



## ***TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC. NEWS***

**January, 2016**

**Changing our World by Educating Kids  
Our hope is to see our Kids Moving Forward**



**United Way  
of Lake & Sumter Counties**

*Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process by responding to school requests for direct classroom tutoring in reading, math, writing, and science as well as family support and activities that enhance the educational environment leading to scholastic achievement.*

**In Memoriam – Assistant Principal of Stanton Weirsdale, Marilyn Hughes, passed away on Friday, 22, 2016. She was a huge supporter of volunteers in her school. We will miss her.**

**Grant Update** – GOOD NEWS!! On January 14, we received a wonderful phone call – your Tutors for Kids was awarded a \$22,800 grant from United Way of Lake and Sumter County. These funds will help us in two important ways.

1. Database software and licensing costs.
2. Help fund our book program for students in the classrooms of Lake and Sumter Counties and at parental school events.

Marion County - The grant helps immensely with the books for Lake and Sumter Counties. However, we will still distribute books in the six schools Marion County schools. Our goal is to give another 10,000 books in Marion County, which means \$10,000 to fulfill this goal.

**Database Management System** – Thanks to the generosity of our database developer and the committee working with him, we will say “good bye” to dozens of spreadsheets and hundreds of phone calls between tutors and captains. Each year Coordinators and Captains spend many hours matching 200+ teacher requests from 12 different schools with 330 tutor preferences. Whew!!

The new software will have a ‘beta’ release available in April for testing with the production version being available in August. Stay tuned!!

**New Website** - If you haven't been to our website recently, please take a good look. Here is the link:

<https://www.tutors4kids.org/>

Notice some new features. We are on Facebook. Please ‘like us’ to your friends. We have already received several new tutor applicants through the website. Also there is a donation opportunity through “PayPal.” Look for a number of new postings to keep updated on what is happening.

**Some Numbers** - As of January 20, you numbered 330 tutors (with more coming in every day) in 12 schools across three counties. You worked in more than 460 class timeslots. Some teachers had a tutor each day of the week. A tutor works with an average of four students per

timeslot. This means more than 1,800 students receive your tutoring each school week. WOW!!!

**You are amazing volunteers!!**

**Board of Directors Update** – We have expanded our Board of Directors to 14 members (thank you!!). The expanded board had its second meeting on January 21. Major topics were: administration of the United Way grant, establishing an advisory committee to the Board and the Program Coordinators, budget development, the technology projects, and establishing sub-committees of the Board. See ‘Help Wanted’ on the Bulletin Board.

**Books for your Bag** – We are committed to increasing reading skills in the students you tutor. We want tutors to ensure that each student you tutor “earns” at least one book per month. This means – if you are tutoring four children each week, you need to pick up 16 books to cover your students between now and May. Call us.

### **BULLETIN BOARD - Help Wanted**

**We need your expertise and interest** in planning for the future of Tutors for Kids. The Board is forming an Advisory Committee and a number of sub-committees. If your expertise is in finance, grant administration, technology, training (and the training manual), speaking, communication, publicity, etc., call or email us.

**The Tutors for Kids Club of the Villages** meets on the first Wednesday of the month. Loyola Garcia has done a fabulous job of planning this season's programs. And, she needs your help in planning future programs. Contact her directly: [loyolal@comcast.net](mailto:loyolal@comcast.net)

**The New Tutors Club for Non-Villagers** has held its first meeting and would like to continue into next year. We need help in coordinating future programs.

**Tutors needed** – Can you or someone you know help? Beverly Shores and Leesburg – the principals have asked for as many people as we can send for reading and math

### **Tutors for Kids Clubs Announcements** **We now have two clubs!**

**New Tutors Club** - The newest Club is for non-Village tutors. The second meeting will be held at the Belleview Public Library in late February – watch your email. The

address of the library is 13145 SE County Road Highway 484, Belleview, 352-438-2500.

The speaker will be Loyola Garcia. She is one of our tutor captains and will be doing a follow-up to the January presentation by Dr. Floyd Cogley. ([Note if you live in the Villages and did not hear the November presentation by Loyola you are welcome to attend this repeat session – please RSVP to our email address.](#))

**Tutors for Kids Club in the Village** - The next meeting of the Tutors for Kids Club in the Villages will be on Wednesday, February 3, at 3 p.m. in the Sterling Heights Rec Center. The speaker will again be Loyola Garcia who will do a follow-up to Dr. Floyd Cogley. This will be the fourth in our series, "Creating a Positive Learning Environment".

**Donations** – Here's a special story - The Fernandina and Friends Social Club's voted to make a donation to Tutors for Kids. Their original decision was to give our book program a check for \$500. When we arrived for the presentation, they told us that they had increased it to \$1,000 so you can give even more books to your students!! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

**Donations (continued)** - From mid-December through January, Tutors for Kids received almost \$1,500 to support your book program – generous clubs, book clubs, individuals (tutors and friends)!! As well as the United Way grant!! Thank you VERY much!!

Remember, we are increasing the number of books we want to give to your students to exceed 25,000 book in the three counties where you tutor.

**Amazon Smile Foundation** – If you buy products from Amazon, Tutors for Kids can benefit when you purchase certain products. We are registered with Amazon as a 501(c)(3) and receive a small amount if you access Amazon through this link below. Every little bit helps support your book program!!

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-4815598>

### **What are your Fellow Tutors Doing?**

**For a Wonderful Evening Out** - Our webmaster, Tim Casey, is appearing as the Padre in KC Productions staging of Man of La Mancha, March 9 - 12 at The Villages Savannah Center. This production stars Alex Santoriello who appeared on Broadway for over 20 years, including the original cast of Les Miserables and starring roles in Chess and Tale of Two Cities. You can get more information on the show at: <http://www.kcproductionsvillages.com/man-of-la-mancha/>

**Destination Imagination** - Like Kids? Don't forget to contact Erica Bowler at [difl.info@yahoo.com](mailto:difl.info@yahoo.com) for more information about Destination Imagination and how you can help. Check out [www.destinationimagination.org](http://www.destinationimagination.org).

**School Captains:** Your school captains can help you with assignments throughout the year.

#### **Bellevue Elementary**

Laura Kammer  
352-633-6069 973-617-6213  
[lpkshop@yahoo.com](mailto:lpkshop@yahoo.com)

#### **Bellevue Santos Elementary**

Linda Deeken Theresa Glowacki  
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#### **Beverly Shores Elementary**

Loyola Garcia  
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#### **Fruitland Park Elementary**

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#### **Harbour View Elementary**

Bart Fratus Paul King  
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#### **Leesburg Elementary**

Mary Kashner  
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#### **Stanton Weirsdale Elementary**

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#### **Villages Elementary School**

Carol Mooar (Gr. K-3) Jerry Brillante (Gr 4-5)  
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#### **Wildwood Elementary School**

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#### **Wildwood Middle School**

Carolyn Conway  
352-750-5416 [cwconway@live.com](mailto:cwconway@live.com)

### **Tutors for Kids**

**Frank Russo or Carolyn Ruhe - 352-245-9709**

**Website:** [www.tutorsforkidsinc.org](http://www.tutorsforkidsinc.org)

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