We scrubbed, swept, snipped, sorted, and more...

Saturday, September 7th was a special red letter day for our Kiwanis Family House. It was a day when members of our K-Family convened to spend a day of service to the Family House. You might consider the actions Fall Cleaning.

Here is the roll for the clubs who attended:
- Aktion Club of Placerville
- Cosumnes Oaks High
- El Dorado High
- Florin High
- Lincoln High
- Mesa Verde High
- Placerville High
- Pleasant Grove
- Sheldon High
- Valley High
- Cal. State U. (Sac)
- Elk Grove
- East Sacramento Midtown
- Greater Napa
- Greater Sacramento

(Continued on page 5)

President’s Message by Bill Hooper

We do not often change the date of our monthly Board meeting, but in order for several of our Board members to attend the Division 7 Lt. Governors installation we are moving the October Board meeting to Tuesday, October 8th. The time and place remains the same 7:00 p.m. in the conference room of our Kiwanis Family House. Remember, visitors are always welcome.

On Saturday, September 7th the Kiwanis family of 125 members showed up early at our Family House and we had a great work day and luncheon.

We cannot thank all of you for showing up on Saturdays (other days too) and working all day to make sure the Kiwanis organization can be proud of how well the Kiwanis Family House and our grounds are maintained.

It is a huge job to keep things looking good and functioning properly and we have never had any trouble when we ask Kiwanians for help.

Our Kiwanis Family House brings all the different members of our Kiwanis Family together on a regular basis, from all over California, and sometimes Nevada.

Spirits always seem to be high even though the work is hard.

"...Together we are forming enduring friendships, rendering altruistic service, and building a better community..."
**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kiwanis Family House Board meetings</th>
<th>2875 50th Street</th>
<th>Sacramento, CA 95817</th>
<th>Second Thursdays 7:00 pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Oct 8</td>
<td>Apr 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>May 8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>June 14 (Sat)</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**House Talk**

House Talk is a monthly newsletter published by the Kiwanis Family House, Inc. 2875 50th Street, Sacramento, CA 95817-2308. (916) 736-0116. website: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

The Kiwanis Family House is a 501 (c) 3 organization incorporated by in the State of California and recognized by the IRS.

**Board of Kiwanis Family House**


Past President William (Rick) Dwyer UCDMC Liaison J.P. Eres III Editor John W. Seigal

House Talk is published monthly and sent to supporters and owners of the Kiwanis Family House Inc. The editor is solely responsible for the content. It is the intent to be 100% accurate. Articles labeled as Editorial represent the opinion of the editor and may not represent the opinion of the Kiwanis Family House, the board, or Kiwanis International. The address of the editor is P.O. Box 1131 Sloughhouse, CA 95683-1131 or email: jwseigal@sbcglobal.net

**Donate a brick!**

Paul & Louise Gumbinger

El Dorado Club Remembers Aubin Thomas

The memorial bricks cost $100 each. The lettering grid is 15 spaces across and three rows deep.

Donate them for birthdays, anniversaries, memorials, sponsored organizations, past presidents, honorary members, and more.

They are memorials and last longer than plaques and seen by more people.

The bricks are installed in the courtyard of our Kiwanis Family House.

For more information or a brick order contact editor. See page 10.

**Would you donate 3% of your supermarket shopping to our Kiwanis Family House?**

It is simple as 1-2-3

1. Do you shop at Save Mart, Smart, Food Maxx or Lucky Supermarkets?
2. If so scan your S.H.A.R.E.S card and the house gets a percentage. You still get the great sale prices and the rest.
3. If you do not have a card contact editor (page 10) and send your name and USPS mailing address. Editor will send you a S.H.A.R.E.S card by return mail!

Scan the S.H.A.R.E.S card each time you shop!

**Subscription information about House Talk**

House Talk is the official publication of our KFH.

Each Sponsor Club is emailed a copy to the designated Kiwanian.

If you are interested in receiving the House Talk via email visit our website at: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org and enter your email address on the lower left-hand corner where it says "Sign Up For Our Email Newsletter".

If you wish to receive it by US Postal Service contact Editor on page 10.

