



Nonprofit Newsletter March 2020

INTRO

March is named for the Roman God of War, Mars. March is the third month of the year and it has 31 days and is known as the first month of spring in the Northern Hemisphere due to the vernal equinox which occurs between March 19th and 21st of every year. We celebrate March 1st as National Peanut Butter Lovers Day, and March 4th is Hug a GI day as well as National Grammar Day. It is also Women's History month, American Red Cross month and most of us are aware of ST. Patrick's Day on the 17th. Two other happenings in March that will affect us all is that Daylight Savings Time starts on Sunday the 8th, and believe it or not Spring will spring its head on the 20th.

This months featured nonprofit is: American Cancer Society Relay for Life

The Event:

Relay for Life

April 3rd, 6:00 pm until Midnight

Oldsmar Sports Complex

3160 Tampa Rd, Oldsmar, FL 34677

A little history about the Relay.

One person can make a difference. In May 1985, Dr. Gordan Klatt walked and ran for 24 hours around the track at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington raising money as a tribute to a young man who had died of cancer. He managed 83.6 miles and raised \$27,000 dollars.

The following year 19 teams took part in what became the first Relay for Life event and they raised \$33,000 dollars. The American Cancer Society adopted Klatt's event nationwide and to

date the events have been held in 23 countries and has raised nearly \$5-billion. It has since become a global fundraising phenomenon.



Relay for Life is an event where teams of people take turns walking around the track. Each team is asked to have one member on the track at all times signifying that Cancer never sleeps. Cancer patients do not stop because they are tired --- then neither do we. It is also American Cancer Societies' ultimate team fundraiser, bringing communities together to fight cancer. Its single goal is to take down our biggest rival "Cancer". It is a gathering of people who are hurting and people who are there to help.

The Luminaria decorated with the names of loved ones, usually line the track or path of the walk. After dark, each of the Luminaria is lit in honor and remembrance of a life touched by cancer, accompanied by a moment of silence for those we have lost.

There are six distinct parts to the Relay

1. Create a team and have a tent at the Relay as a home base
2. Pre-event, there is fundraising by each team including Bake Sales, Car Washes etc.
3. Opening Ceremony welcomes all: There will be live music and Special guests
4. Survivors take a celebratory lap first and then the Care Givers take the second lap
5. Time to celebrate with walking laps and checking out all of the different tents of the other teams.
6. Lighting the Luminaria in honor of those who have passed from Cancer or for those that are in the throes of cancer treatments right now. To lighten the darkness around them.

The Upper Tampa Bay Chamber has a team representing; their name is The UTB Biz Rockers. If you would like to join our team, you are more than welcome. Please contact: Tracey Arehart at Tracey@judieglenninc.com or John Benincasa at johnb@jhbtele.com

Should you want to start a team yourself or want to purchase a Luminaria - please contact Missy Muzzillo Coordinator at missy.muzzillo@cancer.org. The Luminaria are for sale the day of the event for \$10.00 and you can write the name or names of those you desire on the bag. You can actually sign up on line for both by visiting www.Relayforlife.org\`npinellasfl and filling out the form.

For those already on a team, there will be a Kickoff Party at 6:00 pm March 9th at the Hampton Inn in Oldsmar. There is also a March 26th Survivor Dinner at 6:30 pm at White Chapel, Harbor Hall, Palm Harbor 1190 Georgia Ave. If you want to attend this dinner, please rsvp to 813 349-5085 and leave your name and number of people attending.

Folks, this is very important, as I am sure many of you have had the ugly hand of Cancer touch you in one form or another. We can work together to help those who are either survivors or presently going through the treatments at present. God Bless us All.

SHOUT OUTS FROM FEBRUARY

JERRY CUSTIN'S RETIREMENT

The February 24th Party at Nielsen's had approximately 200 folks plus come to wish Jerry nothing but the best in his future and thanked him for 30 years of service to this community as well as the Chamber. Also a good bye was held at the luncheon at the Wild Rover on the 28th.

Pop Drop

Sharon and her band of Angels went to RCS - The Haven in Clearwater and deposited so many needed supplies. They meet so many needs of the recipients.

Kiwanis

Bill Gear Memorial Zoo Day for Paul B Stephens School for exceptional children. Not only did they spend the day at the zoo but they enjoyed a pizza party with a DJ, face painter and balloon specialist.

Chamber Education Foundation

Aston Gardens presentation Feb 24th. The committee is still working on results of the Bright Futures Mixer. Plans for two more events this coming school year 2020-2021. Watch for dates and times in my newsletters and from emails from the Education Foundation.

RCS

Black Love weekend Jazz Concert at the Wild Rover Brewing Company Tampa was enjoyed on the 16th at 5:30pm.

NONPROFITS ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

Pop Drop

March 21st Metropolitan Ministries Homeless Shelter
Food and clothing Drive

Bring in Canned or Non Perishable Foods, New or Gently used clothing. Brand new socks, brand new underwear, toiletries or Walmart gift cards. Sharon is delivering earlier than usual this month, as the last weekend of the month is Oldsmar Days and her Angels will be busy there. For your information there will be a Pop Drop box at the Non Profit Tent during the Oldsmar Days March 27, 28, and 29th

Chi Chi Rodriguez Academy

Pro Am

Thursday March 12, 2020 8:00am until 4:00 pm.

Feather Sound Country Club

If interested please call 727 726-8829 ext. 207 or email Laura@ChiChi.org

Mattie Williams Neighborhood Center

Bands on the Bay

March 14th, 3:00 pm until 10:00pm

Safety Harbor Marina

Food, Craft Beer, VIP tent and more. Come and celebrate all the good works that Janet Hooper and the Mattie Williams Neighborhood Center provides to so many.

Goodwill Industries of the Suncoast

Good to go Catering

Great Chef prepared food at very reasonable pricing. Contact # 727 523-1512 ext.1100.

Also Bright Futures hours are available through volunteering with Goodwill. Call 727 523-1512

Oldsmar Cares

Oldsmar Days Parade

Looking for volunteers to help decorate and march with them in the Oldsmar Days Parade

Hours of operation of Oldsmar Cares:

Monday 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm

Wednesday 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm

Friday 9:00 am until 12 noon

Saturday 9:00 am until 12 noon

Their phone number 813 415-7373

PSTA

Notice

PSTA approves a contract for a bus turnaround in St. Pete Beach on January 29th. There will be Beach access parking off Gulf Blvd. Construction is expected to begin in February and completed in June of 2020. PSTA anticipates the cost will be recouped with money from a Federal Transit Administration's small starts grant as well as the Florida Dept. of Transportation's contribution.

I am hoping that many more of the nonprofits will become more involved with coming to some or all of the events that are offered by this very active Chamber. Every Friday there is a Relationship Builder either breakfast at Aston Gardens or luncheon at the Wild Rover. Ribbon cuttings on new business openings as well as morning and evening mixers at local establishments. Also, don't forget to think about joining the Lunch and Learns held at the Chamber conference room. Lunch is free and usually healthy. The lunch crowd is growing week to week.

Blessings and good wishes to each of the members of the Chamber, until next month Farewell!

Wendie Roeper

Nonprofit Liaison

727-452-1460

