



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's 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 20th.

**This month's featured nonprofit is: American Cancer Society
Relay for Life**



April 3rd Oldsmar Sports Complex 6pm til Midnight
3160 Tampa Rd
Oldsmar

A little history about the Relay.

One person can make a difference. In May 1985, Dr. Gordon Klatt walked and ran for 24 hours around the track at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, raising money to help the American Cancer Society with the nation's biggest health cancer. He managed 83.6 miles and raised

\$27,000 dollars. The following year 19 teams took part in what became the 1st Relay for life event and they raised \$33,000 dollars. 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 don't stop because they are tired --- then neither do we. It is also American Cancer Societies' ultimate team fundraiser that brings communities together to fight cancer. Its single goal is to take down our biggest rival "Cancer".

It's 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 or 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. Pre Event, there is fundraising by each team having such things as Bake Sales, Car Washes etc.
2. Create a team and have a tent at the Relay as a home base
3. Opening Ceremony welcomes all: There will be live music and Special guests
4. Survivor 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. Our 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 who you desire to place on the bag. You can actually sign up on line for both if you care to. Its www.Relayforlife.org\npinellasfl and fill out the form.

For those already on a team, there will be a Kickoff Party at 6pm 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'm 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 Neilsen's there where approximately 200 folks plus came to wish him nothing but the best in his future and thanks for 30 years of service to this community as well as the Chamber. Also a good bye 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. She 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 8am til 4pm. 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, 3pm til 10pm 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 – Suncoast:

Good to go Catering Great Chef prepared food at very reasonable pricing. Contact # 727 523-1512 ext.1100. Bright Futures hours are available through Good will. 727 523-1512

Oldsmar Cares:

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 til 7 pm,
Wednesday 5:30 pm til 7 pm
Friday 9am til 12 noon
Saturday 9am til 12 noon

phone number 813 415-7373

PSTA:

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 Feb 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 non-Profits will start 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 businesses as well as morning and evening Mixers at local establishments. Also don't forget to think about joining the Lunch and Learns 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, til next month Farewell!

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