



*Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.*  
**September 16, 2008**

### Darrell's Dream Wins Prestigious Masonry Award

#### Upcoming Programs:

**September 19, 2008** – Wellmont, Roger Mowen

**September 26, 2008** – Barter Theater, Jayne Duehring

**October 3, 2008** – History of City of Kingsport Water

**October 10, 2008** – TBA

**October 17, 2008** – New Specialty Team – Chief Dye

**October 24, 2008** – MSHA Children's Hospital – Patricia Holt

#### Upcoming Events:

**Sept. 16, 2008** – Social at Boundless Playground, 6:00 p.m.

**Sept. 25, 2008** – Kiwanis Night, Ridgefields Country Club

**Oct. 1, 2008** – Golf Tournament, Cattails at Meadowview



*Architectural rendering of Darrell's Dream Memorial.*



*Masons install Darrell's face on the memorial.*

*By Jim Cornell*

The Masonry Institute of Tennessee presented its 2008 Award for Excellence in Masonry, Artistic Craftsmanship category, to General Shale Corporation for its design and construction of the central unit at Darrell's Dream Boundless Playground at Warriors Path State Park. A brick artist at General Shale designed the special brick that were used to construct Darrell's face, the blue birds, the wood fence posts with turtles on top, the animal footprints, the Braille and the various logos of the groups that came together to make the Playground a reality. General Shale employees then laid the brick.

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport donated \$10,000 toward the construction of the memorial in honor of beloved member Darrell Rice. The club purchased materials other than brick, which was donated by General Shale, and paid for the labor to build the unique structure. Congratulations to every Kiwanian for helping to make Darrell's dream a reality.



## Darrell's Dream Continues to Grow



*Jim Cornell welcomes Betty Devinney.*



*Kingsport Kiwanis members at grand opening.*

Betty Devinney recently brought the club up to date on the plans to expand Darrell's Dream. One of the projects in the works is to complete the Braille trail which will feature nine stations of Narnia. The Lion's Club is sponsoring this 7/10's of a mile trail. The final phase will also include a tree house patterned after the handicapped accessible one at Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. Sam Anderson set up a \$100,000 matching fund for the treehouse. An outdoor classroom and amphitheater, which will be a memorial to Mary Steadman, is also in the works.

In addition, Betty shared some interesting facts about the Boundless Playground and Warrior's Path. The need for such a playground was recognized when it

came to light that one in nine children in the Tri-Cities has a disability. Ideas from the children were included in the design. Once the \$3 million to build the project was raised, construction began in 2005 and the grand opening was held in May of 2007. It is the only private playground in a public park maintained by the state. Warrior's Path has been named as the best state park in fifty states. Children from as far as Kentucky have come to enjoy the playground.

The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport is planning a social at the Boundless Playground on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Playground Co-Chairs Betty Devinney and Mary Steadman will be leading a tour of the playground and food will be provided by Sagebrush.

## New Member Profile: Chris McCartt



Please join the Membership and Development Committee in welcoming newest member Chris McCartt. Most of us know Chris because of the great job he does as Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Kingsport. Chris is a graduate of East Tennessee State University. Honing the skills of his profession, he is a member of the TN City Managers Association and the American Planning Association.

Chris understands the value of getting involved; he has already signed up to be a Kiwanis reader. He is interested in working with the Boys and Girls Committee.

On a more personal note, Chris and his wife Julie have a son and a daughter, ages 7 and 4. Chris loves spending time with his family and he also enjoys sports, especially basketball, biking and hiking.

Young leaders such as Chris will ensure the future of Kiwanis. The Club is fortunate to have him on board. Make sure to give him a warm Kiwanis welcome.

## Reading Schedules Posted to Website

By Jim Cornell

The reading partnership with Roosevelt and Kennedy elementary schools continues as the reading program resumed last week. Kiwanis members who need a copy of the reading schedule can find it on the Kiwanis website at [www.kingsportkiwanis.org](http://www.kingsportkiwanis.org) under activities on the left side of the home page. Clicking on activities will open a list of all the club's major projects. Click on Reading Program and a window will open with two choices – Kennedy or Roosevelt Program News. Click on the preferred school to get details. Under Kennedy, the schedule and the team roster are posted. Under Roosevelt, the schedule is posted with the team roster to follow soon. Each document can be printed.



*Helping the children is why we read!*

## The First Day

By Jim Cornell

Today was my first day this school year to be a reading buddy at Kennedy Elementary School. At 8:50 a.m., I climbed the front steps to the school with eager anticipation, wondering who I would be assigned to read with this year. I know I would be reading with a pupil in Mr. Davis' 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class, but I did not know if I would have a good reader or a struggling reader. I read with Mr. Davis' students last year and had students with varying reading abilities, but all of the kids seemed to like the one-on-one attention and tried hard to be good readers.

I entered the school office and was warmly greeted by the Secretary. Janet Faulk, the Principal, came out to escort me to Mr. Davis' room since it had been moved this year. I was impressed with Mr. Davis' room last year. The children were always quietly working on their studies with lovely music softly filling the background. The same atmosphere greeted me again this year. All the kids were sitting around Mr. Davis while he explained something to the group. When I entered, little hands shot up as the children volunteered to read with me. Mr. Davis asked one young girl to select a book and follow me to the hall. We took our chairs out and looked at her book selection. It was *Did I Ever Tell You How Lucky You Are* by Dr. Seuss. Slowly, my young reader turned the pages, trying hard to pronounce the difficult words that Dr. Seuss like to make up in his funny rhymes. Even some of the normal words were a challenge to my reader if they were several syllables long, but I could tell she was enjoying the story and could follow it pretty well. After she read the last page, I went through the book with her and asked her to repeat some of the bigger words. Then we returned to her classroom.

My first day of reading only took 25 minutes, but it was 25 of the best minutes I've ever spent. I got to hear a child read a book I had not heard before and I was able to give some encouragement to a young reader. Who knows what seeds have been planted? I look forward to my next reading buddy day at Kennedy.

If you did not get signed up as a reading buddy and would like to experience the joy of seeing a young reader blossom, see either Helen Whitaker or Jim Finney. You can make a BIG difference in the life of a child.

## **Announcements**

**Reading program began at Kennedy and Roosevelt on September 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Check the schedule for your assignment.**

**Volunteers needed at Boys and Girls Club to help children with homework for one hour per week.  
Volunteer times are from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday.  
Contact Brenda Whitt at 230-4160.**

**Kiwanis golf shirts are available at the secretary's table for \$20.  
Kiwanis caps and insulated steel mugs are also available.**

**The Program Committee is seeking program ideas.  
Forms are available at the Secretary's desk.**

**Remember to sign in and record your service hours at each weekly meeting.**

<http://www.kingsportkiwanis.org>

**Meetings: Friday Noon at Quality Inn (formerly Americourt Hotel), Kingsport**

**TEAM – Together Everyone Accomplishes More**

**The Kiwanis Club of Kingsport  
P.O. Box 3506  
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