



April 1, 2020

To my fellow Kiwanians,

Happy April 1st! While typically this is a day of practical jokes and merriment, today doesn't seem like a very "typical" sort of day. Our schools, businesses, and social gathering are closed and we haven't seen each other for quite some time. I miss our Thursday luncheons and the fellowship that Kiwanis brings each week. I hope that this change to our world ends soon but know that together we can persevere and thrive!

This letter will serve as our April Newsletter as we will have no social gatherings or activities this month. We have reached out to our programs and have notified each group including the Young Professionals. We hope to reschedule everyone as best we can. The Comfort Suites' conference area is closed as well, and we can only imagine the challenges that we will face in the coming month.

We were able to have a successful Shamrock Shuffle just before the social distancing mandates took place. We had close to 700 registered runners/walkers and our committee did a wonderful job of keeping everyone informed on race activities. A HUGE shout out to the committee, Brent Hartley, Michelle Brown, and all of our volunteers. The day was cold with snow on the ground, but we still managed to have a fun time and ended with our color blast. Congratulations to all on another year of Shamrock fun!

Our next decision will be the Pancake Breakfast held at the Port of Burlington the Saturday of Memorial weekend. It is unknown if social distancing will still be in place as this is an uncertain time. I will keep you updated to City and State mandates and how that may alter our plans. Only time will tell.

It is with a heavy heart that I share with you the passing of Denny Robertson. He touched our hearts and leaves a hole in our Club. His wife, Linda, passed along two memorial suggestions: Cradle of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center and Harmony Bible Church Benevolence Fund. I pray for his family and friends during this time and in the future months to come.

During this unprecedented time in our world I hope that you are safe, your family is well, and you are adjusting to our new reality of social distancing. If you need anything please reach out to me at (319) 217-2765 or cassie.gerst@bcstds.org. May our friendships, belief in our higher power, and the use of virtual connection keep us together and ease our anxiety throughout the month to come.

In fellowship,

Cassie Gerst