

KIWANIS

madison



SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THE MADISON-RIVERGATE COMMUNITY



The spotlight is on Gilda York, a club member with a huge capacity for caring about our youth!

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Mark North is fully invest in the future of our kids. He not only is KCOMT member, but he also spends many long hours serving on the school board.

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So, what is the point of belonging to a civic organization that is dedicated to helping the children of the world if we don't stay engaged in community service?

We have the tools to do great things for our youth. Let's not let them get rusty! We need to keep them sharpened so that we can step in at a moment's notice to give our kids what they need!

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Special Events for Fall 2010:

Celebrate And Re-Dedicate!! Let's Make Our New Year The Best One Yet!

5th Annual
**Kiwanis-Madison
 Fall Golf Scramble**



KIWANIS CLUB OF MADISON TN
 ~ Benefits Scholarship Program ~

Tuesday, October 19, 12:30p.m.

**Hermitage Golf Course
 General's Retreat**

Amy Raines/Kiwanis Golf Tournament
 P.O. Box 60426
 Nashville, TN 37206-0426
 (615) 293-8760
www.kiwanisclubofmadisontn.org



Annual Banquet
Thurs, October 26
6:30 p.m.

Home of Steve and Jo Ann North
1837 Hudson Road in Madison, TN

Cost: TBA * RSVP by October 23
615-828-1922 Kay White or kay1922@yahoo.com

2010 Taste Of Madison Event:

Kiwanis Club Uses Event To Recruit New Members And Promote Fundraiser!



Tuesday, September 28, the local chamber of commerce sponsored its annual fundraiser, and our club took this opportunity to put the spotlight on the service projects we undertake for our kids!

While our exhibit board would have certainly made a fourth great teacher proud ... and I can say that without fear of offending anyone because I spent many hours putting it together and it STILL looked like that (see pic above) ... we used it as a tool to both encourage registration in our upcoming golf tournament and to recruit new members!

Said Kay White, incoming president, "The Taste of Madison was a HUGE success! Because of our participation, several guests (prospective members) will be visiting our club for the next few weeks."

It has been proven time and time again that through Kiwanis membership, communities are improved, friendships

are built, leadership skills are developed and business contacts are made. More importantly, the lives of children around the world, and specifically within our community, are changed for the better. This should be our 'elevator speech,' as we recruit new members.

Kiwanis
Join us!

Spotlight On Valued Member:

Gilda York Talks The Talk And Walks The Walk Alongside Her 'Ambassadors'



Click on the link www.teencentral.net and you will be directed to a web site that serves as a place for teens to go to receive sound, tested advice from professionals and to encourage the building of relationships with their peers in a safe environment.

Hang with Gilda York, owner of Ambassadors Formalwear by Gilda and a valued member of the Kiwanis Club of Madison TN, and teens arrive at pretty much the same result.

Her history with teens goes like this: First and foremost, Gilda is the mother of both a son and daughter, now grown, so she has first-hand experience interacting and bonding with that demographic.

Secondly, she dives in full body slam to connect with community youth on a regular basis. You see, when Gilda opened Ambassadors Formalwear by Gilda in Madison, she brought with her the 'namesake' program she had originally established for high school students to help promote a tuxedo shop she managed for several years. Gilda remembers, "The Ambassador program began in 1984 with a small group of young men from different high schools. They passed out coupons and brochures in their respective high schools, and I asked them to make a one-month commitment. Over the years, it has morphed into a four-year commitment with monthly meetings, classes in social skills and civic responsibility, and requirements of community service."



So, just how does one go about becoming an Ambassador? Gilda enumerates, "All of the teens are recruited by me. I don't do try-outs, and I usually pick students that I observe who have an inner potential to be more than anyone expects them to be." Those who are chosen become Ambassadors the summer before their freshman year of high school, and they will stay with the program until they graduate. They must maintain a good reputation at school and in the community. They must complete a specified number of hours of community service within each school year. They must attend seven of the ten Ambassador meetings held during the school year, be on time for events, dress in proper attire, and conduct themselves in a polite and courteous manner during outings.

A couple of years ago, Gilda took on an even greater role in the lives of more of our youth within the community when she added girls to the mix. She explains why: "For several years, I have been asked by the parents of young men who have gone through

Spotlight On Valued Member:

Gilda York Talks The Talk And Walks The Walk Alongside Her 'Ambassadors' continues

the program to start one for their daughters. I also had requests from girls who had friends in the program, too, and I always resisted because I don't do dresses and I thought that putting girls and boys together would just cause a lot of drama. But, last year, the stars aligned, and I had someone on my staff who was willing to take a mixed group on as a project. "



Gilda worked out a connection with the White Room in Lebanon and the Glitz in Bellevue to offer the girls discounts on dresses so that they might get added value out of the program. She is now quick to admit, "I could not be more pleased with the outcome. Our first year, we have seen these girls take their beauty from the outside and grow it inward to become wonderful well-rounded young women. And they have committed to doing commu-

nity service just as enthusiastically as the boys."

