest and greatest swing aid. In fact, it wasn't even something born out of the dirt

Jack Nicklaus





Photo courtesy Topgolf

“Jack Grout taught me to be self-sufficient, to figure out my own game, be my own teacher and to be able to correct myself on the golf course in critical situations or in tournament play.”

of a practice tee. It was a lesson that came at the age of 10 and one I find ageless — something I still reiterate today if asked the one bit of advice I would give the average golfer. It’s about knowing yourself; understanding your golf game; and most important, believing in it, trusting it and having the confidence in yourself and your game. Jack Grout taught me to be self-sufficient, to figure out my own game, be my own teacher and to be able to correct myself on the golf course in critical situations or in tournament play.”

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Since founding the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation just over 14 years ago, Jack and Barbara Nicklaus have helped raise more than US\$90 million to provide families access to world-class pediatric healthcare. The globally renowned Nicklaus Children’s Hospital in Miami and 14 Nicklaus Children’s outpatient centers spread throughout Florida have treated children from every U.S. state and 119 countries.

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GETTING STARTED

Want in the game? Here's golf writer Scott Michaux's blueprint to get started.

Step 1: If you're near one of the 48 Topgolf facilities (*left*) in 27 states (with plans to expand into Canada), check it out with friends. Topgolf provides everything you need in a pressure-free atmosphere to see if you have a taste for the game.

Step 2: You'll need clubs, and chances are you have friends with extra used sets gathering dust in their garages. Their spouses will thank you for repurposing the clutter.



Step 3: Do not immediately spend money on expensive name-brand balls the pros use. Until you're capable of getting it to do what you want it to, any discount ball will be fine. You'll find plenty of nice lost balls along the way.



Step 4: Buy shoes with soft spikes. Whatever pair you choose, make sure they're comfortable enough to walk in for 18 holes. And please walk instead of using a cart; it's better for you and for your concentration.

Step 5: Find a public course with a driving range and a professional who can teach you the basics. The only thing that will make you better is practice, practice, practice. A regular group of peers will make it more motivating and fun.



Step 6: Wear out the practice putting green. It's free. The biggest improvement beginners make is saving strokes on and around the green. Frequent putting and chipping contests with friends will make you better.



EXTREME GOLF

If you want a different kind of bucket list beyond the world's top-ranked courses, here are some suggestions for a unique grand slam.

Highest: Yak Golf Course (13,025 feet) in India is certified by Guinness as the highest-altitude 18-hole course, but La Paz Golf Club (10,695 feet) in Bolivia is the best-kept and most accessible course above 10,000 feet.

Lowest: Furnace Creek Golf Club in Death Valley, California, sits 214 feet below sea level. It's recommended to play in winter, when the temperature doesn't reach the peak 130 degrees of summertime.



Coldest: Uummannaq in Greenland, 500 miles north of the Arctic Circle, hosts the annual World Ice Golf Championship, where hazards include icebergs, polar bears and sub-zero temperatures.

Northernmost: Tromsø Golf Club in Norway (69°) and Akureyri Golf Club in Iceland (65°) both stake claims to being the most northerly 18-hole courses where you might play on real grass. You can certainly tee off at midnight and play round the clock at both.

Southernmost: Ushuaia Golf Club at the tip of Tierra Del Fuego, Argentina, is as close as you can get to Antarctica and play golf on grass. Hopefully when you go, the bridge to the course won't be washed out by floods, and four of the nine holes won't be covered by the river that runs through it.

Barest: La Jenny Golf in Aquitaine, France, is the world's only naturist golf course, where the dress code requires nothing at all. This six-hole course will expose all aspects of your game and everything else. Bring lots of sunscreen.

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Don't forget your golf clubs when you attend the 2019 Kiwanis International Convention at Walt Disney World® Resort, Florida. The state has more than 1,250 golf courses — more than any other in the U.S. — and many are open to the public for a fee.



Topgolf – Orlando, Florida





Photo courtesy Sweetens Cove

ARCHITECTURE & TRAVEL

The most inviting aspect of golf is its venues. No offense to Lambeau, Wrigley or Cameron Indoor stadiums, but the most beautiful sports arenas in the world are golf courses. Anyone who's been to Augusta National, Pebble Beach or St. Andrews can attest to that fact.

