



In this Issue: September 2014

Start Something Today!

"My mother said I must always be intolerant of ignorance but understanding of illiteracy. That some people, unable to go to school, were more educated and more intelligent than college professors."

- Maya Angelou

Please Help Spread the Word!!

Help create awareness by becoming a social media volunteer. It's easy and only takes seconds!

1. Like Big Brothers Big Sisters of St Lucie, Indian River and Okeechobee Counties on Facebook.
2. Click Share our Facebook postings for your friends and family.

Imagine the possibilities, what will you start? Thank you for your continued support.

Please share the BIG News by forwarding this email

Restaurants to visit this month:



Red Lobster



Starbucks



St Lucie Draft House



The Cake Lady

Show your support for Big Brothers Big Sisters and visit one of our participating restaurants from the Taste of St. Lucie.

Connect

[Like us on Facebook](#)

[BBBSBIGS.org](#)

[Donate Now!](#)

[Become a Mentor](#)

Alumni



If you or someone you know is a former Big Brothers Big Sisters "Big", "Little", board member, donor or parent, please let us know!

In the coming months, we will be building our Bigs Alumni organization. Members will get special treatment and learn ways to help their local agencies - even years after being involved. But we have to know who you are!

www.reunite now.org

Happy Birthday!

Join with us as we celebrate a staff Birthdays!

Rachel Heddings

Chief Operating Officer

John Clark

Lead Community Based Case Manager

Judi Miller

CEO

Match of the Month!



Fred (Little Brother) and Graham (Big Brother) are one of the strongest matches in the community based program. Fred and Graham have been matched for just under a year, and already they have overcome so many challenges. Fred's father passed away when he was young, and he didn't have a strong male role model in his life before Graham came along. Though

Fred is a smart boy, and does well in school, he has a lot more responsibility than other kids his age. His mother has been diagnosed with cancer, so she is unable to work. Fred's grandmother is around to help, but Fred and his mother live alone. As soon as Graham and Fred were matched they met every week without fail. Most of the activities that Graham and Fred do involve water because Fred loves swimming, but they have also done other exacting activities like going to Lion Country Safari. Graham and Fred are a playful match, that likes taking silly pictures to put in a scrapbook that they have started. Graham has gone above and beyond for his little by being there for him every step of the way and making Fred a top priority in his life.

This Match of the Month was brought to you by Samantha Weiner

BBBS Staff would like to welcome a new staff member.

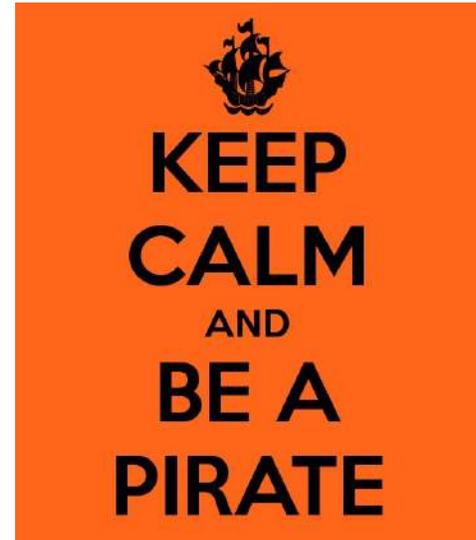


Ethan Jimenez
Community Based Case Manager

This welcome wagon moment was brought to you by the entire staff of Big Brothers Big Sisters.



September 19th is International Talk Like A Pirate Day! Arrr! September be a lucky month for pirates sailing the Big Blue Sea! On September 19th it's time to brush up on your pirate lingo, become best friends with a parrot and talk up a storm with friends and family!



This Hip Hip Hooray was brought you by Marian Alvarado!



AmeriCorps would like to welcome our 2014-2015 tutoring team! Members began training August 18th and began serving their schools September 2nd!



This AmeriCorps Moment was brought to you by Jenna Stinnett.



BBBS Board Kudos!

Big Brothers Big Sisters is fortunate enough to have a VERY engaged Board of Directors and two active Advisory Boards that work extremely hard to provide advocacy, fund development, accountability and public awareness for the agency, its mission and the children we serve. Their hard work, commitment and dedication make such a difference!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to the following Board Members for all they have done in August!

