



# THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF SEBASTIAN, FL

## ~~~ NEWSLETTER ~~~

Meeting 12 Noon, 2<sup>nd</sup> - last Wednesdays of the Month

Captain Hiram's Tiffany Room, Sebastian, Florida

Volume 24, Issue 7

April 15, 2024



### Board Meeting Highlights

By Eva Chapman



Bonnie Stauber with Susan Baran



### Guest Speaker Series

04/10 - Debbie Butler, Guardians for New Futures



### Welcome New Members

On March 27<sup>th</sup> we installed our newest member, Bonnie Stauber representing MacEvoy Real Estate. Bonnie moved to Sebastian for 10 years ago to be closer to family. She has a new granddaughter who is just 2 month old! Please make an effort to introduce yourself to Bonnie and welcome her to our club.



### Community Giving



### 2024 Blue Water Open

Michelle Morris says planning is well underway for our **30<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Water Open** which will be held at Captain Hiram's on June 1<sup>st</sup> with a rain date of June 8<sup>th</sup>. Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at Hiram's at 5:00 p.m. The sponsor packets are out and t-shirts are ordered. Rachel has the trip tickets. There is a choice of four vacation packages: Sedona Arizona, New Orleans, A Royal Caribbean cruise or winner's choice of travel or \$3,500 cash. Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100. Members are encouraged to take tickets to sell and start contacting their sponsors for continued support as well as bring in new sponsors. Johnathan Rhodeback will collect items for our Cooler of Cheer. Please

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bring "cheer" items or cash to luncheons or deliver to Johnathan at his office. Karen McElveen is collecting for the Live Auction and Gift Baskets. She needs "MAJOR WOW" items (artwork, fishing gear, coolers, etc.) for the live auction and gift cards for the baskets. Please bring items to luncheons for Karen. Volunteers for this event are also needed, so let Diana Best or Terry Gardner know if you would like a specific assignment. Eva Chapman said the posters for this year's BWO are now available. Yard signs are also ready. Please pick up and deliver to your sponsors and those that you know can display them. Sponsors who are at \$5,000 and above will be on the tee-shirts. The deadline to receive their information and money is April 15<sup>th</sup>.



## Youth Guidance CAP Center

Youth Guidance Mentoring Academy celebrated 50 years this year, 2023. YG offers Group Mentoring Programs, One-on-One Mentoring, Parent-aid, and Pre-Apprenticeship. YG's focus is Life Skills, Academic Enrichment and Vocational Training. YG serves youth ages 5-24, offers After-School and Summer Programs and free nutritional meals are served daily. 100% of the youth come from low-income households and most come from single parent households. There are 5178 children in poverty in Indian River County. That is 26.3% of the total youth population which indicates just how tremendous the need is.

The Youth Guidance facility is the only CAP (Child Abuse Prevention) center in Indian River County. Our club was the sponsor for getting Youth Guidance set up as an official CAP center. The center encourages parent involvement offering training in homes as well as programs at the facility and with community partners for building life skills. The facility is located at 1028 20<sup>th</sup> Place in Vero Beach.

Group mentoring covers academics, homework, reading and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). YG Life Skills program has a success rate of 93% of the youth scoring 80% or higher on proficiency evaluation. The Life Skills programs include Tutoring, Vocational Training/Pre-Apprenticeships, HVAC, Electrical, Plumbing, Welding, Carpentry, Farming and Camping, STEAM (Science,

Technology, Engineering, Math), Computer Training and web design, Culinary Arts, Sewing Gardening, Bicycle Repair, Woodworking, Recreational Activities and Field Trips.

In 2021, Youth Guidance launched a state-registered Pre-Apprenticeship program to teach skilled trades to Indian River County teenagers and young adults. Since starting the vocational training 33 youth (ages 16-24) have received professional certification in pre-apprenticeship programs. They can graduate with up to 6 certifications. 7 pre-apprentice students have obtained or maintained employment in the trades. 73% of YG students 16 and up are employed or enrolled in a tech college or university. There are 1633 trade contractors in Indian River County whose average annual wage is \$55,588. Trades are expected to grow 13% in the next 5 years employing almost 13,000 workers in Indian River County. YG currently has 25 students enrolled in these programs.

A core component of Youth Guidance is an at home intervention staff who give parent coaching and support. The first Parent Aide has been paired with a family and will spend 2 hours a week giving in-home support to the families to advocate for the kids. YG will start with one family and build from there. The goal is to have 6-8 families this first year. Youth Guidance is working with the Children's Healing Institute and other National Exchange CAP centers to tap in on ideas. The building is soon to be renovated which will allow for the growth. The building was built in 1961 and renovated in 1990. Its current capacity is only 50 youth. The cost of the renovation will be \$1.5 million and will take one to one-and-one-half years to completion. YG will be utilizing a few local schools and a church location during renovations. Executive Director Phil Barnes said that the capital campaign has almost reached its goal and construction will begin soon. Permitting is in process.