Golf course architecture is in the midst of a new golden age. The real estate model that drove new course development for decades has been abandoned since the 2008 recession. New destination resorts with multiple outstanding courses are drawing golf aficionados to remote places like Bandon,

Oregon (Bandon Dunes); Nankoosa, Wisconsin (Sand Valley); Streamsong, Florida (Streamsong); Cape Breton, Nova Scotia (Cabot Links) and Bridport, Tasmania (Barnbougle Dunes).

The ultimate cult favorite for the budget-conscious golfer, however, is a nine-hole course 25 minutes outside of Chattanooga, Tennessee, called Sweetens Cove (*above*). Since it opened as a "hand-crafted" labor of love remodel in 2014, Sweetens has drawn universal rave reviews for its fun and imaginative design and low US\$25 greens fee (\$60 for all-day walking play). It was designed and built by Rob Col-

lins, who mortgaged everything he had to take over the lease in the midst of the \$1 million project. Collins and his design partner, Tad King, operate on the principle that "people had been building golf courses completely wrong for years." They've done it right, getting ranked No. 50 in the latest Golfweek Top 100 Modern Courses in America, ahead of major venues such as Hazeltine, Quail Hollow and Valhalla.

The author of heralded "The Confidential Guide to Golf Courses," Ran Morrisett, wrote: "If you leave Sweetens Cove smiling, don't panic: Golf is supposed to be fun."

PERSISTENCE

Sports psychologist Bob Rotella wrote the book “Golf is Not a Game of Perfect,” because the slogan “golf is a game of failure” was counter-productive in motivating clients.

Golfers constantly fail — to hit the right shot, to make the right decision, to win tournaments. Learning to handle failure allows the best golfers to find success.

Charles Howell III is one of the best golfers in the world. Coming off winning the individual NCAA title at Oklahoma State in 2000, he turned pro and was heralded as the next great golfer in the post-Tiger Woods era. He won a PGA Tour event in 2002 and was in the top 20 in the world.

By the start of 2018, however, Howell had played more than 500 professional events and won more than \$35 million, yet he only had

two career victories — the last in 2007. He’d finished runner-up 17 times and third nine more in his career — each near miss cutting a little deeper.

“Winning takes really good golf at the right time with the right break in there,” he says. “Now, that’s coming from somebody that’s got a whole lot of seconds and thirds and not a lot of wins. So one of those three things I just haven’t done. ... The line between first and second is a big line.”

As he approached 40 with two growing kids of his own, Howell gradually stopped defining himself by his golf results. Meanwhile, successive waves of young superstars joined the tour and pushed him further down the pecking order.

“All these guys were hitting the ball over 300 yards; they all putt

great,” he says. “Then you get Justin Thomas come out and win a bunch; Jordan Spieth come out and win a bunch. So when they do that, that’s another veteran’s job gone. That’s just how it works. ... It makes me keep trying to find new and creative ways to get better, new ways to push myself along.”

In November — 4,292 days (11 years, 9 months) since his previous win — Howell birdied the second playoff hole in the RSM Classic at Sea Island, Georgia, to end his drought and earn him a spot in his hometown Masters Tournament for the first time since 2012. All the emotions and doubts if he could ever win again poured out of him as his family ran onto the green to embrace him.

“You know, golf is a brutal game and the highs of the high, it comes with a lot of real lows,” Howell says. “You work and you practice and you prepare and you think you’re doing all the right things and the results don’t quite show that. So then you start to question everything really. It’s a wonderful lesson to be learned that if you truly believe in what you’re doing, to stay the course.” [K]

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Scott Michaux has been covering golf since Tiger Woods won his first Masters Tournament in 1997, including the past 18 years as the sports columnist at *The Augusta Chronicle*. Chronicling the game has done nothing to improve his 15 handicap.

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Charles Howell III and family

Photo by Ben Jared

KIWANIS ON THE LINKS

Kiwanians love their golf fundraisers. Here are few from around the world:

Kiwanis Club of Moses Lake, Washington, & Rotary Club of Moses Lake Golf Scramble

The clubs donated US\$13,000 in 2017 from the seventh-annual event to the local sheriff's K-9 program. Tom Heath, past Moses Lake Kiwanis president, says: "With both clubs committed to the continued success of this tournament, the Moses Lake community will continue to benefit."