It is Gilda's own dedication to civic engagement that led her into making this component a pre-requisite for being an Ambassador. "I don't know that my being community-minded was a conscious decision," Gilda admits. "I have been this way all my life. Even in Junior High and High School, if I saw something that needed to be done, somehow it became my responsibility."

Throughout her adult years, Gilda has taken this responsibility very seriously, proving by example that giving back to one's community is an ultra cool thing to do. She has served as, and in some cases is currently, a four-time President of the Tennessee Wedding and Event Specialist Association; President and Board Member of the Madison-Rivergate Area Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club of Madison, TN and Kings Daughter's Child Development Center; and Board Member of Senior Citizens, Inc. (now FiftyForward), Goodlettsville Chamber of Commerce and Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce.

For the past two years, Gilda coordinated fundraising fashion shows for the Kings Daughters Child Development Center, and her Ambassadors helped her put the spotlight, not only on the center and the wonderful work it does, but on special models she used for the event. She explains, "I started out with a list of women that I admire, look up to, and enjoy the company of, within the community. Then, I whittled it down to ten or so who could make their very busy schedules mesh with the fashion show." This year, Gilda also added Kings Daughters staff and several of the beautiful kids who are enrolled in their programs as models, and you can bet that they stole the show...as did her girl/boy Ambassadors, as wekk!



When asked how Gilda finds time to be a business owner, a community servant, a loving daughter, wife, mom and grandmother, she chuckles, "It all works together really well, because I surround myself with people who are smarter than me...to make me look good."

Well, Gilda, we aren't buying that, so how about our slant on things? The Kiwanis Club of Madison TN looks as good as it does because YOU are a big part of our organization!

Elected Officials:

We Host A Luncheon To Honor Government Leaders



Mark North
Photo Courtesy of MNPS

Recently, our club hosted a special luncheon to honor country and state officials elected by many of the residents from our community.

Mark North, an esteemed member of our club and an outstanding advocate for our public school system, served as Master of Ceremonies, so you can guess that his welcome and keynote address included more than a few chuckles.

However, mixed in with this frivolity was a strong motivational message about community service. "One might think that being raised in a home with a father and mother who were oftentimes both elected officials in one capacity or another would require us to make great sacrifices," said North. "Well, that could not be further from the truth. Through my mom's work as the Assessor of Property for Davidson County, as well as her other ground-breaking civic activities, I was introduced to mayors, governors, presidents, even a King. I had a front row seat to real life, watching my dad work as a Circuit Court Judge."

"I would not be the person I am today had my parents not instilled in me the desire to give back to the community in which we live. And I have taken these lessons and tried to teach my children the value of civic engagement. I see it coming full circle, and I could not be more proud."

Mark, we take pride in YOU! We treasure the dedication you show to both this club and the community .

Don't forget
the
Fall Golf
Scramble
coming up on
TUESDAY
OCTOBER 19!



Chattanooga Times Free Press

Community Service: *It Feels Good ... So Let's Do It!*



We all know that doing community services is a good thing, but do you know why? It's not just that you're helping the underprivileged or the environment. There are real tangible benefits you get from helping others.

Karma: What goes around, comes around. There is mounting evidence that when you do good things, good things happen to you. But, more logically, if you are doing good things for

your community, then you are focusing on positive attributes of yourself and others. This results in real spin-offs in the form of a positive outlook on the rest of your life.

Understanding People: Inevitably, community service involves working with other people, whether it's other volunteers or the people you are helping. Therefore, the ability to communicate and understand these people is paramount for your own sanity, and, of course, your effectiveness. Because the people in volunteer organizations come from a diverse background, you are able to develop communication skills with a wide range of personalities. You can't pay for emotional intelligence training like this!

Contribution To A Greater Good: Don't forget the big warm and fuzzy feeling you get when you know you've made a contribution. Whether it's the environment or humanitarian causes, it all contributes to the greater good.

Your Legacy: How do you want to be remembered? We all want to be remembered as something special, but a community-minded spirit is the BEST legacy. And putting our minds and our hearts into doing community service for our children means everything!



**Kiwanis Club of Madison
TN
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