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Irish pub owner plays Santa for Parkside kids

PARKSIDE - Dave Magrogan, owner of Kildare's Irish Pub in Middletown, has previously demonstrated his generosity in the community, and once again, is helping others during the holiday season.

When Magrogan opened his Kildare's location in Middletown, he donated \$6,000 from the opening night celebration to the Middletown Township Department of Parks and Recreation.

Pat McCoy, director of the Parks and Recreation department, said the money would be used to help fund development of portions of the former Sleighton School property and the Smedley tract. Both properties have been acquired by the township and are earmarked for passive and active recreation.

Today, Magrogan is helping out in Parkside, where he went to elementary school.

Magrogan is adopting 21 deserving students from Parkside Elementary School this holiday season.

The businessman said he understands how it feels not to open gifts at Christmas. His mother raised three chil-



Dave Magrogan, left, owner of Kildare's Irish Pub, and his partner, David McGuinn, presented a check to Pat McCoy, director of Middletown Parks and Recreation, following the opening of Kildare's in Middletown. Today, Magrogan is helping out in Parkside.

going to have Christmas gifts because of financial hardship. Having lived through the very same situation, Magrogan decided not to adopt one of the children but

instead adopt all of the children.

As a child, Magrogan attended six different schools by the time he was 12 years old. He considers himself lucky to have attended Parkside Elementary for fourth and fifth grades. It made a tremendous impact on his life, he said. He is still in contact with his teachers and close friends after all of these years.

Magrogan grew up in Brookhaven and is a 1990 graduate of Sun Valley High School.

He previously owned a chiropractic business in Media and Brookhaven before opening his chain of Irish pubs.

State Rep. Steve Barrar called Magrogan last week and informed him that there were 21 children at Parkside Elementary who were not

instead adopt all of the children.

"This is a great chance for me to give back and impact children who are experiencing a very similar childhood to the one I lived. Steve Barrar has been very active in helping these children and I think it is going to help these kids have a fantastic Christmas," Magrogan said.

Fifth-grade teacher John Clark is working with Magrogan to help these students enjoy a great holiday season. Some of the gifts on their wishlist include an Eagles T-shirt, a Leap Pad Read Along Book and a winter coat.

Magrogan will be dropping off the wrapped presents at noon today at Parkside Elementary School.



AN AUTHENTIC IRISH EXPERIENCE!