

The Chattanooga Kiwanian

www.kiwanischatt.org

January 19, 2010

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Chattanooga Selected As Pilot City For “Ready By 21”

The United Way of Chattanooga wants all youth ready for adulthood by the time they turn 21. Linda McReynolds, Senior Vice President for Community Impact, spoke to Kiwanis on January 19 about the importance of preparing children for adulthood. The Ready By 21 program is designed to impact the lives of our youth at the moment of conception. Ms. McReynolds used the term “pipeline” to describe the key indicators that measure successful youth: promote healthy birthrates, adequate preparation prior to starting school, improving reading skills (the 3rd grade is used as a benchmark), school attendance and motivation to continue their education after high school (whether it be technical training, college, etc.).

Why is this important? The answer is simple - Economic Stability. Each high school dropout costs \$48,000 each year. In Hamilton County, we have a 70% graduation rate. The 30% that do not graduate cost the taxpayer millions each year. The majority of those not completing high school (75%) will not have employment and another 80% will be involved in crime.

The Forum for Youth Investment awarded a grant to the United Way to begin this program. It will tie together already existing community resources to invest in the youth of Chattanooga. Ms. McReynolds said that this is going to be more than just a program, it is going to be a way of life.

Come Out And Play With Outdoor Chattanooga

Kiwanians heard from Ruthie Thompson on January 12, about the many programs and activities that Outdoor Chattanooga has to offer. Chattanooga boasts many natural attractions for its citizens including: 40 miles of trails within the city limits, more than 25 miles of rock climbing (more than Boulder, CO), fishing, hang gliding, white water rafting, flat water paddling, horseback riding, caving and disc golf (there are 4 courses in the area).

Rowing has become one our main attractions. According to Ms. Thompson, the Head of the Hooche regatta is the second largest in the country with 16,000 entries. Every 15 seconds a boat is either put in the river or taken out.

Outdoor Chattanooga will also be hosting two national conventions: ProWalk ProBike (Sept. 13-16) and the American Trails National Symposium (Nov. 14-17). Locally they host an outdoor expo and gear swap and help in the planning of the triathlon.

Ms. Thompson mentioned that as wonderful as all of these activities are, you need to be properly educated on them. The first Friday of each month from 6-8a.m. is a Bike2Work meeting. One of their community advocacy programs is partnership with the Community Kitchen called Pedal Power. They supply bicycles, helmets, lights, bells and a lock to 40 different homeless people. In addition, they provide them with the education that they need to ride the bikes safely in the city so they can find a job and go to their doctor’s appointments.

They will have a series of winter workshops each Thursday from 6-8p.m. at their office with topics ranging from a runners clinic, backcountry cuisine, kudzu basket weaving and building a camp stove out of a Coke can. Visit their website at www.outdoorchattanooga.com for more information.



Minya James and Ruthie Thompson talk with member Gary Youngberg after the meeting.



The Chattanooga Kiwanian

Page 2

Orange Grove Will Recycle And Destroy Your Documents



At the January 5 meeting, Tara Roberts, Director of Adult Services at Orange Grove, spoke about their latest endeavor - document destruction. Orange Grove has been shredding since 2003 for small companies, but on October 1, 2009 they secured a government contract will allowed them offer their services for all sizes of companies.

Unlike most other shredding companies, Orange Grove will not only shred your documents, but they will also recycle the remains. They provide you the same services all the other companies do: locking containers, web-based view-ing of the shredding process and a “certificate of destruction.”

Orange Grove provides services to 585 adults each day and needed additional ways to keep them working. Many are familiar with their recycling program that serves the entire community and 120 local businesses. They also have employment contracts with many businesses to provide work for their clients.

Matthew Vandergriff - Recipient of Kiwanis Youth Founda-tion Education Loan

Matthew and his family were on hand on January 5, to express their thanks for the Chattanooga Kiwanis Club in awarding Matthew one of the Youth Foundation's Education Loans. He is a 2009 graduate of Soddy-Daisy High School with a 3.8 GPA and is attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he is majoring in Animal Science, Pre Veterinarian. While in high school, he worked at the Bi-Lo and part-time for a veterinarian because that is what he wants to do after college. What made this special for Matt is the fact that he is 75% deaf and “was convinced growing up that poor people weren't meant to go to college.” Thanks to the Kiwanis Youth Foundation, his dream of becoming a Vet is closer to reality.



Kiwanis Trivia

I'm taking a page from Rickie Pierce's book. In this edition of Kiwanis 101:

From 1915 to 1919, the organization of new Kiwanis Clubs was managed by a professional organizer, Allen Simpson Browne, who can be credited with creating Kiwanis. In return for building new clubs, he received a portion of every new membership fee. This arrangement led to increasing controversy about the purpose and control of the organization. The problem was solved when Kiwanis International “bought itself” from Browne at the 1919 convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Club delegates raised \$17,500 on the convention floor to purchase Browne's rights to the Kiwanis name and organization.

The name “Kiwanis” was coined from an expression of the American Indians in the Detroit area, which was found in Bishop Baraga's dictionary of the Otchipew language. The expression “Nunc Kee-wan-nis” meant, broadly, “we trade” or “we share our talents.” As a coined word, however, “Kiwanis” has no meaning except as the name of a leading international service club.



The Chattanooga Kiwanian

Page 3

We Want Your Feedback!

Got a great speaker or program idea? Contact Cynthia Fagen or Leigh Todd. Cynthia: 535-5556; Leigh: 752-1504

Got an idea for a service project or a need in the community that Kiwanis could help at? Contact Chuck Young 615-476-3285

Got a lead on a potential new member? Contact John Henegar or Brent Taylor and they'll be glad to help you. John: 756-7100; Brent: 752-0310

Kiwanis Concerns

Remember these Kiwanians:

Cave Richardson's mother-in-law passed away.

Kiwanis Regional Conference

Chattanooga played host to the 1st Kentucky-Tennessee District Regional Conference on Saturday, January 16. Our very own, Rickie Pierce helped organize this great event. Those who attended from our club were: Rickie Pierce, Diane Parks, Joyce Owens, Eric Campbell, Jim McCall and James Hobbs. Clubs from Middle and East Tennessee came to this meeting.

Committee Meetings and Interclubs

01/28: Interclub with Cleveland at 12:00p.m. They meet at the Holiday Day Inn (2nd Cleveland Exit). Let John Henegar know if you are going.

01/26: Boys & Girls Work Committee will be meeting at 11:30a.m. in our regular meeting room for Tuesday.

Kiwanis Youth Foundation Needs You!

Have you made your \$175 donation to the Kiwanis Youth Foundation? If not, please do so. These donations allow us to award grants and scholarships to help the children in our community. Last year we awarded over \$30,000 in grants and scholarships. Your donation is tax-deductible.



Above: Eric Campbell and Diane Parks talk before the meeting starts. Top right: Rickie Pierce tells of the achievements of Division 3. Right: Diane Parks, poses with the presidents of Division 3, Lt. Gov. Rickie Pierce and Gov. Glen Kleine.

