



# TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC.

October, 2017

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process.

**Excited Children Eager to Learn**

**Our Children – Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow**



*Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process. Our Mission: Meeting student educational needs as defined by the teacher through suitable and trained volunteer tutors in the local, tri-county Title 1 public schools as determined by the Board of Directors.*

**Monthly Tutors Meetings** – Here it is almost Halloween! Have you met any ghosts as you are out after dark? Hope you are planning an enjoyable time. Meanwhile, our next tutors' monthly meeting is just around the corner - to keep up with what is happening at some of our schools.

**Tuesday, November 14 – at 3 p.m.**  
**St. Timothy's Catholic Church at in the Main Hall.**  
**On 27/441 near the Villages Hospital.**

Lead by fellow tutor, Char Griffin, three of your principals will speak on different topics, with time after for your questions. This is a unique opportunity to hear the principals discuss their experiences, challenges, and their philosophies.

1. What is the biggest challenge your school faces and how are you developing strategies to deal with these challenges?
2. How do you measure the impact of Tutors for Kids, and what have you learned from those measurements?
3. What suggestions do you have for making our tutoring program even more effective?
4. What do you want to be your legacy after you leave?

**John Temple, Wildwood Elementary**  
**Brian Greene, Belleview Santos**  
**Tammy Langley, Fruitland Park**

We would love to "pack the hall." Bring your questions. They are very dedicated – so don't miss this opportunity to hear from them directly. Their perspective and input is an important influence in their schools, so circle **November 14** and join us. (Sharon Pierce)

**Tutoring Help Wanted** – Several schools need more tutors. If you can help (or know of someone who can volunteer), contact the STC for that school and grade (see list attached to the cover letter):

- Harbour View (Marion County) – 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade math
- Wildwood (Sumter County) – 1<sup>st</sup> grade math
- Wildwood (Sumter County) – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and the media center reading
- Villages (Lake County) – someone to help a Vietnamese kindergartener who speaks no English!!

**Books for the Bag** - Have you picked up books for the students you work with? Your students really enjoy 'earning a book a month.' Many of the students have very few or in some cases no books in their home that they can enjoy.

These books can be earned by participating in classwork each week with you, completing the work assigned, paying attention, focusing – or other criteria that you feel is important!! Each of your students gets a 3 X 5 card to keep, and you give them stickers to fill the card if they meet the criteria!! Stickers are available at Dollar General or Dollar Tree. Stretch your imagination to find other positive way for them to earn stickers.

These books are taken home, and the student is encouraged to read the new book at home, including to their siblings or friends. They can also do a book report for extra credit if you and the teacher agree.

If you haven't picked up yet, the days and times your book room at your school will be open is included here. If your school doesn't have book storage at the school you volunteer at, then we'll list the days that you can pick them up from our garage. (Sharon Pierce)

### **Book Pick-up Schedules**

Check the cover letter for some of the schools' days and times to pick up books – as well as Frank and Carolyn's garage (for Stanton Weirsdale, Belleview, Harbour View, Marion Oaks, and Ocala schools.

**Thanksgiving** - We have much to be thankful about this Thanksgiving, including the fact that Tutors for Kids has so many tutors reaching so many students on a weekly basis. In addition, we are thankful that we have so many donations from foundations, United Way, clubs, churches, businesses, and individuals who help us give so much to students and schools, especially the Book program. We do receive grants, which are a huge support for books that we give to students and caregivers at many of our community outreach programs. (Sharon Pierce)

**There we Grow Again** – As Tutors for kids has grown, we have found out that volunteers are also needed in non-tutoring roles. For example if you do not want to go into the classroom but have skills in finance, websites, systems, public speaking, sales, library, etc., then give us a call and you can help in one of these areas.

AND, if you love working with books, our book rooms can use your help – either ordering the books, stocking the shelves, or staffing the rooms so tutors can get their books. It's easy!!

In working with children, it is often said that 'It takes a village to do the job'. This is also true of our TfK program. We have to

keep records, write for grants, set up our website monthly, talk to groups about what we are doing, and help in school libraries. In order to keep our Tutors for Kids program strong and able to continue, we need all this and more.

These children are the future adults that will be making decisions in their family, as well as in their community and country. Through Tutors for Kids, let's make sure that they have the skills and knowledge to do a good job. (Sharon Pierce)

**Board of Directors** – Our TFK Board continues to meet monthly to develop processes to ensure that "Tutors for Kids" will be viable for many years. Since TFK began as a dedicated, but small organization, approximately nine years ago, Carolyn and Frank have led the organization and watched it grow. For most of the time, they carried the full load: branching out and adding new schools, expanded training program, application for tax-free status, grants applied for and received to allow us to give books to the children in our schools - - - and so many other initiatives - - - with occasional help. The Board realized that the growth was truly awesome! But they realized that long-term, this might not be sustainable.

