Editor's Note

Research indicates that children learn best in an environment which allows them to explore, discover, and play. Play is an important part of a developmentally appropriate child care program. It is also closely tied to the development of cognitive, socio-emotional, and physical behaviors. But what exactly does it mean to play and why is play so important for young children?

This is why Kiwanis International is asking you to invest in your communities through its Legacy of Play signature project.

And guess what, you do not have to do it alone. Just imagine getting US$25,000 in playground equipment!

All you have to do is enter the Legacy Play Contest which begins April 13 and closes on May 31, 2017. For more information visit http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/stories/headlines/kiwanis/2017/02/28/

Let us make 2018 Kiwanis One Day great for our kids. For more information visit http://www.kiwanis.org/kiwanis/stories/headlines/kiwanis/2017/02/28/does-your-community-need-a-new-playground

Remember #KidsNeedKiwanis

In Kiwanis service,
Merdina Callum
Governor’s Message

Dear Fellow Kiwanians,

Wait!

I have one more item to add to your packing list for the District Convention before you leave home to join us in Ottawa. I need you to bring an extra pair of shoes. Let me explain why....

Every year at Convention, the Governor has the honour to select a service project that Convention delegates can participate in. You may recall participating in the 2013 Peterborough meal outreach program, or in 2014, the Eliminate Walk in PEI.

For 2017, I am asking Kiwanians to bring “lightly used” shoes to the Convention to drop off at the Dymon Storage display booth, which will be in the lobby of the Westin Hotel. Shoe Bank Canada will distribute these shoes to local and national agencies for people in need.

LG Peter Charboneau will then work with Shoe Bank Canada to send all surplus shoes to Jamaica where they will be packaged by Kiwanians and distributed to international relief efforts, including to Haitians who are affected by Hurricane Matthew. With this project, all sixteen countries in the EC&C district have the opportunity to participate in this year’s Governor’s Service Project.

Thank you for your support and participation!

Phil Rossy
EC&C Governor, 2016-2017
Our Signature Project for this Administrative Year is one that touches the lives of thousands of needy people within the inner-city communities of New Providence. Under the direction of our community service chairman, Past President Gregory Butler, we have embarked on a very ambitious, but relevant new signature project. We partnered with Urban Renewal Commission, a government entity that is deeply entrenched in the inner-city communities in Nassau, Bahamas. This entity is geared towards developmental and transformational strategies, and programs, that will improve the quality of life of residents living in inner-city communities. This partnership has since fostered collaborative assistance and manpower in servicing the less fortunate in our black-belt communities.

Every Wednesday, for the past 12 weeks, the Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill has met with the Urban Renewal Commission and conducted community projects, in 12 different areas of New Providence. During our time in these areas we have dedicated 4 hours each Wednesday to provide fellowship and mentorship with the youths. We then culminate our activities by giving care packages to the elderly, sick, shut in, youths and basically anyone in need in each community. Some weeks in excess of 1,000 packages are distributed.

The expressions of gratitude and the overflowing, “Thank yous” are the sparks that keeps the service fire in all our members burning, and underscores the significance and importance of the joint efforts between the Urban Renewal Commission and the Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill to alleviate inner city poverty while ensuring a safe and prosperous Bahamas for future generations. This is a project that we will ensure to continue next administrative year.
Kiwanian Joseph Gordon "Joe" Noel

On February 17th the Kiwanis Club of Carbonear, NL lost its longest serving and charter member. Joe Noel passed away at the age of 94.

Kiwanian Joe was one of the 28 businessmen who spearheaded the idea of having a Kiwanis Club in Carbonear and in 1952 it received its charter. Joe had been active in the club since that time. In 1965 Joe served as Club President and in 1969 he served as the Lieutenant Governor for Division 21 (NL).

The idea of hosting a Music Festival in the Trinity Conception area of NL was first envisioned in 1969 and became a reality in 1971 with Kiwanian Joe being a member of the organizing committee. Joe has been one of the greatest supporters of that annual event with his participation and donations for awards. In 2016 he was named the "Honorary Chairman of the 46th Annual Regional Music Festival".

Joe's commitment to Kiwanis can be seen by the number of awards he has received. He was a Mel Osbourne Fellow, a Legion of Honor member, an Honorary Life Member, a George F. Hixon Fellow and a Walter Zeller Fellow.

Joe's contributions were not only with Kiwanis as he served on the Municipal Council of Carbonear for eight years and was a founding member of the Health Foundation for the Trinity Conception Health Board on which he served for a period of time. He also founded and operated several businesses in the area such as Noel's Motors and Transit, Noel's Convenience Store and Noel's Turkey Farm.

