

36 Years and Still Farming

By Glenn Johnson, Secretary, Kiwanis Club of Westside Jacksonville

For 36 years the Kiwanis Club of Westside Jacksonville, Florida has presented Old McDonald's Farm at the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair. This year over 1,000 Head Start children enjoyed their school field trip to the farm. Adults, teenagers and family groups always make their way over to see the exhibit as well. Kiwanians built a Hollywood style mock-up of a typical farm with barn, house, windmill, hog and animal pens as well as a garden. Inner City children as well as others get to see live farm animals including

hatching chickens and a 400-500 pound sow with a litter of eight or more babies (they always steal the show). The garden has live tomato, pepper, cabbage, collard, and cotton plants. There's a tool shed full of old tools, a simulated wind mill that pumps water into a trough, a working corn sheller, and even a "back yard" hand pump that actually pumps water. That's a kid pleaser too. This is one of the clubs service projects staffed by Kiwanians during the full run of the fair.



Head Start, the important ones, by Harry Ganey



The garden, taken by Bert Wasmund



Our sow and piglets, by Bert Wasmund



Kiwanian, Glenn Johnson, by Bert Wasmund



The corn sheller, by Bert Wasmund

Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee Baby Shower

By Dowling Watford, Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee

The Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee hosted a baby shower for the Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee. Club members donated baby items, such as: diapers and wipes, blankets, sleepers, diaper bags, baby powder, lotion, etc, to be given to the Center's clients. The Kiwanis Club also made a monetary donation of the fine/happy dollar money for the day. The Pregnancy Center of Okeechobee has served over 100 women this year with pregnancy tests, counseling, and referral services. Pictured are: Jim Vensel, Kiwanis Club of Okeechobee President; Lisa Lumpkin, Ex Director; Cindy Doyle, Center Director; and Robbie Sumner, Shower coordinator.

For more information about this project, Dowling may be contacted at 863-763-2121.



Grand Prize Awards!

By Janet Baggett, Publicity Chair, Fort Walton Beach Kiwanis Club

The results are in for the 2008 Fire Prevention Poster Contest sponsored by The Kiwanis Club of Fort Walton Beach from nearly 300 entries submitted from the general Fort Walton Beach area elementary schools. K – 1st grade winners are 1st Place – Trey Crouse, 2nd Place – Bryan Jaimes, 3rd Place – Jacob Lykins and Honorable Mention - Glen Potter. 2nd thru 3rd grade winners are 1st Place - JoAnna Newbold, 2nd Place – Stephen Arnett, 3rd Place – Gabriel, and Honorable Mention – Killia Casey. 4th thru 5th grade winners are 1st Place - Samuel Hunter, 2nd Place – Halen Filson-Smith, 3rd Place – Michael Byrd and Honorable Mention – Madison Friedman. First Prize is a check for \$30, Second Prize for \$20, Third Prize for \$10 and Honorable Mention wins \$5. Mayor Mike Anderson from the City of Fort Walton Beach presented each winner with a framed award certificate and ribbon as well as having their pictures made on one of the city fire trucks.



Each year the Month of October is designated Fire Prevention Month. Area schools in the Fort Walton Beach, Ocean City, Wright and Shalimar Districts are visited by representatives from the Fort Walton Beach Fire Department and the Ocean City Wright Fire Department bringing with them videos, demonstrations and presentations all under a different theme. The poster contest reflects the safety rules and fire prevention steps demonstrated by local firemen and women educating children on keeping their homes and families safe from fire and accidents.

Kiwanis Ensures Success For Child Through Donation To HIPPY

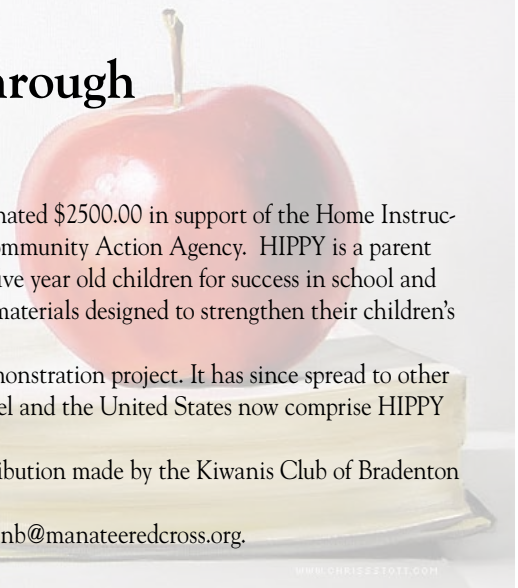
By Bobbi Larson, PR Committee Chair, Kiwanis Club of Bradenton

