

June 8, 2023

In the final club meeting before our summer break we had the honor of acknowledging 2 very special guests. Aubrey and Meredith Bishop, ages 10 and 6, from Clermont were honored for starting a kindness club in their schools. They are the grandchildren of Betsy and Jim Bishop of The Villages. Honoring these two special kids was truly a wonderful experience. This is the first time we have honored young students but certainly won't be the last. We honored them with Kindness Certificates, some special Kindness Rocks made by Linda Martin. A "Kindness Rocks" book, and some special gifts.





May 17, 2023 – Billy LaCasse

Billy is one of the first residents to move into the Village of Gilchrist 12 years ago. He helped start and participate in the Gilchrist West AED his grass. He is the ultimate “Kind Neighbor”. Here are some of the things he does:

Cuts neighbors Program and continues to serve. And fortunately, Billy was discovered and saved by several of his neighbors with the same AED equipment on 3/22/2018, when he suffered a heart attack and collapsed while cutting grass.

- He cuts grass when needed.
- Delivers newspapers to doors.
- Loans golf carts to visiting families along with many other things.

- Collects contributions for hurricane victims and also for a homeowner whose house burned down.
- Extends a helping hand to any neighbor in need.



May 12, 2023 – Betsy Abshire

Betsy has lived in The Villages for 10 years. She is currently active with:

- **The Honor Flight Program**-To date has participated in thirteen flights taking Veterans to Washington, D.C.

- **Veteran functions**-Participates in various activities e.g. flags at Bushnell etc.
- **Project Shoebox**
- **Operation Christmas Child**- Purchased, filled, and mailed over 1000 boxes. Almost 700 boxes in 2022, with a postage amount alone carrying a personal cost of over \$6,000.
- **DAR**
- **Election Poll Worker**
- **New Covenant United Methodist Church**
- **Food Drive**-Maintains an ongoing collection box on her front porch.
- **Creekside Connection**- A core member of our neighborhood support group in the Village of Bridgeport Creekside Landing.

Betsy has also been known to help a neighbor in need at all hours of the night, and she can be seen regularly driving neighbors with mobile handicaps to social functions. And she is always contributing to charities. She has also befriended a WWII veteran and is taking on his bucket list trip to Africa.



April 14, 2023 – Christine Penna

For the past ten years, Christine has spread hospitality in Hillsborough by coordinating neighborhood social events. She also volunteers as a loving mentor for a less fortunate young girl and regularly provides temporary shelter in her home for numerous cats awaiting adoption.

She gives of her time freely, and has a wonderful commitment to serving others. Most important, I'm sure her many friends would agree that she is always among the first to reach out to someone in need. Our world would be a better place if there were more people like Christine.



March 26, 2023 – Bobby Kinsey

Bobby does a lot for his community (Glenbrook). He is a good friend to anyone he meets, is the volunteer choir director at his church, and always lends a helping hand. Bobby never hesitates to help those in need, he has been the AED “holder” for his street for many years, and constantly goes above and beyond to make sure his neighbors and church members feel loved, included, and cared for. He texts people to let them know they have been prayed for and he is there if they need anything.

Bobby and his wife have left their garbage men homemade cookies and bottles of water in a cooler for several years every garbage day to make sure they feel loved. He also takes a meal and baked goods to their neighbors who are widows or disabled at the holidays and make sure they know they are always welcome in their home.



October 27, 2022- Terri MacArthur

We honored Terri MacArthur, who is a Big Sister with The Villages Big Brother/Big Sister organization. The event was carried out at Edna's On the Green in Marsh Bend. Representative Dan Webster was also in attendance.



August 26, 2022 – Bonnie Mulineux

We had a wonderful AOK on August 26th for a member of our club who happens to be one of the kindness persons I know, Bonnie Mulneix. Bonnie has been playing a major role in Abundance of Love (AOL) for a long time and also is the founder of Caring Neighbors in The Village of Tall Trees. This will forever be known as the “What are you doing here, Lindsay” event. We were able to surprise Bonnie at one of the AOL meetings at Big Cypress. Our thanks to Carol Cholette, Barbara Bickley, and Jean Collier, and Jen Smith for being a part of this.