Kiwanis Club of Manhasset-Port Washington, New York, golf outing

For the past 18 years, the club has held an annual golf outing at North Shore Country Club to raise money to support scholarships for high school students, children's camps, the Young Adult Institute and one of the club's ongoing projects: pediatric trauma kits. In 2017, the club donated its 406th pediatric trauma kit to the Merrick Fire Department.



Kiwanis Club of Little Havana, Miami, Florida, Putting for Education Golf Classic

Community members get a chance to connect with VIPs on the golf course at the Carnival Miami festival. The tournament benefits Kiwanis Little Havana Foundation scholarships. Proceeds benefit four-year college scholarships awarded every year to students who otherwise would not have the opportunity of a higher education.



Kiwanis Club of New Kingston, Jamaica, Golf Tournament

The club raised money in 2017 to equip a mathematics clinic at Rollington Town Primary School. Then-president of the Kiwanis club, Sandra Davis was quoted by Caribbean news source Loop as saying the club raised the money "to help not just the students to improve their literacy, but also to help the teachers in how they teach mathematics in helping the students get away from the fear of maths."

Kiwanis Club of Las Vegas Strip, Nevada, Charity Golf Tournament

A new event for the club, this charity golf tournament benefits Children's Miracle Network and a scholarship fund aimed at college-bound seniors in the Las Vegas Valley.

Kiwanis Club of Zürich am Stampfenbach, Switzerland, organizes the Swiss Kiwanis Championship, which is open to members and nonmembers, to raise money for projects that serve children.



RIGHT ON TRACK

KIWANIS REVITALIZES A RUN-DOWN SPORTS FACILITY, ENERGIZING KIDS WITH A HIGH-TECH PLACE TO PLAY. *Story and photos by Curtis Billue*

THE grandest plans often go undone. They live in one's head, in the dusty attic of the mind, stored away for the right timing, or when there's more money, locked by doubt or the limits of one's belief. The plans are beautiful dreams, but sometimes no more than that.

In Brantford, Ontario, three determined people shared a dream and, with Kiwanis action, made it come true.



AN UNWELCOMING SIGHT

On the video submitted to win an Aviva Community Fund grant, past and present students as well as community members look into the camera and say they believe in the “Field of Dreams”: the Pauline Johnson Collegiate and Vocational School’s proposal to revitalize their back campus.

The camera switches between images of people and the condition of the field. The grass is rough. The track is made of gravel, sand and bare dirt, with no marked lanes or numbers, just a broken concrete border along the inside edge.

The soccer and football goal posts are peeling and chipped. The low-rise, temporary bleachers with faded, warped planks and the rusty, 55-gallon metal drum trash-cans sink into the scrubby grass.

The weathered and worn, wooden scoreboard is frozen at zeros and, like the rest of the field’s amenities, has seen better days.

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Melanie Kraemer, teacher at Pauline Johnson, headed the push for the grant. They won the voting rounds, but the judging panel gave them second place.

"It entitled us to nothing, which is a little disappointing," she says. "But we came back and talked to one of the Kiwanians and that's where the ball got rolling."

Neal Stamer, another teacher at Pauline Johnson, says it all started as a dream for the faculty.

"And Kiwanis was very good at helping us refine that dream and make it more of a goal," he says.

Once Kiwanis started to believe in it, Stamer adds, they brought the school board in as a partner. The school board then brought in the city.

"I THINK THE CITY SAW ALL THE POSITIVE FEEDBACK AND THE POSITIVE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND THAT'S WHEN THEY DECIDED TO JOIN THE PROJECT."

— Crystal Graves, *past president, Kiwanis Club of Brantford*

"So really, without Kiwanis there is no facility, none at all," he says.

"I think the city saw all the positive feedback and the positive community involvement, and that's when they decided to join the project," says Crystal Graves, past president of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford and chair of the Kiwanis field project at the time.

"It snowballed into a second field done by the city right after this one, and a third one being planned," says Graves.