The International Services Committee of the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton recently donated \$2500.00 in support of the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) program facilitated by the Manatee Community Action Agency. HIPPY is a parent involvement, school readiness program that helps parents prepare their three, four, and five year old children for success in school and beyond. The parent is provided with a set of carefully developed curriculum, books and materials designed to strengthen their children's cognitive skills, early literacy skills, social/emotional and physical development.

HIPPY is an international program that started in Israel in 1969 as a research and demonstration project. It has since spread to other countries. Germany, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and Canada along with Israel and the United States now comprise HIPPY International. The HIPPY program came to the United States in 1984.

Costs are approximately \$1000 to \$1500 per child, per year over two years. The contribution made by the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton will give one child a head start to a successful future.

For more information about this project, please contact Bobbi at 941-792-8686 or larsonb@manateeredcross.org.



Friendship Kiwanis Shares Halloween Fun

By Rog Patterson, Friendship Kiwanis Club of Ocala

The Friendship Kiwanis Club helped out at the Marion County Sheriff's District Office party for a safe, fun Halloween for Southwest Ocala area youngsters. This is the third year our members have manned games, served cookies or popcorn and provided any other help the Sheriff needed. Member Bucky Bishop organized this year's team of veteran and new members to keep this club tradition going. He assigned members in two shifts for the 5-9pm event and we had as much fun as the hundreds of kids and their parents had all evening.

For more information about this event, please contact Roger at rpatterson98@cfl.rr.com.



Greenacres and Western Communities Kiwanis Celebrate the Holidays with Service



December 2008 was a fun month for The Kiwanis Club of Greenacres and The Western Communities. Members held the December 3rd meeting at the Pine Jog Elementary School, which is the first green school in Palm Beach County and one of the first in Florida! Being green is part of the school culture and the kids love it.

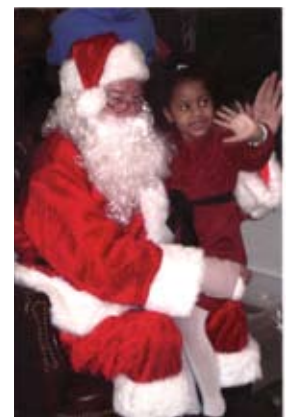
Pine Jog is a unique learning environment on 150 acres of Native Florida Woodlands and is a national model that shows how our public school system has successfully partnered with other agencies to create an effective and unique learning environment. This model will help our students to focus on the wonders of science, the beauty of nature and in art.

The principal, Fred Barch (a Kiwanis member himself) stated, "Our children must experience nature to understand it, and eventually they will take part in saving it."

A great time was had by all.



Additionally, on December 13th the club sponsored a lunch with Santa at the Greenacres Community Center, hosting hundreds of children. The club distributed close to one thousand toys and provided face-painting as well as led arts and crafts activities assisted by our Park Vista High School Key Club members. The L.C. Swain Builders Club and their band furnished music along with K-Kids from Liberty Park and Heritage Elementary Schools. Food and drinks were provided by Riverside Bank; another great day!



And to complete our December activities, the Kiwanis-sponsored Little League baseball team completed their season victorious and celebrated with an end of the season party at the Greenacres Municipal Ballpark that same afternoon.

Estero-Gulf Coast Kiwanis Raises \$7,000 for Education Golf Tournament Funds Mobile Literacy Center & Scholarship

By Rachel Smiley, Public Relations Chair, Division 19

On Oct. 25, the Estero-Gulf Coast Kiwanis Club held the 6th Annual Beef 'O'Brady's Golf Tournament at Stoneybrook Golf Club in Estero. The \$7,000 in proceeds from the tournament went to fund the Pinewoods Elementary Classroom on Wheels, a retired school bus which is being retrofitted as a mobile literacy center and learning lab, and the Joseph Collier scholarship fund at Florida Gulf Coast University.



Pinewoods Elementary Classroom on Wheels

The tournament was won by the team of Bruce Harwood, Josh Ross, Andrew Coogan and Alex Coogan. There were 103 golfers in total that participated. Lunch was provided after the tournament at Beef 'O'Brady's in Estero.



