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# Partners *In Education*

NEWS FOR AND ABOUT PARTNERSHIPS IN BROWARD

## School Library Makeover

Last year, Lauderdale Manors Elementary was the first school in Broward County to be selected to participate in Target's *School Library Makeover* program. After nearly a year of preparation, the school hosted the library unveiling on Friday, November 4, 2011.

As a result of the makeover process, the library now features 2,000 new books, eco-friendly design elements, a complete technology upgrade including iPads donated by Target and a mounted interactive whiteboard with a mounted projection (Acti-Board+2) and a set of ActivExpressions donated by Promethean. New furniture, carpet and shelves complete the renovation.

During the festivities, Target gave each student 7 books in a canvas bag with crayons, a bookmark, a worksheet and a

snack. One hundred and forty Target volunteers painted murals and pictures, assembled the new furniture, book shelves and picnic tables, shelved the new library books, planted a vegetable garden and painted stepping stones as a border around the garden. Target's amazing volunteers checked-in parents and VIPs and provided a tour of the media center.

The newest addition to the partnership is the *Target Meals for Minds* program. Once per month Target will provide each Lauderdale Manors Elementary student with approximately 30lbs. of non-perishable food, plus a large selection of fresh produce.

Nationwide, Target is on track to give \$1 billion for education, with a focus on reading, by the end of 2015.



Target volunteers setting-up the Library.



Target volunteers planting the vegetable garden.



## New Night for ClueLess

The 17<sup>th</sup> annual *ClueLess on Las Olas* is scheduled earlier this year in hopes of entirely missing the rainy season. While the event has never been rained out, it has come close with rain before and after the event. This year, *ClueLess* will take place on **Thursday, March 29, 2012 at SE 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Las Olas Boulevard**. Advance registration will be available online beginning February 13, 2012 at

<http://www.browardpartners.com>.

Mark your calendars now and save the date for this great event and help support Partners In Education, Inc., Broward's premier school/business partnership program.

For more information, call Linda Brown, event coordinator, at 954.288.7201.

## Teacher Appreciation Day at Deerfield Beach High



Deerfield Beach High teachers enjoying the first Teacher Appreciation Day

Deerfield Beach High School would like to thank **BB&T Bank, VALIC Financial Advisors, Keiser University, Johnson & Wales University, L & S Insurance and The U. S. Army** for their participation in the first *Buck Pride - Partners In Education Expo & Teacher Appreciation Breakfast* held on October 28, 2011 in the school's ProStart Café.

October 28 was the first Teacher Planning Day of the school year and teachers were looking for opportunities to meet the needs of all their students. To assist, the school's partners provided an information expo where

teachers learned first hand the services and activities that these partners could provide. The event was part of a new effort by Deerfield Beach High to expand the Partners In Education program, a program that brings local businesses and community organizations into the school on behalf of students, teachers and parents.

Special thanks goes to Ms. McKay, Culinary Instructor, for creating a wonderful breakfast and to Mr. Fulton, Deerfield Beach High's Assistant Principal, for ensuring a great event.

## Message from the Director



Nina Randall, APR  
Executive Director

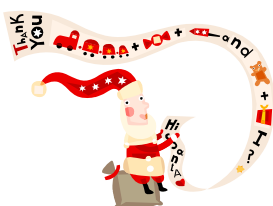
Taking a tip from my own newsletter, I wish to publically thank all the wonderful and dedicated volunteers who serve on the Board of Directors of Partners In Education, Inc.

Being part of the non-profit world, I frequently compare notes with my peers and I know just how lucky I am to have this superb and committed group of people with whom to work. Officers are: Sam Chesser, BrightStar Credit Union, Janna Lhota, Holland & Knight, Michelle Johnson, Coventry Health Plan of Florida, William Shillington, CPA; Jamie Manburg, Nova Southeastern University. Directors: Sandra Bernard-Bastien, Children's Services Council of Broward County; Myriam Campo-Goldman,

Harmony Development Center; Jolene Caprio, Junior League of Greater Fort Lauderdale; Tim Curtin, Memorial Hospital, Angie Davis, Bank of America; Jay Fraser, Turner Construction; Ric Green, Pompano Chamber; Andy Martinez, Pearson; Ryan McLain, AXA Advisors, LLC; Fred Schiff, All County Music; Maria Schneider, Office of the State Attorney; Sandra Silvera, Human; Warren Smith, ASP, Inc.; and last, but not least, Jon Williamson, Publix.

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it, so PIE Board, this present is for you. Thank you for all you do on behalf of Partners In Education, Inc. and the schools and children that we serve.

## TIP OF THE MONTH



As the holidays approach, this is a great time to let all the volunteers, business and community partners at your school know just how much you appreciate their efforts.

Appreciation is the best gift you can give a person for it acts as a reward for one's labor. Make a little gift-bag of holiday candies for your partners at your next meeting. Send an

card or an old fashioned hand-written note of thanks. Wish your volunteers a wonderful holiday and thank them for their efforts. Add "Thanks for being a lifesaver" on your mailing labels, or, invite partners and volunteers to your school's holiday festivities. So, *Thank You*, partners for all you do in Broward County's public schools.

## Stoneman Douglas Band Students Hold a Day of Service

Awakened by the sound of a marching band drum line, the residents of the SOS Children's Village of Coconut Creek, Florida, rushed out of their homes to discover the Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School Eagle Regiment. After a brief performance, Band members put down their instruments and flags and picked-up paintbrushes and pressure cleaners, and so commenced the *Eagle Regiment Gives Back* service project.