Beth Coke - "Spirit Award" winner among Big Brothers Big Sisters Board Members for the month of July.

Kim Morgenstern - Kim ensured that TD staff were present for the BBBS Back-to-School event so that they could open free \$10.00 savings accounts for our "Littles" who had participated in their summer reading program.

Joe Wallace - Joe is working diligently with Adam Cline to develop a donor data base on a pro-bono basis.. He and Adam also met with Pam Iorio, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, to discuss the Walmart National Giving Program as well as VAP funding and State Giving. In addition, Joe secured a \$1,000 sponsorship from Wal-Mart Distribution Center #7038 for sponsorship of our 30th Anniversary.

David Hall - David has recruited a potential Board Member.

Joni Wyszowski - Joni has secured donated water for our Chamber After Hours event in Indian River County.

Brad Gould - Brad has revised the agency by-laws to reflect a change in officer terms. His firm is also a \$500 sponsor for Bowl-for-Kids' Sake.

Brad Lorimier - Brad has met with Joe Wallace and Adam Cline to discuss parameters of the donor data base. He has also pledged a significant sponsorship for Chocolate, Campaign & Chefs.

Ken Roberts - Ken has organized a fundraiser through the Vero Beach Elks Lodge 1774 that will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters. He has also secured Bonefish Grill to provide food, wine and beer for our "After Hours" event with Indian River Chamber of Commerce held on August 28th. In addition, Ken is working on bids for our John's Island Foundation grant application.

Kristy Crawford and **Pat O'Connor** - Kristy and Pat represented the BBBS Okeechobee Advisory Board at our United Way Grants Review.

Sharon Vinson - Sharon has continued to work on a high school mentor recruitment.

My sincere thanks goes out to each and every Board Member!

Judi Miller, CEO

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY MENTORING COLLABORATIVE



The new coalition in Indian River County has a vision to achieve positive youth outcomes in the county as a result of evidence based training, resources and staff development provided through the collaborative of several youth serving agencies. Trainings are open to anyone working with youth in the area and the resources are available through their website. The coalition is also currently working to compile detailed information about volunteer opportunities in each agency that is involved in the coalition to provide as a resource for those looking to get involved in their community.

Check out the website at IRCMentorCollaborative.org for more information, resources and to find out about upcoming trainings. The summer trainings are in full swing for the Indian River Mentor Collaborative!

Starting in September the mentors of Indian River County will get a chance to meet other mentors and talk about relevant topics. Mentor Mingle events will be hosted every third Thursday of the month from 5:30-6:30 with the first one to be held September 16th. Join the fun at the United Way of Vero Beach.

Find out more on IRCMentorCollaborative.org

The Indian River Mentor Collaborative will be providing monthly short webinars during its Webinar Wednesday series. The series will feature topics relevant to any mentor and will be released on select Wednesdays of the month. Find out more by going to IRCMentorCollaborative.org.

Bridges out of Poverty

Get your Aha! Moment in this workshop based on the popular book by the same name. Understand what low-income families are up against and learn ways to work with them within the mentoring role. The training will be held on Thursday, September 11th from 12-4 pm. This is a popular training so please reserve your seat soon by going to: IRCMentorCollaborative.org.

This Mentor Collaborative report was brought to you by Jessica Karr.

Sponsor SPOTLIGHT

Big Brothers Big Sisters would like to thank Bonefish Grill in Vero Beach for generously donating the refreshments for our recent "After Hours" event through the Indian River Chamber of Commerce. If you weren't able to be there, you missed a wonderful time. Jarrett Bass and his team from Bonefish outdid themselves with incredible shrimp and chicken dishes, wine, beer and a specialty martini. We are SO grateful for their tremendous support! And speaking of support, Maddie Williams was on hand to provide outstanding entertainment. What a terrific voice she has!



A huge thanks goes to Comcast Foundation for their \$10,000 contribution to our school-based reading mentor program. Comcast has been a tremendous ongoing supporter for more than 5 years, even giving our local Big Brothers Big Sisters a "Day of Caring!"



Trivial Pursuit:

The September Question is: **What is the fastest swimming marine mammal?**
Last Month the question was: "What was the largest city in the U.S when the first census was taken in 1790"? The winner has been contacted and has selected this month's question!