Golfers head off in the fog for the 6th Annual Beef 'O'Brady's Golf Tournament.

Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Holds Charter Banquet 36 Individuals Start New Club

By Rachel Smiley, Public Relations Chair, Division 19

The Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis club held their charter banquet at the clubhouse in Crown Colony on Winkler Road in Fort Myers. The club, which was formed this summer, has reached 36 members. With the addition of this new club, the total number of individuals in Kiwanis in Lee County and Labelle is 608. The last new Kiwanis club in this area was formed in June 2006.

Over thirty guests were at the charter banquet to support the new Kiwanians including the current Florida Kiwanis Gov. Dave Liddell and the immediate past Florida Kiwanis Gov. Mark Taylor.



Kiwanis Club of Mt. Dora

November 6th - T Scott, President of Kiwanis of Mount Dora, FL holds a young gator at a lunch meeting where guest speaker Tim Williams, Reptile Specialists of Gatorland, spoke of his reptile adventures. Is gator now on the lunch menu?



Delray Beach Kiwanis Sponsors Halloween Parade

By Al Perlman, Club Secretary, Delray Beach Kiwanis

DELRAY BEACH – Hundreds of costumed youngsters and adults proudly marched in the 60th annual Halloween Parade sponsored by the Delray Beach Kiwanis Club, a community event which traditionally has marked the beginning of the holiday season.



Kiwanis Past President Jason Dollard, left, and Kiwanian Vince Miller, right, escorted members of the Unity Builders Club, who carried the Kiwanis banner in the parade.

Club Kiwanians, assisted by the club-sponsored Unity School Builders Club, awarded blue ribbons to children who came in creative costumes. All the young marchers were treated to ice cream at “Kids Fest,” which was sponsored by the city’s Parks and Recreation Department in Veterans Park.

The fun festivities drew a thousand spectators and participants and featured the Atlantic High School Color Guard and ROTC unit, the Builders Club members, twelve antique cars and the city’s Fire-Rescue Department’s fire engine, all led by Drum Major Bill Beveridge of the Palm Beach Pipes and Drums. Photo by Mary Scott.

KIWANIS CLUB OF CLERMONT AWARDS \$15,000

By Rich Bell, Clermont Kiwanis Scholarship Committee Member

On December 12, 2008 the Kiwanis Club of Clermont presented a check for \$15,000 to Take Stock in Children of Lake and Sumter Counties, Inc. The presentation was the direct result of proceeds from the Third Annual Oakley Seaver Golf Tournament held at the Legends Golf Course on October 9, 2008. This Kiwanis fund raising event has fulfilled the wish of the late Oakley Seaver to provide four year scholarships to deserving, at risk students, complete with mentor activities and parent participation.

Through this unique partnership, established in 2007, the scholarship program now receives matching funds from the state of Florida. The partners are also able to identify deserving students at a younger age that will be able to participate in the program when they become seniors at either East Ridge or South Lake High Schools. The Clermont Kiwanis Golf Tournament provided for five four year scholarships last year and three more this year.

For more information, Rich may be contacted at 352-394-3175 or Thepony66@aol.com.



Gene Barbour, Kalina Meyers Clermont Kiwanis Committee; Kathy Niebuhr, Recording Specialist with Take Stock in Children; Allison Hall, Citizen Support Director with Take Stock in Children; Harold Cummings, Kiwanis Project Chairman; Joan Kyle and Rich Bell, Clermont Kiwanis Committee. Not pictured: Ed Augustine, Dianne Bell Clermont Kiwanis Committee. .

Kiwanians Read “Corduroy” at Thelma B. Pittman Jupiter Pre-School

By Ronnie Horowitz, President, Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta

The Jupiter - Tequesta Kiwanis Club's new President Ronnie Horowitz, “Hit the Ground Running.” On October 2, 2008, her second day in office, she implemented her first project. “Jumpstart” was founded in 1993 at Yale University at an intersection of two national trends: the need for quality early childhood programs and the emerging national service movement, recruiting thousands of college students to community service. The model pairs Jumpstart-trained college students with young children in one-to-one partnerships that are uniquely designed to develop literacy, language, and social skills.

Over the past decade, Jumpstart has paired caring adults with at-risk children through one-to-one relationships. The Jumpstart program intends to combine literacy with social and emotional readiness, preparing children to succeed in school and in life.