**Kiwanis Family House Mission Statement**

“The mission of the Kiwanis Family House is dedicated to providing housing and support to families of seriously ill children and adults being treated at University of California, Davis, Sacramento.”

**Egregious Errors**

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The correct caption should have read, Roni Stroud, of the Kiwanis Club of Folsom Lake, presented the Bright Award to Guy Blair.

Guy Blair is the current Lt. Governor of Division 44.

In addition some September issues were dated incorrectly, August vice September; and Issue 2 vice 3.

The editor apologizes for this egregious error.

**Free money**

There are still areas with Albertsons Supermarkets. Keep using your Albertson’s Preferred Savings Card.

Register your card by calling (800) 353-9002.

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Kiwanis Family House, not in my backyard!

Report #136
Since October 1, 2001 to August 31, 2013, (the effective dates of this report), 13,051 families have stayed one or more nights at our Kiwanis Family House while being treated at UCDMC and Shriners Hospital for Children®.

This report covers over 12 years. Previous to October 1, 2001 the reports were tabulated in a different format.

Our KFH has hosted 976 families from outside Cal-Nev-Ha District (California, Nevada, and Hawaii). These 998 families come from:

Alabama    Missouri
Alaska      Montana
Arizona     Nebraska
Arkansas    New Hampshire
Colorado    New Jersey
Connecticut New Mexico
Delaware    New York
District of Columbia North Carolina
Florida     Ohio
Georgia     Oklahoma
Idaho       Oregon
Illinois    Pennsylvania
Indiana     South Carolina
Iowa        South Dakota
Kansas      Tennessee
Kentucky    Texas
Louisiana   Utah
Maine       Vermont
Maryland    Virginia
Massachusetts Washington
Michigan    West Virginia
Minnesota   Wisconsin
Mississippi Wyoming

Also, there have been families from:
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- England
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Israel
- Italy
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Pakistan
- People’s Republic of China
- Republic of Palau
- Serbia
- Taiwan
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- Wales

Division 7 and Division 44 are considered the "host" divisions. Families living within 35 miles of UCDMC are not eligible to stay at our KFH.

Aren’t you glad that there is your Kiwanis Family House in Sacramento, California?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Div.</th>
<th>Lt. Gov.</th>
<th>Families</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Thompson</td>
<td>3,650</td>
<td>27.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Ghag</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>10.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of District</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>7.65%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Baran</td>
<td>958</td>
<td>7.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Goad</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>6.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>McGrath</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>5.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Kocher</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>5.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Hauser</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>3.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Andrews</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>3.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Preston</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>2.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Braik</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>2.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Fedrico</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>1.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>McIntire</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Gilliam</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>1.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Farris</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>1.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>verBurg</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>1.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Dahlquist</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>1.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Orosco</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>0.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bliss</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>0.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Bowen</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>0.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Petrick</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Dopf</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Kinsey</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Cordero</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>0.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Talley</td>
<td>29</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Frost</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Uramga</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Castelman</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Grimm</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0.17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Bloemen</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Cridlan</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ross</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lim</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>0.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Brooks</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Fields</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Cunning</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lagunas, Jr.</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Montañó</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Manning</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.06%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Wait</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Waronok</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>13,051</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The column to the left mentions numbers, where our guests are from, codified by Kiwanis Divisions.

This article defines our guests from their neighborhoods during the month of August 2013. The number in parentheses is the number of families.

Arkansas
- Saline
- California
- Alturas (2)
- Anderson (2)
- Antioch (2)
- Apts
- Arbuckle
- Arcata (2)
- Auburn
- Bishop (3)
- Brownsville (4)
- Cazadero
- Ceres
- Chico (10)
- Coleville
- Corcoran
- Corning
- Crescent City (2)
- Cypress
- Dorris
- Etna
- Foresthill
- Fortuna
- Greenville
- Gustine
- Hayfork (2)
- Hoopa
- Kelseyville
- Lewiston
- Lodi
- Lompoc
- Lurip (2)
- Madera
- Magalia
- Marina
- McKinleyville
- Modesto (2)

(Continued on page 4)

www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org
Impressions
The monthly column
by Dan Germain
Executive Director

I am always very pleased to hear when a club incorporates our Kiwanis Family House stories in its membership recruitment and retention presentations, not simply because I want Kiwanians to talk about our Family House, but because I know how our guest stories foster passion for our brand of community service. By the way, I am convinced that Kiwanis International’s Eliminate Program and our Service Leadership Programs (SLPs) have equal potential to draw people into our organization and keep them here. Kiwanis Family House. Eliminate. SLPs.