"So we like to take credit for that," she says, laughing.

There were a few others — members of parliaments, city council and school board — who were early believers in the dream, but it was Kiwanis who gave them the first step. And according to Stamer, it gave everybody that sense of "Oh, we're good to go now."

As with most long-term projects, there were hurdles to overcome. Businesses and supporting communities had their own schedules. Occasionally, the funding would stop, leading to a collective holding of the breath.

"It was an exercise in patience and perseverance," says Stamer. "We had to keep working and understand that there are going to be these ups and downs, but as long as you keep your eyes on the finish line, it was going to come to fruition."

After a six-year process and raising US\$3.5 million from 150 different organizations and

individuals, the Kiwanis Field is a reality.

KIWANIS FIELD

Thermoplastic elastomer. Those two words — also called TPE — may not mean much to most people, but to a high school football player they are a really big deal.

In the past, extreme weather and wear would render the field unusable for part of the season, turning the old field into a mud puddle. That led to no spring practices and end-of-season game cancellations.

The new field is made of TPE, one of the most advanced synthetic turfs in the world, durable and safe. It is used by many NFL facilities like the New Orleans Saints and Denver Broncos' arenas.

Add in the lights for night games, a professional eight-lane rubberized track, permanent bleachers with railings, locker rooms, press box and an electronic scoreboard, and one sees why there's so much excitement surrounding the new campus.

Local sports teams now have a place to play. Who comes? High school football, regional soccer clubs, many levels of track and field events (including Special Olympics), provisional lacrosse championships, rugby teams and Ultimate Frisbee enthusiasts from the university.

"In the spring, we'll have two soccer teams out here, two rugby teams and baseball trying to practice in the corner," says Kraemer. "And you see every inch of

the field being used. Kids want to be out here.”

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

This past year during the annual Terry Fox Run for cancer research, there were 1,300 elementary kids running on the track.

“We’re seeing growth in track and field interests,” she says. “This (track) inspires kids to do more, to compete. We had a very low number of track and field athletes, now we have kids competing at all levels.”

Stamer says the track and field have “refreshed the school” and brought about a new energy.

“The kids love the fact they have it, and our classes find opportunities to host things,” Stamer says. “So it’s part of the school, part of the community, part of the city. It’s amazing how many different areas it touches.

“For the school it has been a shot in the arm, a breath of fresh air.”

One of Neal Stamer’s favorite facts is that Kiwanis didn’t just cut a check, put their name on it and leave. Through this project, Kiwanis became a strong part of the school community.

“Our kids know about Kiwanis and the contributions they made, and continue to make, not just the field, but all the elementary schools,” he says.


For Kiwanian Crystal Graves, it’s about seeing what is needed and making it available.

“That’s how you can help be a better part of your community,”



she says. “That’s what Kiwanis likes to do.”

All three agree that it’s surprising how much you can accomplish when you put your mind to it.

“When you set a goal and have a lot of people driving toward one goal,” he says, “then you can achieve some pretty amazing things.” 

• From left to right: Neal Stamer
• and Melanie Kraemer, teachers at
• Pauline Johnson Collegiate and
• Vocational School, stand proud
• with Kiwanis member Crystal
• Graves on the Kiwanis Field track.



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Andrew Clements
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Barbie

SECRET FILE

HARDY BOYS

The Missing Girl

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LAPS FOR LITERACY

USING A NEWLY REVITALIZED TRACK AND FIELD AS INSPIRATION, KIWANIS SUPPORT LITERACY WITH A MASSIVE BOOK DRIVE. *Story and photos by Curtis Billue*

THE Kiwanis Club of Brantford gets 20 hours a year to use the Kiwanis Field, and one signature project held every summer is its Laps for Literacy event, where thousands of books are donated to the club and laid end-to-end around the track. About 2,000 books are needed to circle the 400-meter track, and in their first year, the club lapped the track with 2,208 books.

After building the Kiwanis Field, the club saw a natural fit to tie reading and the track as a service project.

"The body and the mind are both important," says organizer and Kiwanian Crystal Graves. "And we've always supported literacy programs."

