# What's New at Chi Chi's August 2019

Chi Chi Academy Alumni James Warren on his journey to success in the game of life!



Clockwise from top left: James with Chi Chi during his 8th grade year in 2014, Academy Director Josh Meurer with James at his National Honor Society induction, Academy 8th grade graduation with former principal John Burwell and former Academy Director Jayme Pecci, in 4th grade showing off vegetables in the gardens

James Warren came to Chi Chi's as a 4th grader and full of energy. After five years at the Academy, James and his classmates became a tightknit family still keeping in contact today. This past May, James graduated from Countryside High School with a 3.66 weighted GPA! While at Countryside, James also played varsity football and was inducted into the National Honors Society. His Academy classmates as a group were also high achieving students. So, it was an honor when James was one of four students chosen for Chi Chi's Higher Learning Scholarship. James will take full advantage of the funds in the Fall as he heads off to Valdosta State University.

Congratulations James on your tremendous success in high school! Your teachers, family, community and Chi Chi's look forward to watching you progress academically and grow socially over the next four years.

### 2018-2019 Academy Results

- \* 45% of 8th graders achieved proficiency level or higher on FSA Math (14% higher than the District average)
- \* 6th & 8th grade classes outperformed District average in ELA Learning Gains (English Language Arts)

#### **Upcoming Events**

Chi Chi Charity Classic Saturday & Sunday, November 9th & 10th Chi Chi Golf Club



Mission: to educate students in a public-private partnership and improve their academic performance, self-esteem and character using the golf course as a living classroom.

## What's New at Chi Chi's August 2019

#### **Board of Directors**

Thomas A. James, Board Chairman
Raymond James

Frank Chivas, Vice Chairman Island Way Grill, Seaweed, Rumba, Salt Rock Grill, and Marina Cantina

> Robert D. Basham Outback Steakhouse and PDQ Restaurants

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#### Academy Executive Committee

Elliott Ross - Chair Scott Brown Sophia Brown Linda Damsky Daniel Etlinger Carlos Guerrero Stacy Gundry Bill Hurter Andrew Ingersoll John Kobasic Monica Kobasic Brian Krostue Jessica Majeski Chuck McGee Pete Morell Ian Peterson Jeremy Robinson Scott Tobe Sean Tobe Richard Wegman

## The First Tee program receives \$40,311 gift from Valspar Championship proceeds

In June, the Valspar Championship held their annual Innisbook Charity Breakfast to celebrate the success of the PGA TOUR event and disperse proceeds totaling well over \$2 million. Copperhead Charities the 501(c)3 Foundation operating the event proudly announced the tournament was able to support 70 nonprofits this year in our community with these significant funds. The presentation even included a shout out to our very own CEO Cary Stiff congratulating her on her upcoming retirement at the end of the year and her 40 years of service in our community.

We are fortunate in having this event in our backyard and honored to take part in the festivities every year:

- \* The First Tee participants act as Standard Bearers on Thursday
- \* Foundation volunteers work at the Michelob ULTRA Club Thursday through Sunday
- \* Birdies for Charities bonus program
- \* Both the Chi Chi Golf Club and Driving Range have event tickets for sale each year





Top: Copperhead Chairman Keith Robinson, CEO Cary Stiff, Director of Development Mallory Hubbard and COO James Pouter; Bottom: Shout out to CEO Cary Stiff on her retirement during the presentation

# Foundation Board of Directors welcomes newest member Bill Josey



Top: new member Bill Josey, Bottom: Foundation Board of Directors met with the Academy Executive Committee during the July Board Meeting

Bill, who lives in Tampa, is a member of the Palma Ceia Golf Club. He earned his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Florida where he also met his wife Mary. They have two grown children Matthew and Sarah. He currently operates his private consulting business, but spent many years working for different law firms and as General Counsel for Kforce in Tampa for 15 years. Bill enjoys the game of golf which brought him to the Foundation where he has been engaged from the start, in part because his own educational experience included encouragement from a teacher that made a difference in his life.

The Foundation team is already keeping him busy with projects from our branding and marketing challenges to special events coming up. Welcome Bill and thank you for your commitment to our mission!

This edition thanks Charity Classic Sponsor and long-time supporter:



Sean Tobe