As we move forward within our Kiwanis Club, Joe will be missed by his ability to relate historical events, his wit, as well as his ever presence at the table during our meetings.

Rest Well Joe, You Deserve It

KIEF Governors at a Board meeting in Indy recently with KI President Jane.
The Kiwanis Club of Providence-Montego Bay was very proud and elated to host Gov. Phil Rossy and his wife, Lady Dianne at its Hand Sanitizing Project at the Retirement Basic School recently when the Governor paid a visit to Division 25, Montego Bay, Jamaica. The demonstration of hand washing was well received by the over 60 children who participated in the physical hand washing and singing of songs that brought out the hand washing method. This project was targeted and chosen to sensitize children on how best to prevent transfer of germs that cause sickness. Each child was presented with a book by Gov. Phil and Lady Dianne. On hand to share in the moment was LG Allan Causwell of Division 25 along with President Sharon. Retirement Basic School, which is located in a volatile and depressed area of the community, has become a household name in the Club’s Diary as the Club seeks to improve the quality of life for these young children in various ways - providing lunchroom, upgraded bathroom, and sick bay. Plans to repair the school roof during this administrative year, is well underway through a project titled “Raising the Roof”.

One of the main projects of educating the Basic School in the Community of Montego Bay is "Smiles for Healthy Snacks" where good snacking habits are introduced to the children, encouraging them to snack on healthy foods. Every month the Club visits a different basic school to encourage the children to eat fruits and drink water instead of unhealthy snacks. Here Director Joy and Chairman Yvette of the YCPO Committee along with Director Mervena interact with the kids encouraging them to enjoy the treats of a variety of fruits provided.

The club also launched its BUG and Terrific Kids Programme in the following Schools during the month of February: Mt. Salem Primary, Granville All Age and Barracks Road Primary. The programmes are executed in some of the SLP Schools that the Club Sponsors. Children were encouraged to improve their grades in all areas of study and excel in areas that qualify them to be Terrific Kids.
A beautiful Charter Ceremony by LG Jennifer Hinkson of Division 27 for the Kiwanis Club Bridgetown Young Professionals. Congratulations to President Rasheed and its 22 members. Energize The Dream!

Charter ceremony of the Builders Club of Springer Memorial School in Barbados.

When Governor Phil and Lady Dianne is on time for Trinidad Carnival
My Tanzania Blessing
By Jane M. Erickson
February 2017

I'm taken by their faces, some timid and some bold
They look at me and wonder if I'm warm or if I'm cold
I smile a great big smile and laugh a little too
Some smile back immediately and others wait for what I'll do.

I clap and wave and giggle some to show I know they're there
I want them to be comfortable so I really do not stare.
I'm cautious yes, but open up and keep on smiling still
To encourage them to talk to me and trust me, if they will.

They sing and clap and dance some too as they learn to say their words
They talk of all the animals, some big, some small like birds.
A cow, a goat, a cat, a ram and even a donkey too
The rooster makes a crowing sound, the bird a little coo.

They're learning all they can today from the teacher they all love
She's stern yet loving, nice and fun, the kind sent from above.
To teach our kiddos all the things that they will ever need
To live their lives and really thrive, to really plant the seed.

I see the class is overfilled with many a 5 year old.
And wonder how many are here today because of what we're told
We donated funds to save the moms and protect their little ones
from the horrible scourge of tetanus death
we thank you tons and tons.

For these little ones are alive today because of UNICEF and us
We share our time and projects without a lot of fuss.
We give what we can and enjoy it too and then give a little more
For the lives of all these little ones are in our very core.

There are many kids with many needs, they need us more than ever
They need us to be clear and sharp on each project and endeavor.
To raise more funds and service too to let them know we care
Our talents and our treasures and our energy we freely share.

I'm really blessed as one by one they giggle, my arm they tug
My heart opens wide and my tears now roll as they offer me a hug.
From Tanzania to this Kiwanian whose arms are open wide
My heart and love come all around, with this I can abide.

We're blessed to be a part of this, yes they really, really want us
The group that we all hold so dear, this group we love, Kiwanis.
Kiwanis Club of the Garden Parish create Sick Bay at Breadnut Hill Basic through International Collab

After a luck draw for $505,000 by Kiwanis Club of the Garden Parish in 2016, the club made good on its promise to help the children and the community through various initiatives.

