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Kiwanis helps build lifelong readers with page-turning visit

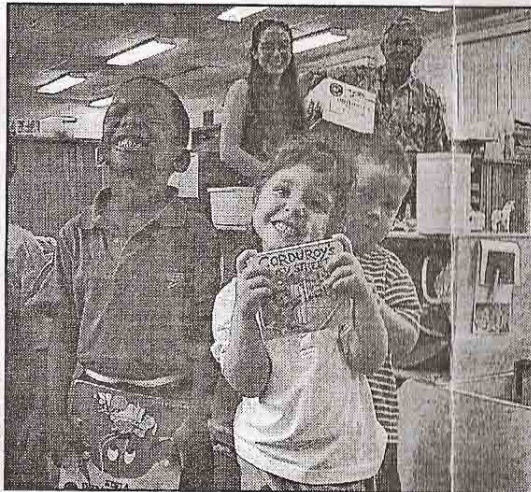
By KATHY FERGUSON

SEMINOLE - The bubbly, busy toddlers and preschoolers at the Ridgecrest Day Care Center took a recent reading break with members of the Kiwanis Club of Seminole, Breakfast. Members Lee Walters and Sara Bigham visited the center armed with free books, books and more books.

"Our purpose is to give books to children that become theirs," said Walters. The idea is to help children take an interest in learning to read. "Take these books home and share them with your families," he added, encouraging the children to spend time reading at home.

This effort is part of the chapter's service project. Reading is Fundamental. It is designed to encourage children to read early and often. Several club members visited this center last year and were pleased to support it for a second time.

When Walters asked the youngsters whether they read at home, many of them raised their hands positively. One boy received high praise upon telling Wal-



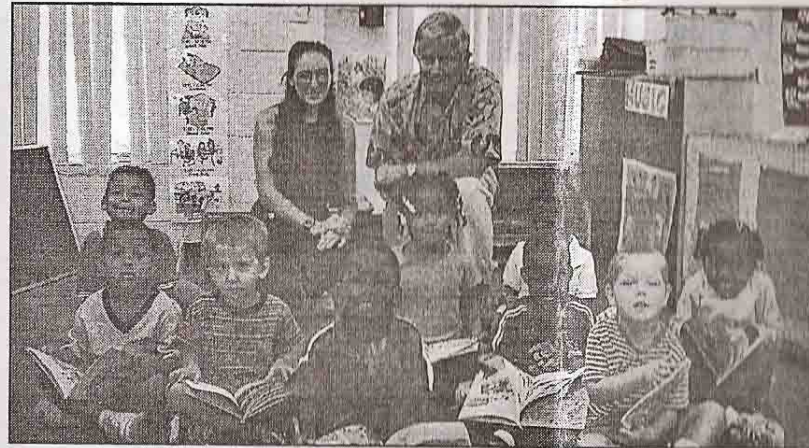
Photos by KATHY FERGUSON

Clowning around with their books on the way to their school cubbies are, from left, Jacquaris Brown, 3, Makayla Thomas, 3, and Dylan Logan, 3.

ters that he reads to his little sister. When stepping forward to select a book, which was no easy task given so many choices, each child smiled and politely thanked the club members.

The Ridgecrest Day Care Center is a private, nonprofit center serving preschool children between 2 and 6 years old.

Its mission is to provide every student with the highest quality of personal care and education in an environment of genuine love and concern for each child and parent. This agency is funded in part by the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Services and the State of Florida Title XX of the Social Security Act.



Sara Bigham and Lee Walters, members of the Kiwanis Club of Seminole, Breakfast, share their love for reading with the children at the Ridgecrest Day Care Center.



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