Approximately 200 band students and their parents participated in the largest one-day service project in the school's history. Students painted the interiors of five single family foster homes, pressure washed patios and driveways and ended the day with a concert for the residents.

Joining the work was Stoneman Douglas Principal, Washington Collado; Broward County School Board Member, Donna Korn and her 2 young daughters; and the principal from neighboring West Glades Middle School, Jack Vesey. Both principals and Mrs. Korn addressed the band and parents and,

each in his or her own way, congratulated the group for their service on behalf of the residents of SOS Children's Village and reminded them just how important it is to give back to others.

According to band parent and chairman of *Eagle Regiment Gives Back*, Andy Espey, "We are an organization that relies heavily on the support of the community and we thought that it was important to show our supporters that we are capable of significant service. This project was also designed to teach our band members empathy for others as well as to demonstrate the impact they can have when they work as a team."

Special thanks to Rick Angelone and Angelina O'Brien (pictured on the right) from VSCHOOLZ.com. for funding the event. Without their support, the *Eagle Regiment Gives Back* day would have been paid for out of the Band's fundraising account. This generous donation made the day a win/win for all involved.



Band Director John Rusnak and the Stoneman Douglas Eagle Regiment accept a \$2,000 check from Rick Angelone, President, and Angelina O'Brien, Director of Marketing, from VSCHOOLZ.com.



The Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School Eagle Regiment performs.

## Whispering Pines School Celebrates El Palacio Hotel Partnership

Whispering Pines School first teamed-up with El Palacio Hotel in Miami Gardens so that students in the Community Based Instructional (CBI) Program could participate in a variety of work experiences at the hotel. Students report to El Palacio Monday thru Thursday from approximately 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. They work in different areas such as in the laundry room, housekeeping, maintenance, the kitchen and others.

Words can't express the transformation that occurred in the students who participated in this partnership. For example, prior to being placed in the CBI Program and working at El Palacio, one student was often absent from school, and when she did attend, she was late. She rarely communicated with anyone

and displayed limited mobility. Now, this student comes to school everyday, has a smile for everyone and not only does she interact with others, but she initiates conversation and demonstrates the ability to work somewhat independently.

With the CBI Program as the start of the partnership, El Palacio has also generously donated hygiene supplies, work clothing, food and items for fundraisers for the past two school years. They participate in school functions and recently served as a judge for the Harvest Fest. Two months ago, El Palacio hired one of the CBI students and they continue to mentor him to help him reach his full potential.



CBI students work in the laundry room.



CBI students take a picture break with El Palacio staff.



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September  
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## Coventry Health Care of Florida Teams With Young at Art Children's Museum

Coventry Health Care of Florida, in partnership with Young At Art Children's Museum (YAA), recently launched *Alice's Wonderscapes*, an early childhood (PreK to second grade) outreach program for Broward County Public Schools. Based on the popular children's fairy tale, Alice in Wonderland, *Alice's Wonderscapes* promotes health education through literacy, physical movement and art-based learning activities that teach children about nutrition and the importance of being physically active.

"Early childhood health education programs are so important because if you target children while they are young, you have the opportunity to help them develop healthy habits that will last a lifetime," said Christopher Ciano, CEO for Coventry Health Care of Florida.

Created by YAA and developed through funding from Coventry Health Care of Florida, *Alice's Wonderscapes* is comprised of four one hour sessions:

- **Down the Rabbit Hole:** In this outreach children use motor skills to crawl through a magic tunnel and learn colors and shapes.
- **Alice's Outdoor Maze and Garden:** Kids get moving as they skip through a maze and explore the beauty of the outdoors by creating nature rubbings.
- **Mad Hatter Kitchen & Tea Party:** Students learn about healthy food choices by "cooking" up a healthy mixed media soup collage
- **Alice's Queen of Hearts:** Discovering numbers and shapes while being active, children

create and play with their own croquet sets. "When schools face a budget crisis, art and physical education programs are usually the first to get cut. *Alice's Wonderscapes* is one way we can help bring the arts back to schools, while also integrating health education and physical activity," explained Ciano.

*Alice's Wonderscapes* is part of YAA's classroom outreach program available to all Broward County Public Schools throughout the academic year. Coventry provides scholarships for teachers who want to bring the outreach to their classroom. This allows teachers to have the outreach conducted in their classroom at no cost to the school. The program is also available onsite at the children's museum.

"We are grateful to Coventry Health Care of Florida for partnering with us to bring this wonderful program to children, especially those who otherwise might not get any exposure to the arts," said Mindy Shargo, executive director for Young At Art Children's Museum. "Young At Art was founded to bridge the gap for shrinking budgets for arts education programs in schools. Combining art activities with movement is a win-win for young children."

Any teacher interested in bringing *Alice's Wonderscapes* to their classroom should contact Young At Art's Reservation department at 954-424-0085, ext. 10 or [reservations@youngartmuseum.org](mailto:reservations@youngartmuseum.org).

## Taravella High Students Play Financial Football

Taravella High School students recently went head-to-head in a game of Financial Football. The school's Academy of Finance organized the event and BrightStar Credit Union was the sponsor.

BrightStar visited each participating class to coach students before the games. The two

winning teams will compete in a financial "super bowl" in February. BrightStar Credit Union provided prizes and food for the participants. In addition, as part of its CU @ School partnership, BrightStar sponsors in-school credit unions where Academy of Finance students operate a real-live credit union on campus.