

ANNUAL CLUB EVENT

Head Start students receive Christmas cheer

By Nancy Hastings

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HILLSDALE — The Hillsdale Kiwanis Club hosted its yearly Christmas party for the children of Head Start Saturday morning.

For club members, it's one of the biggest events on the calendar, exemplifying their commitment to children by taking them shopping and then treating them to a party where they meet Santa and munch on homemade cookies.

Thirty-five children signed up to attend the event, where they first go to Walmart to buy items for their family members. Kiwanis members, along with 11 Key Club and 15 Circle K members and some Head Start instructors, were assigned to supervise a child who comes with a

list of family members to buy for.

Club members and other volunteers entertained the children with coloring projects as organizers finished tallying participants before loading two buses for a shopping trip to the Jonesville Walmart store.

Diane Osbourne, whose husband, Tom, is a Kiwanian, said she loves coming every year to see the children get excited about doing something nice for their families and then they get to see Santa for some present of their own. She helps club secretary Joan VanArsdalen knit hats and scarves to give to each child that attends the party.

This year, they made football hats (with matching mittens) for the boys



Samantha Cagle, 4, receives a present from Santa at the Kiwanis Club Christmas party as chair Jackie Wickham looks on. NANCY HASTINGS PHOTO

SEE CHEER, A5