

Rotary



Club of Stuart-Sunrise

Club Meeting

Stuart-Sunrise
Meets at Banyan Creek
Country Club
1701 SW Crane Creek Ave
Palm City, FL 34990
Time: Thursday at 07:30
AM

Speakers

May 02, 2024

[Stuart Sunrise
Scholarship Winners](#)

May 09, 2024

[Interact Club Seniors
Sash Presentation](#)

May 23, 2024

[Tracey Maccia, Project Lift
Volunteer Mentorship
Program for At-Risk Males](#)

Birthdays



Michael L.
Costopoulos
May 10th



Michael Donnelly
May 18th

Club Member Anniversaries

No Years Of Service
Found

Rotary News for April 25, 2024

By Beth Brownell

President John led the Pledge and Sue offered the prayer.

Welcome to Interact members and advisor Dr. Denisha Bonds, from Clark Advanced Learning, who brought Clark donations to our Rice & Beans food drive.

HB announced that the three high school students had been selected to receive scholarships to be veteran guardians during the September Honor Flight. One applicant's moving essay was read to club members.

Gene and John recently attended scholarship nights at South Fork High School and Martin County High School. Scholarship recipients will be attending next week's meeting.

Thank you, Kathy, for the fresh corn!

Board meeting after next week's meeting.

No meeting on May 16 due to Banyan Creek being closed.

The golf tournament committee needs members as work begins on sponsorship levels.

Happy Dollars were given by Sue for the opportunity to participate in Dancing With the Stars, a Healthy Start fundraiser. Club members have already promised to donate and support her. Sue also mentioned that Impact100, a women's philanthropic group, recently gave out over \$420,000 in grants to local organizations. Several members of the club are members of Impact100. Lisa is happy that the tax season is behind her and John F will be heading to the Caribbean for two weeks. Tom and Beth returned from the cold northeast to be with family during a difficult time.

The 50/50 was won by Scott.

Rob Ranieri, House of Hope

By Beth Brownell

Rob spoke to the club, noting that House of Hope is celebrating its 40th year of ~encouraging Martin County residents to overcome hunger and hardships~™. Prior to COVID, 3500~4000 residents were served monthly and now 8000 receive direct help and 13,000 are helped indirectly (ex food bank visits). The mobile garden provides nutritional education across several counties, encouraging people to learn to cook and consume food in healthy ways.

Newer programs include ~food as medicine~™ where lower income families receive education and healthy food to address common diseases such as diabetes, obesity and hypertension. 1.3 million pounds of food funnel through the food warehouse and into the four local food pantries, including 500,000 pounds of fresh food from the Palm City Growing Hope production farm. The farm boasts a 92,000 sq ft hydroponic growing facility. The new food washing building at the farm allows more clean, low-cost produce to be sold in more places. Families can receive the equivalent of \$450 in food monthly, which creates a ripple effect: healthier people being able to work and attend school, leaving funds available for transportation and housing, etc.

Direct help includes enrichment centers. The newest is the Kindoo Center in Indiantown, which provides a learning center for early learners as well as seniors, and provides a community gathering spot. One goal is to change the trajectory of families, providing an empowerment model for them. Families can stay on the program for as long as necessary. Case management is available for those in crises, which usually involves food, finances and/or health. Once the crisis is over, a complete assessment is performed and an improvement plan developed. This is updated every six months. This family-centered coaching helps people learn to ~take the reins~™ of their life. Lack of housing is a chronic issue and a new housing coordinator has been hired to help families gain stability.

There is always a need in the food pantries for staples, condiments, toiletries, and toilet paper. May 11 is the Letter Carrier Food Drive and Rob encouraged club members to participate. House of Hope will be the collection point.