If your club’s membership committee has not considered featuring these three programs as it crafts marketing messages designed to attract and keep members, let me strongly encourage it to do so. As I write this column, my home club of East Sacramento-Midtown is putting the finishing touches on its next Special Guest Night program. The agenda looks something like this:

- Welcome
- Brief and general overview of Kiwanis history and mission.

"We will focus on three signature programs but here is other community service for which we are known."

- Elementary school reading program
- Support of local parks
- Easter Egg Hunt/pancake breakfast
- Salvation Army bell ringing
- Adopt families for holidays

The Eliminate Project
- Brief overview of program, goals
- Inspirational professional video from Kiwanis International
- How our club supports Eliminate

Service Leadership Programs
- Brief overview of all KI SLP programs

- Sac State Circle K
- Florin High School Key Club
- Hiram Johnson Key Club
- West Campus Key Club
- Kiwanis Family House
- Brief overview of KFH mission and history
- Compelling guest stories
- Jennifer and Baby Erica video
- Buddy Howard video

About Kiwanis membership
- Expectations
- Participation
- Attendance
- Dues
- Benefits of membership

Closing – Thank you and Invitation to Join

Your club’s membership committee has access to our Kiwanis Family House guest videos either through the www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org website web site or via our Kiwanis Family House You Tube channel. We are adding stories to build our video library. For those of you who have been in our recent audiences, you know how inspirational and compelling they are.

Please feel free to use our videos for any purpose. We would be particularly proud to hear that they have been of value to your membership recruitment and retention efforts.

Dan Germain (916) 736-0116
dgermain@kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

YouTube is a video-sharing website. It was created in 2005 by three former PayPal employees: Chad Hurley, Jawed Karim, and Steve Chen in February 2005.

It has been owned by Google since late 2006.

To find stories about our Kiwanis Family House go to:

www.youtube.com

Then in the search window, type in Kiwanis Family House.

You will find out a dozen of video clubs about our Kiwanis Family House.

This site is updated on a regular basis with new stories about the people and families we serve.
We scrubbed, swept, snipped, sorted, and more... (Cont’d)

(Continued from page 1)
▲ Kiwanis Family House, Sacramento
▲ Lincoln
▲ Rancho Murieta
▲ Woodland

Using the proven principle, that many hands make light work, the K-Family was divided in into work parties to complete designated assignments.

- **David Armstrong** headed the Miscellaneous Crew that completed odd jobs.
- **Brian Davin** was in charge of the Landscaping Crew.

- **Rita Beall** and **Charlie Bussey** organized, cooked, and served lunch.

- **John Winn** headed the Carpet Cleaning Crew.

- **Dan Germain** and his crew cleaned and organized closets and storage units.

- The **Kiwanis Club of Greater Napa** cleaned the guest refrigerators.
Meet Ron...

We call ourselves the, Kiwanis Family House. Here is why the family house is more like a home: there is a clean place to sleep, a kitchen, and stove to prepare meals, a food pantry, and a clothes closet if necessary. There is a shuttle to transport you to the various facilities of the hospital.

We have the name Kiwanis, and the first object of Kiwanis is: To give priority to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.

To that end, and the purpose of this article is to meet Ron Beams, the Chaplain at our Kiwanis Family House.

Ron grew up in southern California with a family that raised cattle. I suppose that he figured that is what his adult life would be about.

But Ron writes: “Once I went to seminary and was called into ministry, I knew my cattle raising days were over.”

He received his B.A. degree from Vanguard University (Costa Mesa) and is a Certified Grief Counselor. Also for the past 10 years he has been a Hospice Chaplain.

