



What's New at Chi Chi's March & April 2011



Bob Jones

Donor Spotlight: Bob Jones

Bob resides in Northridge CA and has been involved with Chi Chi's for over 20 years. He is a retired FBI Agent - currently working as a Director of Field Operations for the National Insurance Crime Bureau. He also serves as a Commissioner for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He considers golf an intrinsically mental game. He feels that learning the game and the discipline it takes to become excellent leads to habits and skill sets that are applicable across all of life. We agree and thank Bob for his loyal support.

"Our children are the future. We should constantly strive to encourage and help kids reach their highest potential. Golf is one of the ways to accomplish this because golf is a lifetime game and the best time to learn golf is as a child." **Bob Jones**

Chi Chi Sports Complex Turns Two and Gets a BIG Gift!

The public is invited to a free event on Saturday, April 2 from 9AM-3PM featuring games, prizes, food, golf demos and a ribbon cutting. The festivities will celebrate new additions and renovations to the 30 acre complex. We are pleased to announce that, in partnership with the Dean Hedstrom Foundation for Melanoma Awareness, (DHFMA) an 11:00 AM ribbon cutting ceremony will unveil a new 104 ft long Eclipse Covershot. The permanent structure offers shade from the sun for up to 12 golfers/students at a time. This covershot is in addition to the mobile structure already on site doubling the amount of shaded stalls at the facility. Come join the fun and bring the whole family to win great prizes!



The covershot was generously donated to the Academy by the Dean Hedstrom Foundation for Melanoma Awareness.



Tony Butera

Volunteer Spotlight: Our Tech on Call is Tony Butera

As Chi Chi's public school and program operations have expanded our technology challenges are a frequent occurrence. Thankfully, we have Tony to count on. Although he is super busy with his paid job as a software engineer with Raymond James, when Chi Chi's calls for help Tony is always right there. He is professional, patient, doesn't mind answering questions and can solve just about any technology problem. Tony volunteers for Chi Chi's because he loves taking care of people and it gives him a great feeling of satisfaction.

"It's the thing to do, share the knowledge." **Tony Butera**

Chi Chi Alumni Spotlight: Brian McGibbon



L to R Gina, Brian, Kole and Brina

Brian at age 5 with his golf clubs

When I was young, my parents fell to the hardships of alcoholism and my four siblings and I became the victims of some major neglect and abuse. Luckily, one of our caring teachers heard about a great place for kids going through struggles in their lives. Being at Chi Chi's taught me about life and how I could create the family and life I always wanted. All I had to do was use the tools I was given here. Well you know what? I did. Today, I'm proud to say I graduated from Crosby High School in Waterbury, Connecticut, married the love of my life, Gina, and together we have two beautiful children, Kole (7) and Brina (4). As a manager of a local Chili's, I work hard to support my family and keep them smiling.

"Without Chi Chi and his Foundation, I would not be the man I am today." **Brian McGibbon**

3M Gives Thousands in School Supplies

Our thanks to Mr. Joe Harlan, Executive Vice President in St. Paul Minnesota, for donating over \$10,000 of classroom supplies to the Academy. Among the most popular items the teachers received were the telescopic laptop stands. Other items donated by 3M included comfort gel wrist rests for keyboards, gel mouse pads, two pocket projectors and post-it notes all of which were very much needed and appreciated.

"The new laptop stands make it so much easier for students to do research in class because now the screen can be adjusted to their eye level." **Jayme Pecci, Director, Chi Chi Academy**



L To R back row Teachers Ginger Francisco, Jayme Pecci, Lori VanderKlok, Josh Meurer, Wendy Hinrichs-Barto, George Postans, Linda Foderaro, Kelly Mercier and Susan McLean

Students Enjoy Art Space at Leepa-Rattner Museum

On Wednesday afternoons you'll find some of Chi Chi's youngsters participating in the *Art Space* program at Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art on the St. Petersburg College campus in Tarpon Springs. The grant funded program gives the children an opportunity to view and respond to the art exhibits and spend time in the art studio creating and talking about their own art with art therapist Maryann Hamilton, MAT-ATR. Shown to the left is Mary with Chi Chi's Kids and their art creations.



L to R - Parent Ericka Nieves joins Art Therapist, Maryann Hamilton and Director of Education, Gerry Hazinski with Chi Chi's Kid's

Upcoming Events:

For registration information on events, or to make a contribution, contact Nancy Agnew at (727) 726-8829 x 209 or nancy@chichi.org.

Chi Chi Invitational
Monday, March 14, 2011

Rotary Charity Golf Tournament
East Lake Woodlands Country Club
Saturday, March 19, 2011

Birthday Bash
Sports Complex
Saturday, April 2, 2011

Art in the Park
Sunday, May 15, 2011



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