

# November/December 2016

(727) 726-8829 \*

www.chichi.org

# Congratulations to our 2016 Volunteer of the Year Linda Damsky!

Once she retired from the Pinellas County Schools as a Reading Specialist, Linda dove right into being one of our most enthusiastic volunteers. She sits on the Academy Executive and Charity Classic Committees and in the past co-chaired the 50/50 raffle at the Valspar Championship. She doesn't stop there, you will see Linda at almost every special event the Foundation holds. It is often what Linda does behind the scenes that really makes her such a valuable asset to Chi Chi's. She is currently working with Senior Vice President Cary Stiff on after school opportunities for our Academy students. Thank you Linda for all you do, you are a true Superhero in helping Chi Chi's kids on their personal journey to success!

"As a teacher, I saw the importance first hand on how you can make a difference in these kids lives. This Foundation is truly a mission worth putting your time into and seeing these students succeed is the best reward." ~Linda Damsky





Top: Linda with 2016 8th grade graduate Abrar following their ceremony; Bottom Left: Linda teaching putting at Target's National Night Out Against Crime; Bottom Right: Linda with Academy Executive Committee Member Dan Etlinger working at the Cosmic Driving Range this past February.

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# **Program Spotlight: Fun Friday and Homework Heroes**

The last 30 minutes of each Friday students who earn Fun Friday membership enjoy an outside or inside activity to celebrate the weekend. To partake in Fun Friday activities, students turn in all homework, receive only E's or S's for behavior and have perfect attendance all week!

In Mr. Meurer's middle school math and science classroom, student photos like the one to the right are all over the walls. Turn in 20 homework assignments in a row, which equals one month of homework, and you become a Homework Hero. Students beam while taking photos with a special trophy and a goofy hat showing off their hard work.



Left: 8th grader Nicolas shows off his Homework Hero trophy and goofy hat; Right: 7th graders enjoy a photo booth during Fun Friday



Laura enjoying shadow time with 6th grader Tatyana

# The Foundation welcomes Laura Tobe as Volunteer & Communications Specialist

You might recognize Laura from one of our many events, where she often served as a volunteer with her family. This September, Laura became the newest member of the Chi Chi team as the Volunteer & Communications Specialist. Her job includes working with volunteers from all departments of the Foundation, coordinating special events and public relations. Laura is eager to use her expertise and passion in helping the Foundation further its mission of assisting children both socially and academically.

# Donor Spotlight: Top of the Bay Kiwanis give Pavilion a fresh look!

In October, members of the Top of the Bay Kiwanis spent a morning cleaning and painting the Kiwanis Pavilion. The Pavilion is used almost every day by the Academy students for Physical Education, lunch or even small class breakouts. Over the next year, Kiwanis from all around the area are raising money to provide a new roof for the 23 year old building space!

If you would like to learn more about the Kiwanis or have interest in joining, please visit: topofthebaykiwanis.org



Left: Top of the Bay Kiwanis pose with the Kiwanis International sign before they start painting; Right: working hard on the outside of the pavilion.



Top: City of Dunedin Vice Mayor Bruce Livingston joins Billy Casper Management Company and Chi Chi's team in cutting the celebration ribbon; Bottom: Bimbo Bakeries USA gave out Little Bites to all participants.



# Program Spotlight: The First Tee at Dunedin Stirling Links Ribbon Cutting

A big Thank You to City of Dunedin Vice Mayor Bruce Livingston for joining the festivities and being a supporter of this program that teaches youngsters life-skills in a fun way. His was an important voice in forming the successful match between Chi Chi's and Dunedin. The celebration featured The First Tee participants enjoying a golf lesson, food by Bimbo Bakeries USA and McDonalds, as well as Kona Ice to cool off in this hot Florida sun!

> To see class schedules, visit: www.thefirstteeclearwater.org

## Academy Executive Committee

Elliott Ross - Chair **Bob Baker** Scott Brown Linda Damsky Daniel Etlinger **Bill Hurter** Andrew Ingersoll John Kobasic Monica Kobasic Jessica Majeski Katie Majeski Chuck McGee Pete Morrell Jeremy Robinson Scott Tobe 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 and its business as living classrooms.

### **Contact Information**

3030 N. McMullen Booth Road Clearwater, FL 33761

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

#### **Upcoming Events**

Chi Chi Charity Classic Sunday & Monday November 13 & 14, 2016

> Music 'N Mistletoe Sunday December 18, 2016

#### Did You Know...?

## You can gift an appreciated stock?

- Here are four ways to win by donating appreciated stock:
- 1. The tax deduction for the market value of donation
- Federal capital gains tax savings in the amount you otherwise would have incurred from selling the stock outright
- 3. An opportunity to rebalance your portfolio in line with your financial plan
- 4. The ability to benefit your charity with the full appreciated amount of stock

\*Information from Raymond James Worthwhile Fall 2016