Peter Moeller, an outstanding consultant, works with the Board as we concentrate on defining the tasks that are needed to keep going. We hope to complete this task by school year's end and to be able to present to you a strategic plan for TFK's future. Suggestions are always welcomed by tutors who see first-hand the best way to make progress with our students. (Sharon Pierce)

**We have a new phone number.** – Tutors for Kids has been using Carolyn and Frank's home phone number for the last few years. We have a new central phone number - **352-568-5843**. Please keep this number. If you know of someone who wants to join our program, direct him/her to use this new number.

**Training Dates** - Training and orientation is required for ALL the new tutors, but if you feel you want a refresher you can also attend. If you want to attend, just RSVP to: [tutorsforkids@att.net](mailto:tutorsforkids@att.net). Location: Belvedere Library (a Sumter County Library, right off Rt. 466 in the Villages, near CVS). The next dates are:

Thursday, November 9 - 1:00 – 5:00  
Thursday, December 14 – 1:00 – 5:00  
Thursday, January 11 – 1:00 – 5:00  
Thursday, February 8 – 1:00 – 5:00

**STC Needed (Stanton Weirsdale)** – Due to "retirement," we have an opening for an STC at Stanton Weirsdale. Possibly another at school will also need an STC. **RESPONSIBILITIES** of STCs are linked in the cover letter to this email with this newsletter.

**School Book Coordinators (SBCs) Needed** – Belleview Santos, Beverly Shores, Fruitland Park, Leesburg, Villages, and Wildwood have generously lent us space to store the books you give to your students – and to make it more convenient for you to get your books. AND, we need a few volunteers to keep this important part of our program moving. **School SBCs are needed at** Belleview Santos, Villages, Wildwood Elementary (a lead SBC for Wildwood) – and Belleview.

So, if you love books, this is a chance to review and order books – and helps get them into the hands of young readers. **RESPONSIBILITIES** of SBCs are linked in the cover letter to this email with this newsletter.

If you are interested in helping as an STC or a SBC, please email Bob Navarre ([robertnavarre8044@yahoo.com](mailto:robertnavarre8044@yahoo.com)).

The STCs and SBCs are definitely our "Angels"

**Chess at Wildwood Elementary School** – TFK is proud that several tutors have joined Jim Sikora for his after-school chess club, with 19 children (including 10 girls). Jim is always looking for adult

coaches – so if you can help (or know someone who can), Call or email Jim: 352-350-2628 - [jidisi@comcast.net](mailto:jidisi@comcast.net)

**Chess at Leesburg and Beverly Shores Elementary Schools** – Both Leesburg and Beverly Shores have after school program for teaching and playing chess (supported by Gene Wells, tutor at Leesburg Elementary).

### **For your Calendar**

Many of these events are sponsored by generous partners of Tutors for Kids – and a fun experience – remember, "It takes a village."

Of special note is the backing Tutors for Kids has received from the **Villages Pops Chorus** and their **Pops Chorus Folksingers**. We encourage to attend their marvelous concerts – they give you a wonderfully joyous few hours – and they are very generous in supporting local community organizations.

**November 11** - 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. – Knights of Columbus Council 13300 is sponsoring a breakfast buffet to benefit Coats for Kids, Shoes for Kids, and Tutors for Kids – at Belle Glade Country Club, (On Moyer Loop just east of Morse Blvd in the Villages). Piano entertainment by fellow tutor, Tom Marton - (814) 881-6261 \$11 per person.

**November 13** at Amerikanos Grille (Spanish Springs) fund raiser, sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Council 13300, St Vincent de Paul Church **benefitting Tutors for Kids** (coupon needed to have portion of your bill donated to Knights – will be sent with upcoming newsletter)

**November 14** 3:00 at St. Timothy's Church – TFK monthly meeting – hear from three school principals

**December 4** at North Lake Presbyterian Church – "We Wish You the Merriest," a holiday concert by The Villages Pops Chorus (tickets at Villages Entertainment on October 12)

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**December 12** 3:00 at St. Timothy's Church – TFK monthly meeting – holiday celebration – details announced in upcoming newsletter

**Donations** – Thank you to the Villages Pops Folksingers and a local dermatologist for contributions of \$4,500.

**Reminder from a Tutor** – Remember: If you need to send an email to your teacher about your student(s) - you **cannot** use specific students' names or identifiers (such as gender, initials, etc.)

### **Tutors for Kids**

352-568-5843

Web: [www.tutorsforkidsinc.org](http://www.tutorsforkidsinc.org)

Email: [tutorsforkids@att.net](mailto:tutorsforkids@att.net)

### **2017 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter Counties from:**



United Way  
of Lake & Sumter Counties

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### **2017 Book Grants for Tutors for Kids from:**