Fifty percent of the funds were raised by an international collaboration between two clubs, the Kiwanis Club of Brighton (Western New York) and the Garden Parish, Ocho Rios. Another fifty percent was generated by a raffle sponsored by Jewel Resorts Jamaica – Paradise Cove, Dunn’s River and Runaway Bay — as well as Mystic Mountain, Dolphin Cove, Chukka Adventure Tours and Urban Development Corporation. Air fares were also covered by these sponsors.

The club channeled a portion of the money towards constructing a sick bay at the Breadnut Hill Basic School, near Ocho Rios in St Ann. The sick bay was furnished with a bed, fan, flooring and a number of toiletries on Monday, February 6, 2017. Much needed painting of the walls was also done prior to the presentation.

The Principal of the School Miss Alice Wallace, the two teachers, a cook, and 21 students all welcomed the presentation. According to Miss Wallace, the school has been having a number of issues, since its establishment six years ago and she was grateful that the club saw the need and reached out to assist. “My heart is overwhelmed, God has sent help in time for us,” she said.

Arrangements are also being to implement parenting and education billboards with some of the funds.

The Kiwanis Club of Brighton is also benefitted from the venture and will be upgrading a playground in their area to facilitate children with disabilities.

The club while undertaking these projects, is guided by the theme, “Preserving the legacy, sustaining the future for our children.”

The outreach team from the Kiwanis Club of the Garden Parish included: Division 24 Lieutenant Governor, Richard Austin; President, Audrey Grant; Immediate Past President, Angella Strudwick; Past President, Lorna Morrison; Secretary, Leteacher Ennis; Treasurer Eva Myers; Directors, Marjorie Carter, Eileen Alridge and Marjorie Robinson; and Kiwanian, Hermine McKenzie Jones. Director Fiona James was also instrumental in the execution of this project.
Who should attend: All Kiwanians and guests.

Why attend: To learn more about Kiwanis Key Leader in order to promote to high school students in your Kiwanis Club’s area. Come and hear what our lead facilitator International President Jane Erickson has to say. President Jane was one of the founders of the Key Leader program. You will be inspired.

What will happen: International President Jane Erickson will, in 5 hours, give you a sampling of the activities experienced by the high school students during a Key Leader weekend camp. The agenda will cover the 5 values of Key Leader:

- **Personal Integrity**: Doing the right thing
- **Personal Growth**: Developing in mind, body, and spirit
- **Respect**: Showing consideration for self, others, and property
- **Building Community**: Developing relationships to achieve positive goals
- **Pursuit of Excellence**: Expecting and achieving the best.

Where will it be: Meeting room at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa, ON, Canada.

When will it happen: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 - 1 pm to 6 pm. One day before the EC&C District Convention starts.

How to Register? When registering for the EC&C District Convention, members can add this forum to their registration. You can still register for this forum even if you are already registered or are planning not to attend the EC&C District Convention. Go to the Registration site and choose the ‘add update’ link. Either way go to [http://www.ecc2017.info/registration-inscription.html](http://www.ecc2017.info/registration-inscription.html) to register for this forum. Cost is only $20.

Take a Risk... and learn how to make our youth and Kiwanis grow!
Ottawa Convention Merchandise is available for purchase on our EC&C District Store website. Link is located at the bottom of the first page of our website. All items currently on display under “Ottawa Convention Merchandise” is only orderable up to April 15th with delivery at the Ottawa convention. No orders will be processed after this date so place your orders now! New District Shirts are available in both long and short sleeved versions. Please remember to indicate in your order the sleeve style.

Fun contest at convention

The Leadership Development and Education Committee would like to have a fun contest at convention. The rules are simple – print out the first page of one of our District Newsletters (since Oct. 1st/16) that Editor Merdina Callum so skilfully puts together. With it attach the name of your club, your club secretary and their contact information (email address) along with a short reason why you read the newsletter. Have your voting delegate place the entry into a box located in the District Office at the Ottawa Convention just off the lobby near the meeting rooms. The winner will be announced at the Saturday night gala. Prize will be merchandise from the EC&C Store! Statistics show that only a very small portion of the District membership is accessing the newsletter. Please see the stats below for the January’s edition –

January 2017 Eastern Canada & the Caribbean Newsletter Statistics

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Secretaries – please take some time to review your memberships’ email addresses that are in Portalbuzz. We need to get this 658 down to 0!

Delegate module has been updated and re-posted onto the district website under “Kiwanis I Plan” tab – Education.