He became Director of Clergy Relations for Forest Law Memorial Park, in Glendale, California.

In Glendale, he became a member of the Kiwanis Club of Glendale which is the largest club in Cal-Nev-Ha District with over 200 members.

Ron is a renaissance man. From the late 1960’s to early 1980’s he was a choral and orchestra conductor, and created a Christian family entertainment ministry, Reachout Ministry Productions. This enabled him to travel the western United States performing concerts.

He is married to Sherry, and they have three sons: Matt, Andrew, and Jeff and a daughter Lisa, and six grandchildren.

He moved to Sacramento to be closer to son Jeff, his wife Kristine, and their two sons, Luke and Ryan.

As a result of moving he visited Kiwanis Clubs to join. In this search he met Mauda Butte, past House Director. Mauda spun her magic, whisked him over to our Kiwanis Family House and before Ron knew what was happening he agreed to be the Family House Chaplain.

Ron joined the Greater Sacramento Club.

President’s Message by Bill Hooper (Contd.)

(Continued from page 1)

charity and mention us to your fellow workers and friends.

Also, mention us to children and grandchildren who are looking for or being asked to support a charity through United Way.

Donations can also be divided between different charities, so a person can help more than one worthwhile organization. Last week Executive Director Dan Germain and Board Member Rita Beall visited the State of California Franchise Tax Board at its lunch hour and showcased our family House.

Board members and Kiwanis volunteers will visit as many of these lunch opportunities as we can along with the other non-profits, so employees know about us and have an opportunity to donate to our House through United Way. Give Dan a call at the House if you know of a group who would like hear our story.

Fundraising is an ongoing effort at our Family House, so please mark your calendars and watch for details in House Talk and on our website.

The annual Dr. Seuss House Lighting on Dec. 7th, the Red & White Ball Feb. 15th, the March in March on March 22nd, the Creelman Classic April 24th, and the Kiwanis night at the River Cats April 26th are being planned so please save these dates. Key Club Awake-A-Thons, the Course of Dreams Miniature Golf Tournament, and a gigantic KFH Evening with the Stars to celebrate our 30th anniversary are all events on the drawing board. If you have an idea to help us raise funds contact House Fund Raising Chair Rita Beall she is always looking for new ideas and committee members.

Congratulations to all the new club and district officers as you begin your terms. We wish you a very successful year and thank you in advance for your ongoing support of Kiwanis Family House. Till next time.

Yours in Kiwanis Service,
Bill
bhooqklg56@comcast.net

Kiwanis Family House
October 2013 Wish List

Our Kiwanis Family House always has a ready Wish List of items that are needed. Perhaps you might want to add an item for our KFH when you are shopping. You might find it more convenient to mail us Sam’s Club or Costco gift cards and let us do the shopping. (The cards fit into mailing envelopes easily).

Mail to:

Kiwanis Family House
2875 50th Street,
Sacramento, CA 95817

If you would rather deliver them to our KFH or give us a call give us a call at (916) 736-0116 to arrange a pick up.

October Priorities

Shop Needs:
• Tool storage cabinet
• Cordless Power drill
• Cordless Power screwdriver
• Work gloves

For Guest Rooms and Kitchens:
• D batteries
• Dish sponges
• Liquid dish soap
• Unscented Kleenex® or comparable tissues
• Bath Towels (white 30” x 52”)
• Hand Towels (white 16” x 30”)
• Wash Cloths (white)
• Mattress Pads (white beds)

Cleaning supplies
• Lysol® Toilet Bowl Cleaner
• Clorox® (or Lysol®) disinfecting wipes
• Comet® (or similar scouring powder)
• Lysol® toilet bowl cleaner or similar
• Windex® (or similar window cleaning solution)

www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org
Ways to support our Kiwanis Family House...

Your car donation keeps our lights on!

If you have an old car, boat, or Recreational Vehicle (R/V) you can transform it into cash for our Kiwanis Family House.

Our KFH has partnered with Car Program Inc. to provide an easy-to-use tax deductible process to donate your car, boat, or R/V. You are able to donate your vehicle, running or not, and it does not have to be registered.