On September 10th, Jeanne Siccone, Director of Children's Literacy for the Palm Beach County Literacy Coalition, spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta about Jumpstart's “Read for the Record.” On October 2nd, volunteers read to children in need across the entire nation. In pre-schools, libraries, stores, hotels, playgrounds, offices and homes across the country, the same book was read to children. The book chosen for this record-setting endeavor is about a bear named “Corduroy”.



The Jupiter - Tequesta Kiwanis Club selected the Thelma B. Pittman Jupiter Pre-School for our participation. This nationally accredited school has been serving the needs of local children since 1966, regardless of their economic or social situation. Ruth Lawson is the Executive Director of the school, and the daughter of the Pre-School's founder, Thelma B. Pittman. Five Kiwanians, each with a book and a stuffed bear in hand, sat on the floor with groups of five or six children, until all 97 preschoolers had heard the tale of Corduroy, the bear who wanted to be adopted.

Kiwanian readers were Hal Schiesser, Cindy Sheppard, Debbie Pullon and Ronnie and Bob Horowitz. For more information about this project, please call Ronnie at 561.744.6098.

South Florida Kiwanians support the Miami Dolphins

Submitted by Richard Wongsam

Almost 200 members of the Kiwanis clubs in South Florida attended the Miami Dolphins final home game of the season as they organized a “Kiwanis Day with the Miami Dolphins” on December 13, 2008. The members of the Kiwanis Family included Key Club members from Hallandale High School Key Club, CKI members from DeVry University and Kiwanians from Division 23, 24 and 25. A tailgate party was arranged by Division 24 First Lady Edie Blum, Cooper City diva, Lydia Kruger and the hardest working Kiwanian South of the North Pole, Saied Taie.

This partnership with the Miami Dolphins will be ongoing as we move forward and try and build our community ties. The Dolphins want to be our partner and help with community projects, fundraisers and the like. We want to solidify this relationship. We expect to participate in many more events with the Dolphins and information about this may be gotten from Division 24 LTG John Blum.

A great time was had by all and we look forward to the next football game at Dolphin Stadium when we can get 500 Kiwanians there all dressed in orange T-Shirts and sitting in a block of seats. GO DOLPHINS!



Niceville-Valparaiso Inducts Youngest Member in Club History!

By Michael Davis, President, Niceville-Valparaiso Kiwanis Club

The Kiwanis Club of Niceville-Valparaiso inducted its youngest member in club history during Governor David's Midnight Madness Campaign. Kimberly Davis, 18 year old daughter of Club President Michael Davis, was formally inducted as the 10th new Florida Kiwanian during a phone call from Governor Dave on the evening of October 1st. The formal induction ceremony was conducted on October 2nd at the first breakfast meeting of the new Kiwanis year.

Kim has been a supporter of the Niceville-Valparaiso Kiwanis Club since the 5th grade by helping to build a greenhouse at Valparaiso Elementary School in 2000. She was also instrumental in establishing the first Builders Club in the 8th grade at Lewis Middle School in Valparaiso and served as its first President. She has participated in highway cleanups, fundraising efforts at the Annual Boggy Bayou Mullet Festival in Niceville, U.S. Flag Display Project, and other community service programs during her middle and high school years.

On Kim's 18th birthday she showed her true Kiwanis spirit when she turned to me and said, "I am 18 now, when can I join Kiwanis?" Needless to say Phyllis and I are very proud of her eagerness to serve our community and the children of the world. Since becoming a member, Kim has logged numerous community service and fundraising hours and is taking the lead to support the First Lady's Hats and Hugs Project. Kim is currently attending Northwest Florida State College with an emphasis in Music.

We all know recruiting younger members is the key to sustaining Kiwanis as a worldwide organization. I think it is safe to say that our future looks bright with young people like Kim willing to get involved and make our communities a better place to live.



Dictionary Project: Jerry Thomas Elementary School

By Ronnie Horowitz, President, Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta

Mike Phillips, who has spearheaded the Dictionary Project for the past several years, once again put the program into action.

On Monday morning, September 29th, our Kiwanis Club once again distributed dictionaries to all of the third graders at Jerry Thomas Elementary School.

