Return Engagement

School

Millionaire philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein greets students at Coventry's Tioque Elementary with a wave and a smile. He thanked them for their good deeds and commended them for being Feinstein Junior Scholars. RIGHT: Feinstein addresses the students. He gave the school \$5,000.

Feinstein back in Valley, this time at **Tiogue Elementary**

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COVENTRY- After visiting two schools in West Warwick last month, Alan Shawn Feinstein made his way over the border into Coventry to share his love and appreciation with the students and faculty at Tiogue Elementary School Thursday morning.

Feinstein explained to the school's students — kindergarteners through fifth graders — that there are 137 Feinstein Leadership Schools in Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts, one in Los Angeles, one in Kenya, one in Haiti and two in Nicaragua. "But there are no boys and girls and teachers dearer to me than

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Feinstein gives Tiogue \$5,000

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you, for all the good deeds you do," he added, as the students burst into applause.

As he spoke to the children, he showed them the Feinstein Junior Scholar card, which can be used to get into area venues — including the Bank of America skating rink, the Providence Children's Museum, the Mystic Aquarium, Battleship Cove and the Blackstone River Boat — for free.

"People will respect you," he added. "They know you do good deeds for other people and if you don't live up to that, then shame on you."

Feinstein explained that he had something else for the students: a booklet in which they could write down their good deeds.

Inside the journal, he said, are photographs are fellow junior scholars from schools in Haiti and Honduras; in total there are 100,000 junior scholars throughout the country.

"In Haiti they don't speak English, they speak French," he said. "So most of the banner is in French, but at the bottom there is a line in English for

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everyone to see and it says 'thank you Feinstein Junior Scholars, we love you."

The children in Honduras, he explained to the students, wrote a message in their journals calling them their heroes.

"You are heroes to boys and girls in other countries," he added. "Heroes must live up to being heroes so when you go home tonight and you have this journal; you show this to your mom and dad and they are going to be so proud of you."

Feinstein told the students that traveling from school to school is not his regular job but he does it because he enjoys speaking to the children and spreading his message of good deeds.

"I could be out cruising, traveling the world, reading a good book, but you and your teachers are more important to me than that," he said. "Someday, when we are gone, some of you are going to take over for us."

He applauded the students for wearing T-shirts that say Tiogue Elementary School on the back and Feinstein Junior Scholar on the front.

"I want you guys to remember, when you walk down the street with this T-shirt on that people will know you are very special," he said. "Everywhere you go, as they go by, they'll see the name of your school on the back."

Before leaving, Feinstein gave a student an envelope to give to Principal Louise Seitsinger; inside was a check for \$5,000.

Seitsinger explained that she was "thrilled and grateful to receive this generous donation from the Feinstein Foundation for our school." She said the money will be used to towards furthering the education of the students