Philadelphia had been the most populous city in the United States before any census count. When the first U.S. census count was done in 1790, New York had barely overtaken Philadelphia as the most populous city in the country (though Philadelphia still had the larger metropolitan population in 1790). The 1790-1840 schedules furnish only the names of the free heads of family, not of other family members. These schedules totaled the number of other family members, without name, by free or slave status. Also, the sex and age categories that the schedules first used only for free whites from 1790 through 1810 eventually applied to other persons, and the age categories increased after 1790.

Each month we will bring you a new trivia question. BBBS Newsletter subscribers will have a sneak peak at the question! BBBS will post this question on our Facebook page the Sunday after this newsletter goes out. A winner will be chosen from the correct responses from the Facebook Post.

This Trivial Pursuit question was brought to you by Sabrina Semé.



Give back, get rewarded at Macy's Thanks For Sharing. As a valued supporter, you'll benefit charities like ours and here's the best part: You'll get 10% Rewards on most of your Macy's Credit Card purchases* at Macy's and macys.com, from the day you enroll through December 31, 2014. All your Rewards total up to a Macy's Thanks For Sharing Rewards Card, mailed next February. Beginning September 2nd, charge a \$25 enrollment fee to your Macy's Credit Card.** Macy's will donate \$10 out of each \$25 enrollment, up to a total of \$15 million, to charities. The first \$3.4 million raised will benefit Go Red For Women.† Enrolling is easy. Visit macys.com/thanks, ask a Sales Associate at any Macy's store or call 1.888.933.6229. Macy's Thanks For Sharing has raised over \$115 million for charities since 2002. Join to help raise \$15 million more.



We would like to thank dd's Discounts for supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters in their Sixth Annual Youth Literacy Fund-raiser! dd's Discounts donations will go to purchase new books for matches!

This gratitude moment was brought to you by the Case Managers of BBBS.



'Educational App of the Month'

Hey Bigs! Do you have access to an Apple iPad or Kindle Fire?

[Sushi Monster](#)

- A fun, engaging mathematics game appropriate for kids in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade.
- Contains 7 addition levels and 5 multiplication levels.
- It also meets Common Core State Standards.

'Educational Game of the Month'

Sight Word Slap!

Let's face it... our Littles are not built to stay still. Here is a sight word game that will let them move and laugh while learning.

Print and cut out sight word flashcards at your Little's level from <http://www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/parents-students/elementary.aspx> , preferably on thick paper. Or make your own cards with words you have been learning with your Little.

Spread the cards out on a table. As you call out words one by one, your Little has to slap the correct word as quickly as he or she can. You can also switch roles and let your Little call out the word (and giggle at your slapping). For older children, raise the bar by timing them to see how quickly they can get them all. For children who don't yet know their letters or letter sounds, try making alphabet cards and using those first until they are mastered.

If you are working with your Little at school, try places such as outdoors, the library when there is no class, or a conference room with the door cracked so that you and your Little can have fun without distracting others.

Adapted from Megan Sheakoski's game at http://www.coffeecupsandcrayons.com/sight-word-stomp-practice-activity/#_a5y_p=1874470

Site Based Bigs: Important Dates to remember for September!
St. Lucie County

Wednesday, September 24th is an Early Release date. The school day is shortened, and mentoring times will be augmented for this date. Please contact your case manager for specific times.

Thursday, September 25th is a Holiday for all (teachers and students). Schools will be closed on this date.

Indian River County

Thursday, September 25th is an Early Release date. The school day is shortened, and mentoring times will be augmented for this date.

Please contact your case manager for specific times.

Friday, September 26th is an Emergency Day. Schools will be closed on this date.

Okeechobee County

Friday, September 19th is an Early Release date. The school day is shortened, and mentoring times will be augmented for this date.

Please contact your case manager for specific times.

This Big moment was brought to you by the Site Base Case Managers of BBBS.

The Fred Award



Congratulations to Lauren Fowler, for winning this month's Fred Award. Lauren was named this month's Fred because she has worked to set a new standard for documenting match notes!

The Fred Award is based on the Book the Fred Factor and is our version of the Employee of the Month.