There were nine separate third grade classes. The following Kiwanians joined Mike and his wife Magda in handing out the dictionaries individually to each of the students: Kate Grangard, Ronnie Horowitz, Dr. Lee Toothman

186 dictionaries in English as well as 12 Spanish-English versions were distributed to each teacher, the Principal, Ms. Barwick, and every 3rd grade student at Jerry Thomas Elementary School.

We will soon distribute more dictionaries to the other Elementary Schools in Jupiter for the third graders.

In addition to the usual items in the dictionary, there was other interesting information. The last page contained the longest word in the English language, which is spelled with 1,900 letters. No one volunteered to pronounce it! The

Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Sign Language Chart, and data about all the countries in the world is also contained in the dictionaries.

For more information about this project, please call Ronnie at 561.744.6098.



CFO Sink addresses Tallahassee Kiwanis Club

Submitted by Pat Dallet, President, Tallahassee Kiwanis Club

Source: <http://www.myfloridacfo.com/PressOffice/Newsletter/>

Florida Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink joined the Tallahassee Kiwanis Club as the December 2 guest speaker. Speaking to a group of about 60 Kiwanians, CFO Sink gave an update on the Florida budget and on the work she is doing to protect Florida's senior citizens from financial fraud.

"As the keeper of Florida's checkbook, I used to be able to say that the people had \$20 billion in their checking account," said Sink. "Today it averages about \$14 billion."

CFO Sink reiterated her call to the state's leaders to convene in a special session to address Florida's budget crisis.

"If Florida's families realize they are spending more each month than they are earning, they don't wait six months before taking action," said CFO Sink. "They do the responsible thing: sit down, examine their budgets and begin making the tough decisions."

CFO Sink noted that Florida's unemployment rate at seven percent is higher than the national average and has not been this high since 1993. "Business leaders around the country are meeting now to examine their budgets, and it is time for the Florida Legislature to recognize that we have a problem and work together to identify ways to reduce expenditures and balance the budget."

In response to questions about solving the budget crisis from the audience, CFO Sink suggested starting by taking a look at every agency and identifying ways to be more efficient with the taxpayer dollars.

The CFO also talked with the group about efforts to protect Florida's seniors and the elderly from financial crime through her "Safeguard our Seniors" (SOS) Task Force, which is charged with reviewing and recommending solutions to better protect Florida seniors against financial fraud, particularly annuity fraud.

"Selling annuities with 15-year terms and surrender charges of 20 percent to a 90 year-old grandmother is simply reprehensible," said CFO Sink. "This kind of predatory selling should be a felony and those who would take advantage of Florida's vulnerable seniors should be put in jail."



CFO Sink and Club President Pat Dallet

Kiwanis Club of Palatka Hosts Christmas Party for the Boys Ranch

This year's Christmas party was held on December 11th at the Florida National Guard Armory. There were 46 boys in attendance and they each received \$40.00 as a gift from the Club. There were 114 people who attended the dinner. This included members, guest and members of the Boy's Ranch - which included the 46 boys, staff members and their families.



Father John Jacobs, Melissa Higginbotham, and Reverend Jake Brey lead everyone in Christmas carols after the meal was over.



Children from one of the five cottages at the Boy's Ranch performed a very moving song in front of everyone by using sign language along with a song.



In the photo above, Valerie French (Santa's Elf) and Greg Seashore (Santa) enter the location to present the 46 boys and the 7 staff kids their gifts. The four youngest children each received teddy bears and the 3 older kids and the 46 boys each received the \$40.00 gift.