Go to: http://www.donateacar.com/affiliate-Kiwanis-Family-House.php

Questions: Call Executive Director Dan Germain at (916) 736-0116 or Car Program Inc. (800) 240-0160. This agency can accept donations from most of our 50 states to benefit our KFH!

DONATE A CAR
(800) 240-0160
Kiwanian contact: Calvin Hara (916) 812-5524

KFH... visit us!

If you are in the neighborhood and want to stop by for a visit, please do. If you want to arrange a special tour in advance, call us at (916) 736-0116.

Hold a club meeting here!

Get your SHARES Card (on page 2) so we get our “share”.

TV for KFH

Our Kiwanis Family House (KFH) guests watch TV in their rooms. But the TV’s in their rooms are wearing out.

Donate $300 so our KFH may purchase replacements. We are targeting Best Buy Store’s Insignia model which has a DVD player.

Families need diversions while worrying about family members. Televisions allow them to catch up on the news.

Recycling makes cents!

Donate ink cartridges, LASER cartridges, toner cartridges etc. to our KFH.

We even have a container for used plastic bags to be recycled. It helps the environment, lessens the impact on land fills, and makes cents.

If you work for a company, ask it if it will cooperate in giving you the items to take and donate.

Our KFH gets money when we turn them in for recycling. Recycling money is “green” and spends the same way with a lessening on the KFH budget.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities

If you have marketable securities that have grown substantially in value, the tax laws make it possible for you to make an important gift at a remarkably low after-tax cost.

A gift of appreciated securities generally qualifies you for an income tax charitable deduction equal to the value of the gifted securities, and it may also avoid the long-term capital gain tax on your unrealized capital gain. You can deduct up to 30% of your adjusted gross income in the year of your gift. Any amount given in excess of 30% can be carried over and deducted for up to five subsequent years.

Usually a sale of appreciated securities results in a tax on your full gain – in other words, you keep only part of the profit. But if you donate those same appreciated securities to our Kiwanis Family House, there is no tax on your gain, even though your “profit” is counted as part of your charitable deduction.

Check with your Tax Advisor or IRS.

Become a friend!

Want to feel good about yourself? The become a Friend of our Kiwanis Family House. It takes an annual donation of $100 (or more). Monthly payment options are available. Information about memberships and ways to pay, is available at our website: www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

Want to feel better about yourself? Consider giving your friends and relatives the “gift” of becoming a Friend of our Kiwanis Family House. These donations keep our KFH in operation and keeping our commitment of never having to turn any one away for lack of payment.

www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org
Dr. David Sahar was at home recently as the on-call plastic surgeon at UC Davis Children’s Hospital, he received a page. His heart sank as he read it. A 10-year-old boy from Martinez, Calif., had been brutally mauled by two pit bull dogs while visiting a friend’s home in the nearby San Francisco Bay Area suburb of Antioch. The child had experienced multiple severe injuries to his face, head and arms and would require reconstructive surgery.

His name was Hunter Kilbourn. He was en route to the Pediatric Trauma Center at UC Davis via helicopter and would arrive shortly. Hunter was not the only patient who Sahar had treated for animal bites and, sadly, most of those attacks had involved pit bull dogs and children. As he left home, he feared the worst but hoped for the best.

Dr. Sahar has been a member of the faculty at UC Davis Medical Center for three years. “Still, nothing can prepare you for treating a young child for a dog attack, no matter how many times you’ve seen them,” he said.

“Our daughter is 10 years old, the same age as Hunter” Sahar said.

“With kids it’s always difficult, really gut wrenching. It touches home, it’s personal.”

“When a person is bitten by an animal,” he continued, “time is of the essence. Infection always is a huge concern. Often there is significant tissue loss, so skin grafting may be necessary, complicating the reconstruction.”

“In Hunter’s case the attack, while severe, could have resulted in far greater damage”, Sahar said. The dogs had bitten the child on both sides of his face and had removed tissue, including a portion of his eyelid, right temple and right ear. Nevertheless, there was no damage to the underlying bone or his eyes, for example. He retained most of his facial expression capacity on the right side of his face.

