

Kiwanis

NEWSLETTER

The Gateway Gazette News

Kiwanis Club of Fort Myers Gateway to the Islands

Volume 1, Issue 32
Week of – April 21, 2009- April 28, 2009

"I think we need to look for community by feeling compassionately what others are going through and responding with our time and hearts." Thomas Moore

Upcoming Dates

April 28	Calusa Nature Center – Sanders Lewallen
May 3	2nd Taste of Estero – Volunteer Opportunity with Estero Club
May 4	Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome
May 5	Conservancy of Southwest Florida – Jean Roche
May 9	Mail Carrier Food Drive –Volunteer Opportunity with United Way
May 12	Lee County Bar Association President – Keith Grossman
May 17	Brightest Horizons Child Development Center - Golf Outing
May 19	Dr. Piper Center for Social Services – Nida Eluna
May 26	LARC Community Relations & Education – Lisa Cronin Miller
June 1	Board Meeting RBC Bank 1:30, all members are welcome
June 2	Community Cooperative Ministries – Sarah Owen
June 9	Girl Scouts of America Community Development – Megan Fasig

The Gabriel House

Our Mission and Vision Statement:

The mission of The Gabriel House is unique, that is to rescue children who have been abandoned, discarded and who are in need of medical treatment. The vision is to rescue, rehabilitate and help these children reach their highest level of independence and functioning. The home provides a loving compassionate Christian environment which does not discriminate against race, creed or color. The target population is focused on children from birth to six years old. The healing power of love flowing freely to little children, coupled with the necessary medical treatment, has been close to miraculous. Over the past twenty years, many, many children have been rescued, medically treated and adopted across the United States. However, the healing does not stop after the medical treatment. The children take with them into their adoptive families a very powerful source of love. Whole families have been blessed and healed by this love. Keeping in mind Luke 9:48, when we receive children into The Gabriel House, we receive the Son and when we receive the Son we receive the Father who sent the Son. There is no greater healing power for children and families.

Background and Qualifications:

The founders of The Gabriel House, Edward and Annie R. Ravish, besides having abundant love and compassion for hurting children, include for Ed, a BA, MA from Rhode Island College and a Master of Social Work from the University of Connecticut. Annie Ravish has taken numerous Special Ed courses at St. Joseph College and the University of Connecticut. Annie has extensive experience in working with autistic and severely handicapped children. Her experiences include working with adolescent delinquents and supervision of a nursing facility for severely physically and mentally disadvantaged children.

“Delicious Dining Discounts”

We have made the news, Cape Coral Breeze- 4/17 page 7, News-Press- 4/20- Page D1 under the "Up Beat!", News-Press- 4/20- Page B3- Under "Around Southwest Florida". Our phone has been ringing off the hook and we are sending persons to your place of business to pick up books. I have asked them to call first. In order to make this a success, our club needs all members to get on board with this dining book project. You already received, via email, a flyer to put in your community, at your grocery store, at your barber, beauty salon, the more visibility we have, the better. Please let us know where you post flyers so we can know for next year.

Brightest Horizons Golf Outing

Mark your calendars for the May 17 outing at Beach View Golf Club on Sanibel for golf & a lunch buffet. It is an 18 hole scramble - shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Ask member Tina for more details.

Welcome New Members

Greet and get to know your new members:

Jeff Young, owner of Rita's Ice-Custard Happiness and **Tom Richards**, Pastor of New Hope Baptist Church.

Kelly Sonnanstine – President
Matt Ponzio – President-Elect
Danielle Emery – Vice President
Valerie Petracco – Treasurer
Terry Luster – Secretary

George Eddy – Director
Chris Heidrick – Director
Mike Huisman – Director
Jack Liptak – Director
Viki Luster – Director