This book drive helps local schools and organizations such as Brantford Little School, YMCA and Brant Family and Children's Services get books into the hands of children who need them most.


"Books are getting expensive," says Graves, "and out of reach of

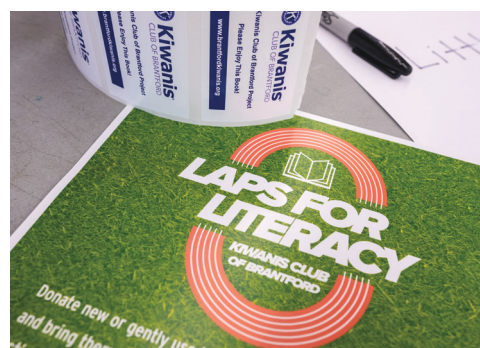
more and more families."

Graves says she believes there's nothing better than a book in your hand. She also says it's important, especially for a child, to have ownership of quality books.

Although this past year's event brought the drive inside due to rain, it didn't dull the spirit of the community. Generous townsfolk pulled up in vehicles and Kiwanians in blue unloaded boxes of books into the nearby gym.

The collection ranged from baby books to stories for early teens, cooking curly noodles to unraveling quirky poetry, from hockey histories to haunted stories, and flights of fantasy to friendships that endure.

As the volunteers sorted the books by age range, some of them occasionally stopped to reminisce about an adventure they read to their kids or grandkids. In the end, the books found new homes and with any luck, helped a child discover the love of reading. 



Game on

LAS VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS HOST FORTNITE TOURNAMENT FOR KIDS.

Story by Lydia Johnson

When members of the Las Vegas, Young Professionals Kiwanis Club wanted to reward middle and high school students who scored good grades, they hit on an unusual idea: a Fortnite tournament.

Fortnite is a new battle-royal style online video game that's become a worldwide hit.

"It's caught on like fire

amongst our youth," says Ryan Max Ocampo, the Nevada club's service committee chair.

High school teacher Ocampo knew the event would be the perfect way to encourage students to keep up good grades. So the club promised the tournament to students who received A's and B's in the school year's first quarter.

One hundred students earned

the right to compete in the November 2018 event held at the massive HyperX Esports Arena, an electronic gaming venue that's part of the Luxor Hotel & Casino property. During four rounds of Fortnite, they competed for cash prizes of US\$75, \$50 and \$25 for first-, second- and third-place wins.

Throughout the event, volunteers from the Kiwanis club and CKI recorded scores and ran drawings. Members also served as student chaperones.

Businesses donated video-game memorabilia, including puzzles, board games and Funko Pop! vinyl figures. The top prize in the drawing: a classic Nintendo Entertainment System.

But the event wasn't just about fun and games. Through community partnerships, students also were able to relate their gaming interests to real-world opportunities.

Representatives from the University of Nevada Las Vegas engineering team talked with kids about coding and STEM careers. Members of the city's Tuxedo Esports team shared their experiences as professional gamers and passed on advice about securing sponsorships.


Creators of Mario Party Wars, a gaming group, also attended



the event. The group hosts social events and a yearly tournament centered around the Mario Party game franchise.

Through the combined efforts of Kiwanis and its partners, students realized that gaming is also a way to build careers and communities.

“Our goal was to bring in these industry and community members to provide a wholesome experience, not just to play Fortnite,” Ocampo explains.

Students continue to ask when the tournament will return, a sure sign of its success. The Kiwanians have gladly complied and will host the event again — just in time for students to receive third-quarter grades. 



An educated citizenry

INNER-CITY YOUTH GET EARLY TASTE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT. *Story by Cindy Conover Dashnaw*

How do you explain local government to fifth-graders?

If you're the Biscayne Bay Kiwanis Club in Florida, you create the Civic Intern Program that puts them right inside City Hall.

One day a month, the CIP brings seven Frederick Douglass Elementary students to work in the offices of Miami's mayor, city commissioners and city manager. The young people are nominated by teachers and administrators at their inner-city school not solely because of grades, but also for their interests and behavior, says Mark Scheinbaum, Kiwanis club board member and CIP coordinator.

He admits the club "took a chance" when it launched CIP in August 2017.