**The Fred Factor is based on four principals:
Everyone makes a difference.
Everything is built on relationships.
You must continually create value for others and it doesn't have to cost a penny.
You can re-invent yourself regularly.
By following these principals you too can be a Fred!**



The mission of the Children's Services Council and the reason for its existence is to improve the quality of life for all children in St. Lucie County. They do this by ensuring that every baby is a healthy baby, by stopping child abuse before it starts, keeping kids off the streets and away from drugs and alcohol, and keeping kids in school with the tools they need to be successful.

Save the Date:

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake
September 20, 2014**

Held at Superplay USA, \$35 per person includes two games of bowling a free t-shirt, the opportunity to win door prizes and more!

OPEN HOUSE

Big Brothers Big Sisters has moved!
Please join us for an open house
October 9th, 4:30 - 6:30 pm

New location: 403 N US Hwy 1,
Fort Pierce, FL 34950
(corner of Ave C & US Hwy 1)

Please RSVP at 772-466-8535
or info@bbbsbigs.org

Hope to see you there!

30 years
1984-2014

BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE

Big Brothers Big Sisters
of St. Lucie, Indian River & Okeechobee Counties

What: Bowl for Kids' Sake, \$150 per team (up to 6 players) includes two games of bowling, shoes, and a free t-shirt!

When: October 18, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Where: Chobee Play, 1456 US Highway 441 SE, Okeechobee, FL, 34974

Contact: 863-824-2227, www.bbbsbigs.org

BOWL AND HAVE AN IMPACT. GET READY TO START GET STARTED SOMETHING! BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE. EVERY GAME WILL BENEFIT BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS. YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME AND HELP KIDS GET A CHANCE TO STRIKE IT BIG IN LIFE. START SOMETHING NOW!

This year we are celebrating our BBBS 30th Anniversary, so join the fun and re-live your favorite theme from the past!

Pirate, Superhero, Fiesta, 50's, Western, 80's, Bowling with the Stars or come as you are - either way you'll capture a moment to remember and

Start Something
for the kids in our community!

30th Anniversary Party #1774 Hosted by Vero Beach Elks Lodge

October 18th, 2014 6PM - 10 PM at the Elks Lodge

The delicious southern menu includes: Pulled Pork· Baked Beans· Corn on the Cob· Cole Slaw· Brunswick stew and a giant anniversary cake celebrating BBBS! All Catered by: R.J.L Smokehouse BBQ.



The Fun will start with cool refreshing drinks from the Elk's bars. The Landsharks will start at 7PM with the sounds of the Good old days, Rock 'N Roll, Beach music and all kinds of tunes that will keep you on the dance floor all night long!



Tickets are \$30 per person and can be purchased at the Elks Lounge, 1350 26th St. Vero Beach, FL. For more info call Ken Roberts at 772-231-5826



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Invites you to attend:
Chocolate, Champagne & Chefs
Honoring Indian River Community Foundation
for their philanthropic support of the many
charities in Indian River County.

October 27, 2014
6:00 pm at Quail Valley River Club

Cocktail Attire
One hundred seventy-five dollars
per person

Includes:
Seated Dinner, Chocolate Desserts
Champagne and Music

Last year we served 519 children in
Indian River County. We are so
thankful for your support!

For reservations call
772-770-6000 x207 or visit
www.bbbsbigs.org

Supported by:



Bank of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Florida, Camp Yount, Children's Services Advisory Council of Indian River County, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Tattersall on behalf of the Kanawha Fund II and Indian River Impact 100 through the Indian River Community Foundation, John's Island Community Service League, John's Island Foundation, Lillian & Richard Becker Family Foundation, Quail Valley Charities, Volunteer Florida, Wal-Mart Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Scott, Mr. Brad Lorimier, among many others.

Contact Us:

Indian River:

1846 18th Avenue

Vero Beach, FL 32960

[772-770-6000](tel:772-770-6000)

St. Lucie:

403 N US HWY 1

Fort Pierce, FL 34950

[772-466-8535](tel:772-466-8535)

[772-828-2098](tel:772-828-2098) (fax)

Okeechobee:

863-824-BBBS

Website:

www.bbbsbig.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/bbbsbig

CommunityCalendars

<http://portstlucie.macaronikid.com>

www.verobeachflash.com

www.myhometownnews.net

<http://www.tcpalm.com>

<http://florida.newszap.com/calendar>

Celebrating 30 years of changing lives!



Start Something™

