

Bikes4Kids Newsletter

March/April 2017

This newsletter is published with the intended purpose of providing information for all volunteers, suppliers and known supporters of Bikes4Kids. To subscribe or unsubscribe please contact B4K at 763-234-4790.

Bikes4Kids Legacy Ride

The Bikes4Kids organization in conjunction with Trailhead, is currently involved in planning for our first ever family bike ride. The ride is a promotional event designed to increase recognition of our organization in the community and to gain financial support through contributions. In addition, and perhaps more importantly, we want the participants to have a good time. The focus of the ride is on the family and the ride will be structured accordingly. The date for the ride is August 5, 2017 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. The location is the Elm Creek Park Reserve in Champlin MN.

Three options for bike routes will be offered:

- 5 miles
- 15 miles
- 25 miles

Arrangements are being made for snacks and refreshments along the trail and a picnic style lunch following the ride,

For the first 100 participants who register prior to July 8th the cost is \$25 for ages 12 & up and \$15 for ages 11 and under. Any early registration and the participants who sign up prior to the day of the ride will receive a t-shirt. Registration on the day of the ride will not include the t shirt. Registration after July 8th will cost \$35 for ages 12 and up and \$25 for ages 11 and under. All participants will receive snacks and lunch. Overall participation is limited to 125 riders.

This information is based on current planning and is subject to change as we put the final plans together. If you would like to assist in the festivities, please contact Byron Dokken.



In the Spotlight



A new feature of the Bikes4Kids Newsletter is an opportunity to get to know the volunteer personnel who make our organization function. This issue we will shine the spotlight on one of the charter members of Bikes4Kids, Lowell Kutches or as better known as “Kutch”



Kutch first became interested in Bikes4Kids when he was a member of the Coon Rapids Kiwanis Club. The Kiwanis Club was fixing bikes for the Anoka County Christmas Committee and Lowell sparked the interest of Al

Sannerud. Al then very generously provided the space necessary for increased involvement in this important project.

Kutch is a retired teacher from the Anoka Hennepin School District. He grew up in the Appleton, MN area, first on a farm and later moved into town. Upon graduation from high school, he attended Moorhead State and graduated with a major in English and Speech and a minor in Physical Education. He later completed his Master’s degree at the U of M. He has always had a love of sports, hunting and fishing. In school he played football, basketball, baseball and track. He began his teaching career in Twin Valley, MN and then on to Westbrook, MN. He married his wife Sharon in 1966 while he was at Westbrook. They later moved to St. James for another teaching job. While at St. James they adopted their four children. The couple moved to Andover in 1973 when he took a teaching job at the new Blaine High School where he taught until his retirement in 1997.



(Kutch, In the Spotlight, continued)

Since retirement, Kutch keeps busy with outdoor projects and hours upon hours of volunteer work at his church (Faith Lutheran Church), Kiwanis and Bikes4Kids where he was a past President for both B4K Volunteer Organization and Kiwanis. He still continues to serve on the Board of Directors for B4K. It should also be noted that Kutch is a well-known film critic and has a wealth of information in this field

Whenever he can find the time from his busy schedule, Kutch can be found at his lake cabin near Outing MN. Kutch says that “Life is good and B4K is a big part of it.

Why We Do What We Do...

We get letters and responses from the large population of people that we serve. Here are a couple more responses from very satisfied customers.:

THE CAMBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION:

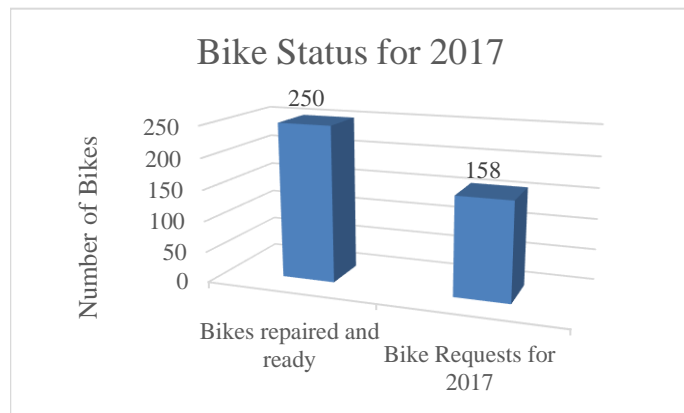
“We appreciate your support of Cambridge Medical Center patients! Support from donors like you helps to ensure that Cambridge Medical Center is a top healthcare provider, ensuring expert compassionate care to all of its patients.”

ST. PAUL’S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, Minneapolis MN

“On behalf of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, we would like to thank you for your raffle contribution of 2 bikes to our annual “Taste of Phillips” Art Festival and Benefit. Your support helps us continue our mission of building a safer, greener and more beautiful community.

The generous support of businesses like yours makes it possible for our organization to exist and help make our community a great place to live.”

Operations Statistics (January-February) *



*Please take notice that this is the first year that B4K has been ahead of the demand curve for bikes this early in the season. Special thanks are extended to the volunteers for keeping the finished inventory ahead of demand.

