

Kiwanis

NEWSLETTER

The Gateway Gazette News

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

Volume 1, Issue 20

Week of – January 20, 2009 – January 27, 2009

Upcoming Dates

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| January 27 | Southwest Florida Marine Institute – Windye McNeal, Executive Director |
| January 31 | Florida Kiwanis Zone Conference - see page 2 – This will give all new comers insight to Kiwanis. It is well worth attending, you will not go away disappointed. Kelly suggests carpooling or going the night before and making it a fun time. Let her know |
| February 2 | Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome |
| February 3 | ECHO – Mike Sullivan |
| February 9 | Children’s Hospital Tour. Tour will be conducted by hospital staff, Dr. Iacuone will be in attendance. Tour will begin at 2pm, Danielle is asking that teens be able to attend. Please call, email or ask her at the next meeting for more info. |
| February 10 | Harlem Heights Improvement Association – Angela Jackson, Resident Coord. |
| February 17 | Brightest Horizons Child Development Center – Tina Parsons, Exec Director |
| February 21 | 9am – Harry Chapin Food bank tour – bring your family help sort food items |
| February 24 | Lee County Alliance for the Arts – Lydia Black |
| March 2 | Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30 all are welcome |
| March | Salvation Army Tour – bring your family service opportunities abound |

WOW, We Can Make a Difference - Habitat for Humanity

Trisha Goins spoke to us about a couple new happenings at Habitat for Humanity, as well as their many activities where volunteer opportunities are plentiful. Opportunities include Special Events, where a few times a year, Habitat for Humanity of Lee County needs help staffing booths and table displays at events in the area. Some of those events include the Home and Garden Homeshow as well as fundraising and volunteer drives.

The Thrift Store can always use help in sorting, organizing and pricing items in Habitat for Humanity's thrift stores! The Thrift Store was originally started to help families furnish their homes with affordable items. Today, volunteers help run the store as it's open to the public for shopping. All proceeds from the sale of donated items go towards the construction of Habitat homes. Habitat for Humanity of Lee County's three thrift stores are located in North Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Labelle and open Monday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm.

Other areas where volunteers are needed include their Paint Shop, Warehouse, Bulk Mailings, and always CONSTRUCTION, where NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!! TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED ON SITE!! Wednesday-Saturday every week, Habitat for Humanity starts construction on its homes at 7:00am, beginning with orientation and instructions on the daily project. Breaks are taken at 10:00am and noon for lunch. Typically, the workday ends at 3:30pm. Volunteers can stay as long or as little as they wish.

One of the "new" things at Habitat for Humanity due to the current economy is that Habitat is purchasing foreclosure homes and preparing them for occupancy. This is a much less expensive procedure than building a new home.

The other brand new concept at Habitat is their Lawn Trimming, Maintenance, and Handiwork Program. This new service provides employment for Habitat owners who are unemployed and allows a means to prevent foreclosure by Habitat because they can not make payments. The "Handiwork Team" is available for almost any type services needed and free estimates are available, guaranteed to be at or below market value. Call 239-652-0434 and/or visit www.habitat4humanity.org for more information.

February 3rd Set as Shirt Order Deadline

Contact President Kelly (267-8415) to order either the burnt orange polo shirt with Kiwanis logo that comes in both ladies and men styles and/or the white "work" T-shirt with the Gateway logo on the front and back of the shirt. These shirts can be worn anywhere but especially for Kiwanis events/activities (such as Spaghetti Dinner, Medieval Faire, and the most recent sighting at the Fort Myers-Metro's "Calusa 5K Bug Chase").

Kiwanis Peanut Day

Division 19 "Peanut Day" has been set for March 14th. The Gateway Board discussed this fundraising idea at their last meeting and will be making final decisions at the February 2nd Board Meeting. Please share any ideas you may have on where/how we could promote the peanuts for a donation with any officer or board member.