

OUR TOWNS

Halifax Health names Volunteers of the Month

DAYTONA BEACH - Bernie Schirmer and Denise Gray were recently named Volunteers of the Month for Halifax Health.

Schirmer, Halifax Health Volunteer of the Month for April, became a



Schirmer Gray
volunteer in September 2012 and has, so far,

volunteered more than 1,000 hours. During his time as a Halifax Health volunteer, he has served as a courtesy cart driver and currently assists with patient transport.

The Volunteer of the Month for May is Denise

Gray. A volunteer since January 2015, Gray has generously given more than 400 hours of service in the surgical waiting room where she personally greets families and provides refreshments and support.

AROUND TOWN

Teens can make healthy snacks

Teens can learn how to make delicious and healthy snacks from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday at the Daytona Beach Regional Library at City Island, 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach.

The free demonstration and tasting will be led by Sara Levasseur, a program assistant with the Family Nutrition Program at the University of Florida/Volusia County Extension.

Girls and boys in grades six through 12 can take part in the program, which will be in the library's Launchpad.

Reservations are requested; contact Lorri Davis at ljddavis@volusia.org or 386-257-6036, ext. 16154.

Golf tourney raises funds for FBH

The third annual Double Deuce Invitational Tournament held at Plantation Bay Golf and Country Club raised \$4,503 for Food Brings Hope, \$2,500 of which was donated by Ameris Bank. The funds will be used to provide food bags to families participating in Food Brings Hope's weekend food bag program. For information, visit FoodBringsHope.org or contact Program Coordinator Briana Thompson at 386-843-1161 or Briana@FoodBringsHope.org.

SPCA summer volunteer program

The Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is beginning its summer youth volunteer program at 3063 Enterprise Road, DeBary. High school-age students can obtain volunteer hours helping out at SPCA events such as vaccination clinics, adoption events and dog washes. The SPCA will also sponsor field trips. For information, call the SPCA at 386-748-8993.

Judge swears in Guardians ad Litem

Judge Dave Hood swore in more than 25 Guardian ad Litem volunteers on May 27. The volunteers will serve as the voice for abused, neglected, or abandoned children. Those interested in learning more about becoming a court-appointed advocate for a child, may call 386-239-7803, or email kim.taylor@gal.fl.gov.

FAMILY LITERACY PROGRAM

Pierson families celebrate progress

DAYTONA BEACH - Pierson families participating in the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy program, facilitated by Food Brings Hope, celebrated the conclusion of the program and reaching their educational goals.

Parents and children completed post tests and surveys to analyze their growth throughout the program. More than half of the parents enrolled made great improvements in writing and speaking in the English language along with perfecting their parenting skills. The children made vast improvements in their literacy skills and gained new reading activities for the summer break.

The celebration began in the cafeteria with the announcement that the program had been approved for another year. After a few words of gratitude by Pierson Elementary Principal Kim Hutcherson, children received certificates and goodie bags filled with activities for the summer.

Parents received certificates and plants to signify the growth they have made in their knowledge of English and how they, too, will grow as they continue in the program. The plaque for 'Most Improved' went to Antonia Leon for her substantial progress.

The celebration concluded with a potluck dinner where the families each brought a home cooked dish to share.

Each Tuesday night, selected students from Pierson Elementary and their families gathered in the elementary school's classrooms to participate in the Pierson Family Literacy Program. This two-generational program helps parents improve their skills in English plus reading and writing skills while their



Children participating in the Pierson Family Literacy Program receive certificates and other goodies at the program's end-of-year celebration. PHOTO PROVIDED

children receive additional support for their own literacy development in another area of the school.

Food Brings Hope expressed thanks the following individuals who graciously provided their time and skills to help these families: Priscilla Sparks, Kathy Clark,

Amy Dunlap, Ava Gormley, Kathy Clark, Frank Gunshanan and the Daytona State College's Quanta Honors College student volunteers, Miriam Castaneda-Osorio, Kayla Farley, Gilarys Garcia-Milan, Preston Johnston, Danjha Leon, Kayla Lillie, Jose

Villalobos, and Kirstin Miller.

"We would like to see all of our original families involved again next year so they can continue to learn and expand their knowledge of the English Language," said Judith Winch, Food Brings Hope executive director.

UNTREATED HEARING LOSS IS A MAJOR HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUE.

Older adults*



with impaired hearing may have a shorter life span than their peers without hearing problems.

*70 years and older

DID YOU KNOW?

There is a significant association between high blood pressure and untreated hearing loss.



Over 360 million of the world's population have disabling hearing loss



Adults* with a hearing loss experience a 30-40% faster decline in cognitive abilities compared to peers without hearing loss.

Adults* with untreated hearing loss

were more likely to report depression, anxiety and paranoia than peers who wore hearing aids.

*50 years and older