"Some in City Hall thought the kids were too young," Scheinbaum says, "but sadly, by the adolescent years, many of the forces that challenge success are already in place. We wanted to do something before they went to middle school."

Scheinbaum emphasizes the CIP is not a field trip. After a morning orientation and an assignment given by a commissioner, the students are off to do tasks for their "boss" and attend commission meetings.

"By the end of the year, they

will have participated in enough diverse activities to know what government is like," Scheinbaum says.

They learned a few things quickly. When the group was discussing community relations, for example, one of the children piped up to explain the concept: "Listen, my mom complains that the dog next door keeps everybody up. She calls the police. They tell the neighbors to put up their dog, but it's out barking again the next night. My mom calls the commissioner, the police threaten to take the dog away, and the dog gets put up."

Without CIP, these children might have waited a long time



to be exposed to city government and treated with respect by its officials. Some of them don't have a phone number or an emergency contact. Some live with relatives or in cars. But their demeanor and the care they take in dressing for CIP shows Scheinbaum that the students appreciate where they are.

"We won't know the outcome of this experiment for many years. But I suspect we're giving these kids an experience they will never forget." **K**



Starting at home

A KIWANIS CLUB MAKES HUGE EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING ON ITS OWN TURF. *Story by Wendy Rose Gould*

Human trafficking is a widely underreported crime given its nature — mental manipulation, threats, violence and unresolved disappearances — but the U.S. Department of State estimates more than 25 million victims are affected globally each year. Though the issue of human trafficking may feel far from home, the truth is that it can happen anywhere.

With the realization that even their home turf was affected by human trafficking, members of the Kiwanis Club of Port Huron, Michigan, set out to educate and raise awareness. In fact, the topic became the club's primary focus beginning in late 2017. Since then, members have partnered with the Michigan Abolitionist Project to develop informational materials, created a website to help spread information and formed speaking teams that host free seminars at schools, churches and other organizations.

"Our ultimate goal is to get human trafficking out of our community, which involves making the community aware of what it looks like so they can report it and making kids aware of how to stay out of it and stop the demand," says club President Rick Collins.



"All that requires a lot of community involvement and education, which is the most powerful tool to fight with."

Of course, it takes a village to equip communities with the power of knowledge. The club works closely with city and state law enforcement, as well as area

groups that share a concern for childhood safety. Key among those is MAP, which has worked closely with the Kiwanians since the endeavor's beginning.

"Our partnership is rooted in our shared concern to protect and enrich our community, especial-

ly our children and youth," says Kathy Maitland, MAP's executive director. "MAP provides experience in pulling together educational events and our influence in the anti-trafficking movement, and Kiwanis provides their experience and influence in the community. We continue to look for more opportunities to use our partnership

as a means to reach more people, to increase our effectiveness and to continue to make an impact in Michigan."

Looking forward, the club plans to build upon the momentum it has created and hopes to inspire other regions to tackle the issue. ☐



Creative approach

IN AUSTRIA, AN ARTIST ENCOURAGES CHILDREN TO USE THEIR CREATIVITY.

Story by Jack Brockley

agreeing to use the term *kritzi-kratzi* (scribble-scrabble) to define their style.

"I avoided giving them subject ideas," Röhl says. "A plain canvas presented the only challenge. Furthermore, I avoided talking be-

forehand about techniques. From my experience, the children would figure out their own technique to achieve the various effects."

And they did.

"It was a mix of everything," Röhl says of the students' results. "From spontaneous color explo-

sions, calm controlled surfaces with subtle or strong graphic elements, to vigorous gestural brush strokes and finger paint. They used dripping techniques like Jackson Pollock. Some students got caught up in a regular euphoria and used all colors simultaneously, creating artwork resembling those of Mark Rothko."

The Kiwanis club and children sold most of the 40 paintings for donations. Four selected pieces were reserved for auction.

"The project is not yet completed," says Wolfsberg Kiwanis Club President Peter Thelian. "It is expected to total about €5,000." 

Put a blank canvas in front of a second-grader, and what will happen?

Artist Ralf Röhl has learned that kids usually will fall back on their traditional art training, where houses have square windows and roof lines and dogs and cats have round eyes. So when Röhl teaches children about abstract art, he needs to assess his young students' familiarity with the unfamiliar.