“One of the things that we worry about most with facial injuries is damage to the facial nerve, which controls facial expression. That’s how we express our emotions, give other people non-verbal cues, and smile. If that’s injured it has really important social developmental implications, especially for a young child,” Sahar said.

Hunter entered the operating room at 4:29 p.m. and would not leave until approximately 8 p.m. During that time Sahar and his team meticulously cleansed the many wounds and rushed to preserve the damaged facial tissue where possible.

“We repaired wounds on the right side of the face, the right ear, performed a flap to the left cheek, and repaired wounds on posterior scalp and left forearm. Hunter had lost the lateral third of his eyebrow, part of his eyelid, and a portion of the right temple area in the front of his ear was gone. The laceration essentially extended from the middle of his forehead, rightward across his nose, extending multiple lacerations around his right ear. Essentially we performed five procedures at once,”

Two days later, the reconstructive surgery team would treat Hunter in a second procedure, grafting an approximately a 10 centimeter skin graft onto the right side of his face where the dogs had removed tissue. Hunter’s face was bandaged to compress it and encourage the graft to adhere to the recipient site to form collagen and heal.

“There was a lot of thought that went into how we cared for Hunter, “We presented this case between the first and the second surgeries to multiple plastic surgeons here at UC Davis and our community plastic surgeons during our grand rounds, to come up with a consensus decision on how we should treat the patient. Because we are a large academic medical center we have a unique environment in which we can treat very complex, difficult problems.”

Sahar said that it’s too early to tell how much scarring Hunter will have, but it will be significant.

Hunter has since left the hospital but will be returning to manage his recovery.

The two dogs involved in the mauling have been quarantined at the Antioch Animal Shelter and their owners have requested a hearing regarding whether they should be euthanized.
"Letters, we get letters, we get stacks and stacks of letters..."

These letters are left at our KFH addressed to you. They are published to show our readers of the impact made by the staff and services of our Kiwanis Family House and UC Davis Medical Center. The letters are published as originally written and punctuated. This is to preserve the sincerity and spontaneity of the writer.

"To Kiwanis Family House,

"I would like to say thank you so very much!

"I had been at U.C. Davis with my fiancé, and when they released him in the middle of the night, we had no where to go... and then you opened your doors, and we were home! :)

"Your staff was co kind and welcoming.

"It was truly wonderful staying with you! Thank you so much! You were a miracle to us both.

"With all of my gratitude."

"Kiwanis home

"Thank you so much for your hospitality.

"You made a very long trip seem not so long in the end.

"Your friendliness has meant so much to (name) and me.

"You have gone over and beyond.

"You take the stress out of travel for this trip and so much more.

"God Bless you!

"Life is tough— but I am tougher."

"Kiwanis House, We want to thank you for the wonderful peace of mind, knowing we had a place to sleep and eat each night as our son struggled in the hospital. The ‘bus’ was another help for our family. Thank all of you!"

"We were life flighted from (home) to UCD. It was a terrifying experience to know that my (child) was injured critically, the he was immediately life flighted out. His injury occurred (editor’s note: doing what kids do, playing around).

"For some reason (the toy) got twisted around and destroyed 8% of the pancreas, ruptured the spleen, and bruised the liver. He had so many decisions to make.

"Here I am over 2 hours away from home, and I was approached by someone in the hospital asking me if I needed a place to stay. I was speechless, but explained I didn’t have any money. ‘Not a problem!’, she said. She gave us directions to the Kiwanis Family House.

"What a great place! Everyone here is so caring and giving. Where would I been without the Kiwanis Family?

"You gave us a room, bed, food, clothes, and the smiles of stuff are always overwhelming to me. They always have encouraging words just when I needed them the most!

"When we leave here we will be coming back to bring toys, clothes, food, anything you need saying thank-you which I do just doesn’t seem enough."

"We spoke of a Blessing from God. You were one of our many blessings on our test of faith and hope on this ordeal.

"You have helped us much and we are very grateful for you and the Kiwanis Family.

