

**KIWASSEE**  
July 14, 2009

**SMOKE SIGNALS**  
kiwassee.org

**KIWANIS**  
Volume XX No. 37

**CHAIR:** Vicki Briggs  
**PIG:** Joe Malan

**INVOCATION:** Gordon Rogers  
**MAILER:** John McClellan

**MUSIC:** D. Winegardner/Meyer  
**EDITOR:** John Mier

### CALENDAR

July 21 Junior Youth Committee meeting, 11:30 a.m.. Jim Schroeder.  
July 23 Board of Directors meeting, noon at Memorial Presbyterian Church.  
August 12 Kiwanis night at Loons game, 7 p.m..(tickets are \$9 each).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

\*\*\*Jim Schroeder read letters of thanks from the North Midland Family Center and the Midland Community Center for our recent contributions. Jim also announced a Junior Youth committee meeting for 11:30 a.m. next Tuesday, July 21.

\*\*\*Duane Townley thanked the five members who helped with cleaning and painting at the Band Shell in Central Park. Duane said he hopes this has motivated the City to perform some much needed repairs and renovations.

\*\*\*Dick Skochdopole presented a \$250 check to Jan Coleman to be used for the Fibrous Dysplasia Foundation. Jan thanked Kiwanis, and said Fibrous Dysplasia is rare bone disease effecting young children. Jan is helping to organize a Tri City Triathlon Fund Raising event to be held at Northwood on July 25 (starting at 9 a.m.). The purpose of the Foundation is to provide funding to begin research on this rare but debilitating disease. Volunteers are still needed to help with the July 25 event. Contact Jan at [trikidstry@charter.net](mailto:trikidstry@charter.net) if you can help or if you would like additional information.

\*\*\*Vicki announced that the Board of Directors meeting (normally held on the third Thursday) will be on July 23 instead of July 16. She also announced that order forms are now available for Kiwassee Kiwanis clothing items (caps and polo shirts).

### JAN WALTON JOINS KIWASSEE KIWANIS

A very warm welcome to Kiwassee's newest member Jan Walton. Dave Bender performed the induction ceremony with Cal Hoerneman serving as sponsor. Jan has been the Director at Bickford Cottage for the past three months, and has had several positions in the health care sector in Midland prior to Bickford. Jan and her husband Steve have two grown daughters. She is looking forward to serving the community through Kiwanis, and to Kiwassee's fellowship.

### LINDA CLARK TALKS ABOUT NORTH MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER

Vicki Briggs, in behalf of Young Children Priority One, introduced Linda Clark, who is the Executive Director of the North Midland Family Center. Linda said the North Midland Family Center provides important services for North Midland County, which is relatively remote from the City of Midland. The area includes middle income and low income families, and some families below the poverty level. The NMFC has heavy emphasis on pre-school programs, and on language and literacy. (Current research shows that there is an important "window" of language learning at age 3). A "Great Start School Readiness" program for 4 year olds uses a "holistic" approach and involves parents and the entire family with home visits by teachers. NMFC also has programs for the entire family and for people of all ages. Programs for teens are also effective. Current staffing included 27 employees, which expands to 32 for the summer. Foundations and private donations provide 42% of funding, state and federal grants provide 18%, the United Way adds 19%, and the remaining 21% comes from revenue. Program costs are 74% of the budget with 15% for building support and 11% for administrative costs. NMFC partners with other non-profit agencies in Midland County. Linda said she is concerned about Foundation and some government funding for 2009 and 2010. The school readiness program for 4 year olds may especially be at risk. The availability of food pantry, clothing, and transportation help is currently very "stretched"