



HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

April 2021



President's Corner

Happy Spring everyone! I'm so happy to report what Hometown has achieved during our second quarter consisting of major additions, news, and changes since our first newsletter in January. We have been so very fortunate to have new member Judi Higbee as our new Secretary as she has been an invaluable asset for our club. Thanks too for the much needed updates done by Tori Palivoda, our Inspiration Leader, for our new directory and Judi for our roster. Hometown is so excited about the announcement of a most important and biggest addition to our club which is our new website: Hometowncivitanclub.com. With our many grateful Thank You's to Judy and her husband John whose continuous tireless work has been responsible for providing our club this critical necessary communication interface and being an accompaniment to our newsletters by Diane Seymour! Of course, our most exciting and proudest recent news is that of our Hometown Civitan Club being truly honored to acquire the Villages Homeowners Advocates "Club of the Year" prestigious award & plaque including a \$500 check at their VHA's annual awards celebration presentation evening event on March 10th at The Villages at the Lake Miona Recreation Center.



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A huge thank you to President-Elect Beth Halstead who did a great job of accepting our award plaque and check on my behalf. With thanks to the many of our members and our two special guests who attended this very special award event! As you can see in this April's edition of Hometown's newsletter, our membership continues to be successfully busy attending our meetings, growing our membership, servicing our communities, and doing fun club social activities all while taking COVID precautions. More to come!

Please continue to be safe and take care,

Mary

New Secretary & Webmaster Judi Higbee

At the Hometown board meeting on February 16, 2021, Hometown welcomed our new board member and secretary Judi Higbee. Judi received a special pin from President Mary Anderson.



Judi replaces Pat Rusk who resigned her position for health reasons.

Judi and her husband John were featured in the *Show & Tell* section of the **Home and Garden** section of The Daily Sun on March 31st, 2021



Laura McLaughlin (left) with Traci Oliver. Traci received our award for her critical assistance of our Adopt-A-Precinct early elections project 10/20



Arlene Kaplan was presented with an award for Civitan Member of the Year. She worked diligently even during COVID on sponsored 501c3

Monthly Guest Speaker



The speaker for our January 2021 meeting was Sandy Laing from Patriot Service Dogs who are trained for disabled veterans needing assistance free of charge. Sandy is a fellow Villager and trainer. She brought Tyler to demonstrate the many ways their dogs assist veterans.



In February our guest speaker was Linda Krupski, the founder of Love Extensions, a non-profit organization made from all volunteers. The focus of Love Extensions is serving to improve the lives of the elderly and the disabled in Lake County and The Villages.



In March it was decided to give back to the community by attending the Sumter County Fair. The primary fund raising event was an auction of livestock raised and cared for by young people in the 4 - H Club. The Civitan sisters bid on and purchased a lamb! We then donated the lamb back to the Fair to be re auctioned.





Member Spotlight

3



Beth Halstead, is President Elect of Hometown Civitan. Beth and her husband lived and worked in St. Petersburg, FL for 35 years.

She graduated from FSU in commercial interior design and specialized in healthcare interior design. The last project she had the honor of doing was the new All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg with a total of one million square feet.

Stephen and Beth retired in 2015 and moved to The Villages!

Pace Closet Before.....



Pace Closet After....



The Pace School for Girls in Ocala has a "Closet" That the girls can visit when they earn "points" for good grades. They can use these points to purchase things in the closet including shoes, clothing, jewelry and various sundries and items they'd like.

Arlene Kaplan and Betty Rohan spent some time there organizing the "Closet" and the results are evident! Great job ladies!

March Trip to:

Bountiful Farms

27314 County Rd 33

Okahumpka, FL 34762



The ladies of Civitan traveled to an organic farm for lunch at Bountiful Bistro. Lunch was delicious and enjoyed by all. We ate under a huge live oak and the weather was gorgeous. We shopped at the farm store and all agreed we should return another day. - Lana Rosenberg

Our very own Triathlete!

On February 23 Penny Badolato did a Sprint Triathlon to celebrate her 70th birthday. She did it with her dear friend Annette Hanapole. She's now training for the Olympic length triathlon.