That's where he started when the Kiwanis Club of Wolfsberg, Austria, asked him — a well-known jewelry designer and caricaturist — to teach an art workshop for 8-year-olds.

"First, I explain my personal approach," Röhl says. "To paint spontaneously and intuitively, not to think, to let the imagination flow, not to correct, not to make adjustments."

The children enthusiastically welcomed this open approach,





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SHOWCASE

BIRTHDAYS

These clubs celebrate their 100th, 75th, 50th and 25th anniversaries in May and June.

100TH — 1919

Elmira, New York, May 10
Schenectady, New York, May 15
Lancaster, Ohio, May 15
Springfield, Ohio, May 20
Astoria, Oregon, June 2
Mobile, Alabama, June 4
Norwalk, Ohio, June 16
Tampa, Florida, June 18
Calgary, Alberta, June 19
Lorain, Ohio, June 26
Des Moines, Iowa, June 30

75TH — 1944

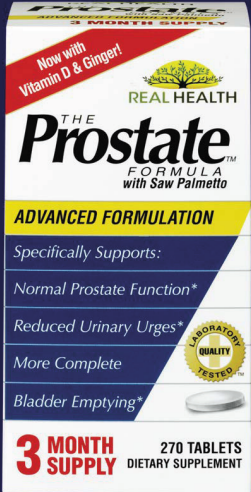
Medford, Wisconsin, May 11
West Saint Paul, Minnesota, June 7
Glenwood Springs, Colorado, June 28

50TH — 1969

Coldwater, Ohio, May 1
Mt. Roskill, New Zealand, May 2
Colfax, Wisconsin, May 9
Union Township, Ohio, May 14
Eau Claire-Indianhead, Wisconsin, May 22
Sigourney, Iowa, June 2
Ocean Shores, Washington, June 7
Downtown Kingston, Jamaica, June 9
Blue Spruce, Evergreen, Colorado, June 11
Mandeville, Jamaica, June 12
Rock Valley Heritage, Illinois, June 17
San Luis Obispo Morning, California, June 18

25TH — 1994

Hafnarfjörður Sölborg, Iceland, May 6
Almont, Imlay City, Capac, Michigan, May 9
Coral Gables-Latin, Florida, May 20
Williams, Arizona, May 25
Uden Veghel, Netherlands, May 31
Carrollton Golden K, Georgia, June 1
Deerfield Beach West, Florida, June 4
Lenzburg, Switzerland, June 7
Pescara, Italy, June 8
Taoyuan City, Taiwan, June 29




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Break the ice

START YOUR KIWANIS CLUB MEETING WITH A FUN TWIST.

Life is not always fun and games, but given the opportunity, you can turn a dull meeting into something enjoyable.

Try out these energizing, ice-breaking, team-building activities at your next meeting:

Significant item

Before your next meeting, ask members to bring an item significant to them. Break into small groups and have each person talk briefly about its importance and meaning. Gaining insight on what's important to fellow members helps us connect to others and strengthen relationships.

Human poker

For large groups, mix a deck or decks of playing cards (one deck per 30 participants) and hand them randomly to each person. After everyone has a card, have them compare cards and form a poker hand of five people for the best poker hand they can make within five or so minutes. Acknowledge the "highest hand" with a picture and a group name.

Scavenger hunt table bingo

Create bingo cards of varying layouts with names of common items found in pockets, purses, coats and bags printed in the

boxes. Be careful not to make it too easy or hard. Hand out a card and marker to each table, and the lucky table that has those items that creates five in a row wins a prize for the table.

"These are great mixers for Kiwanis club meetings as well as when we are with our youth members," says Dick Peterson, program manager for Key Leader. "Get acquainted with your members in this fun way. We do many of these activities at Key Leader and the students always enjoy them."

Read more about Key Leader on page 8 and at key-leader.org.

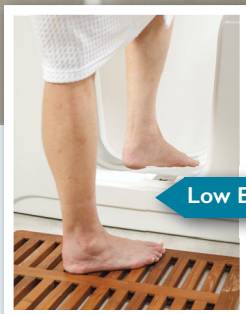


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