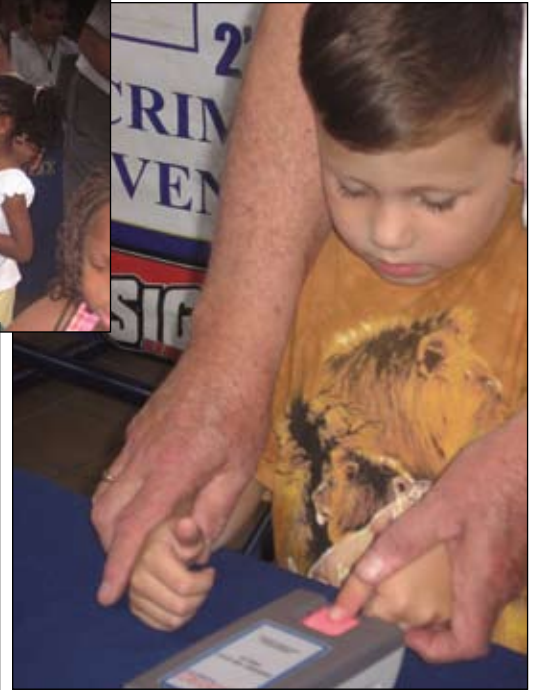


Child ID Project

By Pat Dallet, President, Tallahassee Kiwanis Club

The Tallahassee Kiwanis Club collaborates with TPD on the Child ID Project, most recently on Saturday October 11 at Governor's Square Mall. Through this effort, which is provided at no charge to the participants, hundreds of children have received photo and fingerprint identification cards that will greatly assist law enforcement in the event a child is lost or abducted. At the Mall, Officers Ryan Dunphy, Sergeant Audrey Smith, and the Crime Prevention Unit worked with the Tallahassee Kiwanis Club team. The team was organized by Nancy Shank and included adult club members as well as representatives from the Leon High Key Club and the newly established Kiwanis Builders Club at Montford Middle School.

For more information about this project, please contact Pat at 850-488-7703 or patdallet@yahoo.com.



Junior Leadership Manatee Receives Funding from the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton

By Bobbi Larson, PR Committee, Junior Leadership Manatee

Junior Leadership Manatee recently received a contribution of \$1500 from the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton in support of programs for 2008-09. The funds will be used to cover the cost of transportation for program days. Junior Leadership Manatee develops future community leaders by

enhancing their knowledge of community resources, current issues, and other factors influencing the direction of Manatee County. This is accomplished through a series of comprehensive lectures and field trips. Students represent all high schools, public and private, in Manatee County and have been selected through an application process. Junior Leadership Manatee has been developing community leaders for more than 18 years.

Kiwanis is an organization of volunteers dedicated to improving their community and the world one child at a time. The Kiwanis Club of Bradenton is Manatee County's oldest and largest club.

For more information, contact Bobbi Larson, Junior Leadership Manatee, at (941) 932-2533 or visit <http://www.juniorleadershipmanatee.org> For more information about the Kiwanis Club of Bradenton, visit <http://www.bradentonkiwanis.org>.



LM class visited the South Florida Museum and Parker Aquarium where they spent time with Snooty the Manatee as one stop on Culture and Recreation Day.

Tallahassee Kiwanis Club Christmas Projects December, 2008

By Carlotta Appleman, Communication Committee Co-Chair

The Tallahassee Kiwanis Club had an extremely busy and satisfying holiday season. On December 9th the Club held their Annual Auction and raised almost \$5,000 to support our Youth Services Committee projects this year. On two different days the Club helped the Salvation Army by ringing the bell for the Red Kettle drive and by staffing the Sharing Tree in the Mall. On December 18th the Club held the Boys and Girls Club Christmas Party at the Fun Station where 50 boys and girls from two clubs enjoyed pizza, games and gifts thanks to the efforts of our club members and especially member Art Jusko.



Target on Apalachee Parkway was a beehive of activity on Saturday, Dec. 20th, as busy Kiwanis elves shopped for 37 children in 14 families. The elves included 15 Kiwanians, four family members, three Montford Middle School Builders Club members and two sponsors. With the generous help of member Randy Guemple the club was able to provide the families with \$100 per child.

All of the above projects were a great success. Each made the participating members realize just how blessed we are and how fortunate to belong to Kiwanis!!!

For more information, Carlotta may be contacted at applecarl@embarqmail.com.



Children line up at the Boys and Girls Club Christmas party at the Fun Station. They all received Kiwanis backpacks filled with presents, including an educational book



President, Pat Dallet with children from the Boys and Girls Club at the Annual Christmas Party at Fun Station

Division 19 Helps Salvation Army



Susan Haltigan of the Gateway to the Islands Kiwanis Club ring the bell with her daughters at Publix on Cape Coral Parkway in Cape Coral.

The area Kiwanis clubs of Division 19 logged over 100 volunteer hours to the Fort Myers Salvation Army's Red Kettle Collection Campaign this holiday season. The Fort Myers Salvation Army registered over 3,200 families who needed help during the holidays.



Phil Pirkle, Max Hackenyos and Tom Thornquist of the Fort Myers South Kiwanis Club ring the bell at Wal-Mart on Six Mile Cypress in Fort Myers.