## SPD Community Involvement

Did you know the Sebastian Police Department (SPD) offers a Public Safety Cadet program? You've likely encountered these cadets at SPD's COPE Unit events. They often include athletes such as football, basketball, and soccer players, wrestlers, and weightlifters, as well as JROTC members and exceptional students from local schools.

**The Exchange Club Mission Statement: *Exchange, Americas' Service Club, is a group of men and women working together to make our communities better places to live through programs of service in Americanism, Community Service, Youth Activities, and its' national project, the Prevention of Child Abuse.***

### 2022-2023 Officers for the Exchange Club of Sebastian

President – Susan Baran    President Elect – Johnathan Rhodeback  
Secretary - Eva Chapman    Treasurer - Diana Best  
Foundation Treasurer - Kathy Burns    Newsletter Editor - Margie Duffell  
Division 2 Director – Nancy Madsen    District President – George Mann  
District Treasurer – Julie Perkl    District Secretary – Shirley Sims  
District President Elect – Ken Sweeny  
District Immediate Past President – Steve Rawlins  
Region 9 Vice President – Joe Walsh



Sebastian Police Chief Dan Acosta flanked by Public Safety Cadets

So, the next time you spot a teenager donning a gray polo shirt and black pants assisting our police department, rest assured they are our Public Safety Cadets! They're actively engaged in learning and serving our community. The Sebastian Police Department takes great pride in fostering such a program and in the exemplary representation provided by these cadets.



### *This and That*

Susan Baran stated that this year's District Convention will be held in Vero Beach on May 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to assist the Vero Beach Club with arrangements contact Kim Prado, our representative. She needs volunteers for registration on Friday through Sunday.

Susan Baran stated that we are looking for volunteers to work with the SRHS Excel Club, the Scholarship Committee. The Nominating Committee will be meeting and is accepting names for members who are interested in serving on the board or as club secretary. Contact Susan if you would like to be involved.

Susan Baran received thank you letters from Youth Guidance and the Boys and Girls Club for our contributions. The Youth Guidance King of the Hill Tennis Tournament raised over \$65,000 which enables YG to serve over 200 youth. The Boys and Girls contribution will help to ensure the various programs will continue throughout the summer for members.

Ali Qizilbash and Sherrie Matthews are lining up interesting speakers. They are always looking for recommendations. If you have someone of interest please let Ali or Sherrie know. Suggestions are appreciated.

## Excel Club of Sebastian River High School



Fred Jones (L) and Francis Papineau (R) flank the newly installed officers (L-R) Tate Jones, Treasurer, Ava Rhea, Secretary, Fiza Qizilbash, President-Elect, and Conrad Sylvester, President

Members have completed 5 projects which fall under each of the 4 Programs of Exchange. In April they will display the Prevention of Child Abuse flag in the school courtyard. The School Advisor is Jaime Sturgeon who has been enthusiastic about rebuilding this club for the 2023-24 school year.



## Jr. Excel Club of Sebastian Charter

Junior High School



Treasurer Allie Boogaerts, Secretary & President-Elect Zoe Nichelsen and President Maya Corley With Margie Duffell and Fred Jones.

Members have completed 11 projects which fall under each of the 4 Programs of Exchange. In March they had a flag folding lesson (Program – Americanism). In April they will display the Prevention of Child Abuse flag and also hold a schoolwide Patriotic Day to be celebrated using the colors of red, white and blue. The School Advisor is Skye DeVarney who has been enthusiastic about rebuilding this club for the 2023-24 school year.



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04/27 – TBD

May

05/01 - No Meeting (Board Only)  
05/08 - TBD  
05/15 - TBD  
05/17 - 05/19 - District Convention in Vero Beach



April Birthdays

Rene Van De Voorde	04/20
Marilyn Waldis	04/22
Michelle Morris	04/29



April Anniversaries

Marybeth Verde	1 Year
Laura Petersen	2 Years
Paul Reeves	18 Years
Adam Preuss	26 Years



2nd Qtr. Visitors - Please Come Again!



Calendar of Events

3 @ \$3000  
 4 @ \$2000  
 3 @ 1000  
 1 @ 1000 - Rappy Perez Scholarship

April

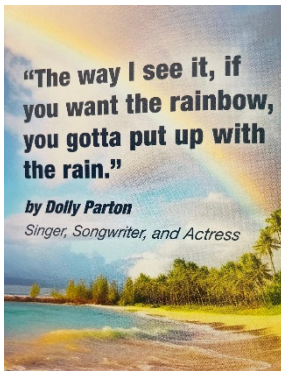
04/03 - No Meeting (Board Meeting Only)  
04/17 - Students of the Year & ACE Awards

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Total \$20,000



*"The avoidance of taxes is the only intellectual pursuit that still carries any reward."*

- John Maynard Keynes, Economist

