

What's New at Chi Chi's

July/August 2014

Donor Spotlight: Salvatore Mascari and Family

An avid golfer, Salvatore was shooting close to par well into his 70's. After declining in health, he spent time building and donating clubs to local charities. In July 2012 Salvatore passed away, leaving his wife of 61 years Evelyn and daughters Cecilia, Evonne, Patricia, son Steve, 8 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Family members established the Salvatore E. Mascari Legacy Golf Fund to help children learn golf within the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation. Friends and family honor his memory with annual donations to the fund dedicated to The First Tee Summer Camp scholarship program. We are grateful to the family and this fine gentleman for their kindness and generosity.



**Top: The Mascari Family at Salvatore's funeral;
Bottom: Salvatore Mascari and his wife Evelyn**

"As Salvatore's daughter-in-law, I was fortunate to have known this wonderful man for the last 24 years and I am happy to help spearhead this fund." ~Becky Mascari



**Top: Bobby, Sonya, Javier, Nick and Lucas before the Closest to the Pin Contest;
Bottom: Contest winner Javier with Wil Myers following the Ceremonial First Pitch**

Event Spotlight: The First Tee Rays Night strikes a high note with our supporters and students!

Four excited students competed in a Closest to the Pin contest on the field before the game against the Houston Astros. Thrilled contest winner, Javier, threw out the Ceremonial First Pitch to Rays player Wil Myers. During the 7th inning stretch, students attending the game expressed their thanks to Board Member Elliott Ross and participated in singing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" on the big screen. The event raised awareness for our summer programming for junior golfers and brought close to \$2,000 for The First Tee of Clearwater annual golf programs. We appreciate your support!

"It was amazing to be on the field with the Rays players and participate in the contest!" ~Nick, Academy student and participant in the Closest to the Pin contest

Student Spotlight: 8th Grade Graduation

The 8th grade class gathered one last time for their graduation and celebration dinner. Each student spoke to the audience of classmates, friends, families and teachers about what the Chi Chi Academy has meant to them. We congratulate them and will eagerly follow their journey through high school, informing Academy supporters of their progress. For more graduation photos, check out facebook.com/ChiChiAcademy.

"Coming to this school has improved my grades and helped me set goals for the future. Thank you all for helping me have a brighter future." ~Courtney, graduation speech

"I'm proud to call myself a Chi Chi kid. I will never forget all the great memories we've created during the time we have been here."

~Chloe, graduation speech



**Top: 8th grade students following their graduation ceremony;
Bottom: 8th grade graduate speakers, Chloe and Courtney**



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Top: Coach receives Award from students;
Bottom: students play volleyball as Coach referees during P.E. class

Teacher Spotlight: Coach George Postans

Congratulations to Coach George Postans, who was chosen as one of two Pinellas County Outstanding Middle School Physical Education Teachers for 2013-2014! A committee of Health and Physical Education teachers honored only two elementary and two middle school physical education teachers with this award for all of Pinellas County. During a May school function, Academy students surprised Coach with an award designed and signed by all 95 Chi Chi Academy students. Well done Coach!

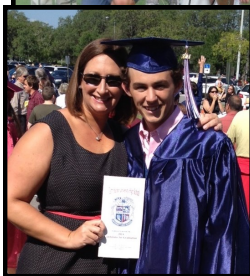
“Thank you for teaching me and my Chi Chi Academy family your skills in P.E.” ~Paola, 8th grade student speech about Coach Postans to classmates

Student Spotlight: The First Academy Graduating Class receives high school diplomas

The first class of graduates who entered Chi Chi’s following our expansion in 2007 from two to five grade levels have graduated high school. Of this original class of fourteen, nine students remained in the Pinellas County School System through high school. Eight of nine students graduated with a C+ or better grade point average, giving Chi Chi’s an 88% high school graduation rate. In comparison, Pinellas County averages a 72% graduation rate. The Academy is grateful to staff and donors who supported and believed in these students early on. The learning tools and academic preparation they received at Chi Chi’s made a big difference!



Top: 2014 high school Graduates during 7th grade



Bottom: Chi Chi Alumna Sean with his mentor and Chi Chi Board Member Jessica Majeski

“Its been wonderful watching Sean grow these past seven years. I’m so proud of him and can’t wait to see him achieve more successes like this in his life.” ~Jessica Majeski, Board Member and long time mentor of Sean

Donor Spotlight: Safety Harbor Rotary Club

For the 7th year, Ted Williamson, of the Safety Harbor Rotary Club, presented a check to Chi Chi’s kids for \$2,500. The funds were proceeds from the East Lake Woodlands March golf event that the club members host in partnership with the Dunedin Waterside Rotary club. These funds will be used for the annual education programs that prepare struggling students for high school graduation and builds their personal life skills as future productive community members. We appreciate the loyal and generous support of the Safety Harbor and Dunedin Waterside Rotary Clubs!



Senior Vice President Cary Stiff with Safety Harbor Rotary Club Golf Event Co-Chair Ted Williamson

“The Rotary Club of Safety Harbor has had a long association with the programs at the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation. We have witnessed first hand the changes made to the lives of kids needing just a “helping hand”. We will continue to offer our personal and financial support in the future.” ~John Brewer, Safety Harbor Rotary Club President

Academy Executive Committee

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- Will Hurter
- John Kobasic
- Monica Kobasic
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- Katie Majeski
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- Sean Tobe
- Katrina Trump
- Richard Wegman

Academy Mission

To assist at risk children by improving their self-esteem, character, work ethic, social adjustment, and academic performance using the golf course business as a living classroom.

Contact Information

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Clearwater, FL 33761

For more information
www.chichi.org or
call Cary Stiff
(727) 726-8829 x 202
email: cary@chichi.org

Upcoming Events—2014

**Chi Chi Charity Classic
Sunday & Monday,
November 16 & 17, 2014**

Did You Know...?

The Academy raised **\$4,725** during the first annual **Give Day Tampa Bay!** Give Day is a joint initiative from the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay and Florida Next Foundation. The 24-hour giving challenge raised over \$1 million for local non-profits as well as educated our community about philanthropy.

You can donate to the Academy’s educational programs when you shop on **Amazon! Amazon Smile** donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to the 501(c)3 charity of your choice. To add the Academy as your charitable organization, visit smile.amazon.com and search our ID# 59-2017124.