"We will never forget you"

"My son and his wife went through a traumatic experience when their newborn son suffered some serious problems and had to be flown to UC Davis hospital. ‘They were fortunate to have been able to use your Family House, which made their experience a little more bearable. ‘As a 25-year Rotarian, it always thrills me when service clubs perform humanitarian functions such as you do.

"My thanks to all."

"Kiwanis House Staff:

"Thanks to all of you for your hospitality during our seven day stay at the Kiwanis Family House.

"Your help and kindness went a long way toward making our tragic accident more bearable.

"The idea of the Kiwanis House is perfect for people that need to be close by while family is in the hospital.

"Your contribution to our well-being cannot be put into words... but Thanks!"

Become a KFH Team Member!

- We need more volunteers.
- Training is provided.
- Like to work by yourself? We have such chores.
- Like to take some fellow club members along, we can handle that.
- If you are a Sponsor Club consider having your members adopt one day each month and cover all of the shifts.
- Adopt an odd day to work, such as the 5th Saturday or week day.
- Work for a shift or two each month.
- Flexible hours.
- You can "work the desk and telephones" to free up the staff to do other chores.
- You can do "handyman chores" if that is what you would like to do.
- If you have a green thumb, there are projects to assist.
- "Hands-on" community service hours.
- Wonderful atmosphere.
- Volunteer your time.

Contact Operations Manager
Charlie Bussey at:
(916) 736-0116.

www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org
Now you can help support the Kiwanis Family House by using Facebook. If you are on Facebook (or are planning on joining) you should "Like" the Kiwanis Family House page. **Our goal is 1,000 Likes.**

You can also "Share" on any posting and this will share our stories with your Friends. It appears on their wall and news feed for Friends to see and spreads the message of Kiwanis Family House!

You can also "Suggest" a page to all your friends via a message. Just click on "Suggest to Friends" (the fourth link down from the logo) and choose the friends to whom you want to send an invitation to the Page.

You can post any comments, stories, or suggestions for other Fans to see, and it will also appear on your walls for your Friends to see.

If you want to reference something that is on the website, you should include a link to the Kiwanis Family House page along with your posting.

### House Talk: Contact the Editor

**Quick Facts about House Talk**

1. **House Talk** is a monthly newsletter published by the Kiwanis Family House, Inc.
2. The editor is solely responsible for the content of **House Talk**.
3. Deadline 5:00 pm on the second Thursday of the month.
4. Items are solicited. Items submitted will not be returned unless noted by the sender.
5. Errors in the **House Talk** are to be brought to the attention of the editor. Egregious errors will be corrected in a future edition.
6. Responses to the articles and authors unless indicated otherwise can be sent to the editor for forwarding.
7. Editor is **John W. Seigal**.
8. Email address is: jwseigal@sbcglobal.net
9. US Postal Service address is: P.O. Box 1131 Sloughhouse, CA 95683-1131

### KFH Ambassadors

- Our KFH Ambassador Program has been launched. The dictionary defines "ambassador as an official envoy; an authorized representative or messenger."
- To be a Sponsor Club is one thing, but communication is a two way street.
- Because Ambassadors serve several clubs, they know the latest, and perhaps the best in fund-raising programs.
- Because Ambassadors meet with other Ambassadors, they can find solutions and best ways to solve problems.
- Ambassadors are here to inform.
- Ambassadors are here to listen.
- Ambassadors are here to remind.
- Ambassadors are here to answer any questions.
- Ambassadors are here to offer suggestions.
- To confirm your KFH Ambassador, email **Rita Beall**, see above.

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With The Eliminate Project, Kiwanis International and UNICEF have joined forces to *eliminate maternal and neonatal tetanus*. This deadly disease steals the lives of nearly 60,000 innocent babies and a significant number of women each year. The effects of the disease are excruciating — tiny newborns suffer repeated, painful convulsions and extreme sensitivity to light and touch.

To eliminate MNT from the Earth, more than 100 million mothers and their future babies must be immunized. This requires vaccines, syringes, safe storage, transportation, thousands of skilled staff and more. It will take US$110 million — and the dedicated work of UNICEF and every member of the Kiwanis family.