

Serving the Children of the World™

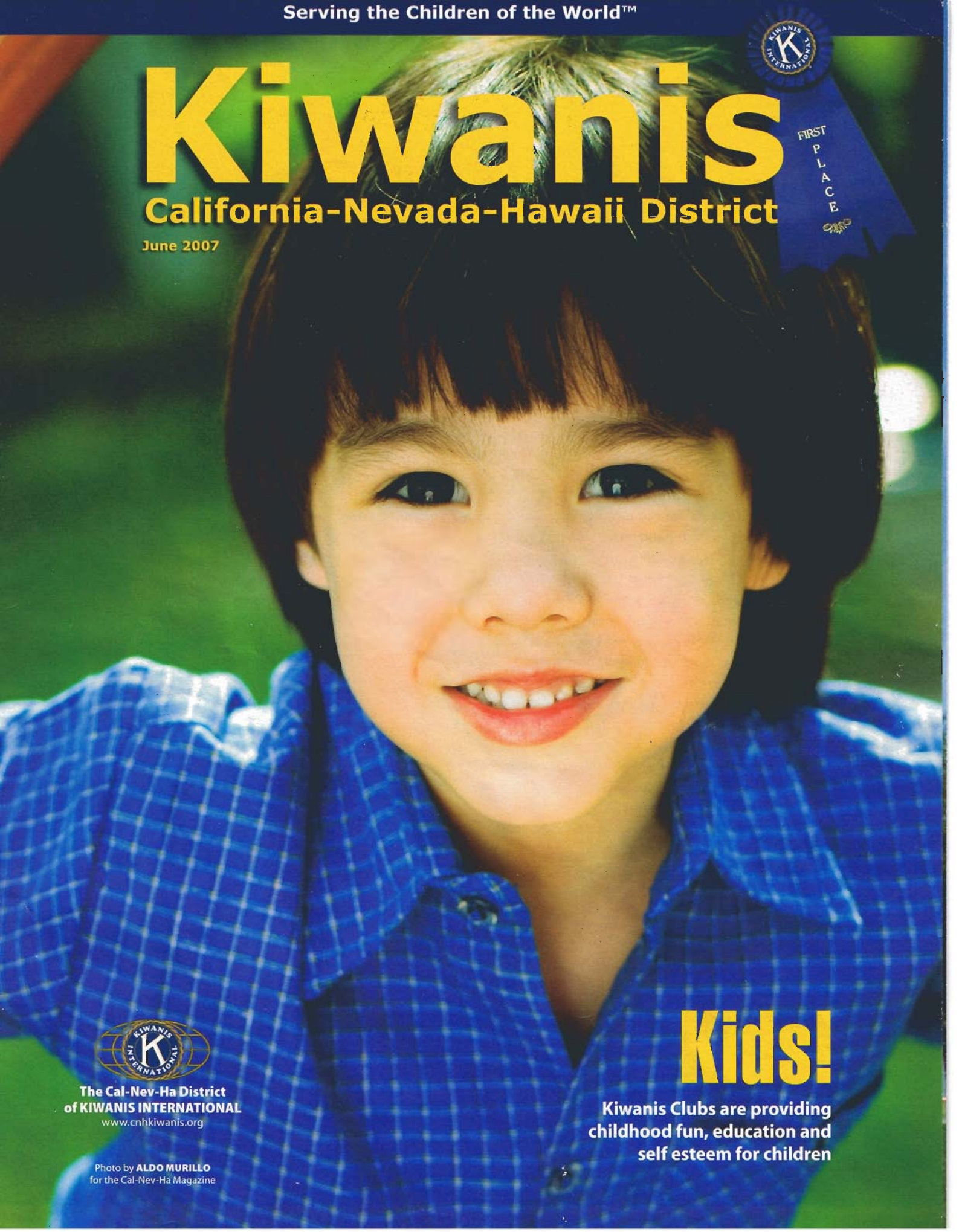


Kiwaniis

California-Nevada-Hawaii District

June 2007

FIRST
PLACE



The Cal-Nev-Ha District
of KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL
www.cnhkiwanis.org

Photo by ALDO MURILLO
for the Cal-Nev-Ha Magazine

Kids!

Kiwanis Clubs are providing
childhood fun, education and
self esteem for children

One can make a *difference*

Friends. One of the best things about Kiwanis is we make lifelong friends ... in our clubs, divisions, around the district and even around the world.

You and I have two chances this summer to spend time with friends and become inspired about serving. Two great conventions are set for July and August in San Antonio and Reno.

Our Kiwanis International Convention, July 3-6, will offer sessions presented in TV-show style (no speeches!), a surprise appearance by a current television talk show host, and workshops that will provide usable tools for your clubs. You will also be voting on about 20 amendments to the bylaws making it easier for our clubs to function and grow. International President Nelson Tucker promises a convention like no other. And join the Great Cal-Nev-Ha District on July 4th for our dinner at the Don Strange Ranch with a real rodeo, western band, armadillo races and so much more.

In August, our district convention, which will be in Reno, is power-packed as the three top leaders in Kiwanis – International President Nelson Tucker, Immediate Past International President Steve Siemens, and Kiwanis International CEO Rob Parker – will be at our convention leading workshops and being available to discuss Kiwanis. This is an awesome opportunity to talk with these leaders.

We will bring to the first delegate session on Friday, Aug. 24, a major change to our bylaws and the way we govern our district. Your leadership is proposing that we change to a regional system of trustees that serve 3-year staggered terms. Our lieutenant governors will continue to lead their divisions but will no longer be trustees. This change will allow our new trustees to offer a long-term view, be strategic and help us grow.

We have a chance to change our organization for the better.

Join me in San Antonio and Reno.



"Change your thoughts and you change your world."
–Norman Vincent Peale

George Francis

2006-07 Governor
California-Nevada-Hawaii District
of Kiwanis International
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GOVERNOR'S COLUMN

Division 28

– The Kiwanis Clubs of Southern Nevada –
Glitter Gulch Southern Nevada; Greater Henderson;
Greater Laughlin; Green Valley, Henderson;
The Lakes, Las Vegas; Las Vegas; Las Vegas Strip;
North Las Vegas; Northwest Las Vegas; Pahrump Valley





June

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Special day: Shawhin Penney, left, competes at the Kiwanis Special Games XXIX for 800 children and adults with disabilities on May 18. Kiwanis member Randy Silver, right, from the Kiwanis Club of San Carlos helped at the T-ball station. The games were hosted by the Kiwanis clubs of divisions 12 and 34 at DeAnza College in Cupertino, Calif.

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Kiwanis

California-Nevada-Hawaii District

One can make a difference.



Photo by ERIC SLOMANSON / slomaphotos.com

Tim and Jeneen Hamilton congratulate their daughter, Faith, 4, after she participated in the Figure 8 event at the Kiwanis Special Games XXIX, sponsored by divisions 34 and 12. Faith's mom and grandmother used to volunteer at the games, long before Faith was born.

It takes a little Faith

By **DAN CONNOLLY**
Cal-Nev-Ha Magazine

Faith Marie Hamilton wasn't suppose to live more than a few minutes after she was born.

Maybe she'd make it a few hours.

But on May 18, the now-4-year-old darling stole the hearts of volunteers at the Kiwanis Special Games in Cupertino, Calif. as she and 850 other children with disabilities competed in the annual event.

While it was Faith's first time to attend the Kiwanis Special Games, the event was a return visit for her mom, Jeneen, who grew up volun-

teering at the games.

Jeneen's mother – Faith's grandmother – has worked with children with disabilities for 30 years, and Jeneen would go with her mother to take the students to the Kiwanis Special Games.

Jeneen developed a love for special education and for special-needs children, and became educated in early childhood development.

Little did Jeneen know, all these experiences with special needs children would come into play for her own family.

During Jeneen's pregnancy, her baby was diagnosed with "frozen baby syndrome," and doctors had advised Jeneen to

terminate her pregnancy.

After much prayer, Tim and Jeneen Hamilton decided to carry their child to full term, even if they only were able to spend a few short moments with their daughter.

Instead of doing what normal couples do when preparing for a baby, like painting the baby's room pink for their little girl, picking out furniture and all the items you need when you have a newborn, the Hamiltons were preparing for the funeral of their daughter. Painfully, they made the arrangements and even went as far as picking out the dress their daughter would be buried in.

On March 26, 2003, Jeneen gave birth to their baby girl. The plan was that Tim would simply hold the baby so that she could die in his arms, as they had been told that the baby's lungs were undeveloped and appeared to be non-functional.

To the shock of the doctors and medical staff, baby Faith let out a loud cry. The rush was now on as doctors and nurses worked quickly to stabilize the newborn.

Initially the Hamilton's daughter was to be named Marie, but due to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the pregnancy and birth, they decided a



GAME ON: Students from 60 schools, top, were cheered as they entered the track. Athletes Liam Simon and Joshua Fukui, above, waited for their event to start, and Leslwyann Ceja, right, competed in the bowling.

more appropriate name would be Faith Marie Hamilton, a testament to the faith they experienced through the birth of their daughter. Faith would endure 13 surgeries and remain in the hospital for the first 20 months of her life. The doctors told the Hamiltons that Faith would never be able to speak, stand, walk or breath on her own.

This article is a tribute

to a wonderful 4-year-old Kiwanis Special Games athlete, Faith Hamilton of Majestic Way, who attended her first Kiwanis Special Games and competed in the Figure 8, Obstacle Course, 50 Yard Dash and the Slalom. Faith was cheered on by her father Tim, and grandfather Vince, and some very special

volunteers from the very first Kiwanis Special Games in 1979, her mother Jeneen and grandmother Patricia.

This bright and beautiful little girl gives us all inspiration and teaches us to truly have faith. By the way, she has a wonderful little voice, proving the doctors wrong once again.