

CLUB BEAMS

Area 1 Club Happenings & Projects ... from Gainesville, Hometown, Leesburg, Sunrise and Tallahassee Civitan Clubs. Kathy Hall, Area 1 Director

Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday. Dale Carnegie

GAINESVILLE CIVITAN CLUB

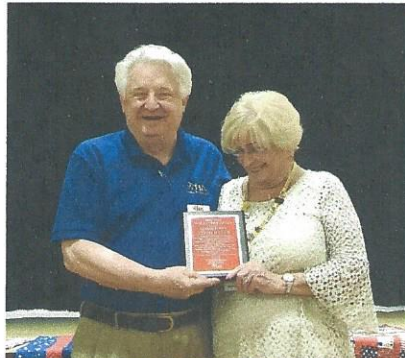
Gainesville Civitan Club ... Our club is small and with the COVID only four members plus a guest show up for lunch every Monday in-person with some exceptions. Two of the current members who come are members of the Executive Board for LifeSouth Community Blood Centers, our chief project which it has been since 1974. Three of the four members plus guest have been vaccinated. *Ron*

HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Mary Anderson

Hometown's President-Elect Beth Halstead accepted the plaque at the prestigious Villages Homeowners Advocates annual awards evening presentation on March 10, 2021 for our Hometown Club being the volunteer "Club of the Year" and with a \$500 check. President Mary Anderson was unable to attend due to COVID quarantining.

Many of our members and two special guests (Kathy Hall Area 1 Director (back row) and Cindy Brown of Congressman Webster's office, behind Beth) attended the awards evening. It was a very special and nice evening event indeed! We were so truly honored and proud to acquire the VHA's annual award.

Nina MacMullen was our speaker at our March monthly meeting. She's from the Sumter County Fair Association. Nina explained how the Sumter County Fair's 4-H/FFA (Future Farmers of America) livestock animal auction process works. This was very helpful and informative prior to Hometown's participation in the livestock animal auction on March 13th. Nina was a former teacher who loved kids and agriculture/farming/country living and was enthusiastic to share her knowledge and how to experience the Sumter County Fair's offerings.



2020 VHA Volunteer Award
Presented to
Hometown Civitan Club

In recognition of the programs that bring knowledge and service to others in the Villages. These programs offer awareness and treatments to any youth with developmental or intellectual disabilities.

In the Tri-County area, Civitans donate their time, skills and leadership to impact the lives of families and individuals with a variety of needs including many women's charities. The Civitan creed is: "My hands do the work and reach out in service to others."

Presented by
The VHA and VHA Community Foundation
Board of Directors and Membership
Phil Walker VHA President
Duane Johnson VHA-CF President



HOMETOWN
2021 Sumter County Fair
03/13/2021

The Hometown Civitan Club bid in the livestock auction on a lamb raised by Daisy Vargas of Wildwood, a Future Farmers of America (FFA) member. The winning bid was \$1,705.

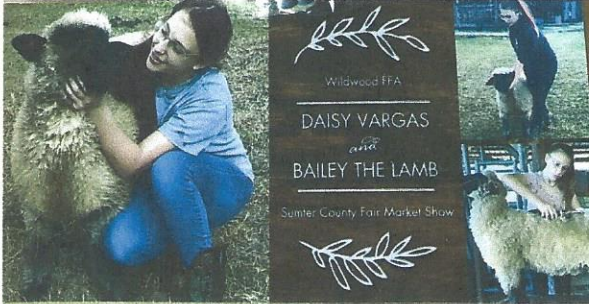
Civitan Club

CLUB BEAMS

HOMETOWN CIVITAN CLUB ... Continued

Daisy Vargas is holding her lamb after Hometown won her lamb's bid! This was the first time that our club participated in the 4-H/FFA livestock auction that was coordinated by Laura McLaughlin, end left. President Mary Anderson on end right with some

Hometown's ladies who enjoyed the afternoon livestock auction event and also the fair's offerings. It was quite an educational, interesting, and fun experience too!



A few of our Hometown Club's ladies recently had a wonderful social day together at Bountiful Farms, a farm-to-table facility in Okahumpka, FL., that is a lunch outing destination that features homemade moonshine and boiled peanuts....it's a southern thing! Below is an area under the trees where the dining fair is done. They had a great time and recommend it!



Here are before and after photos of a very small closet at PACE Center for Girls in Orlando, FL. This is an alternative education center for girls and it has been a Hometown supported charity for many years. Arlene Kaplan is Hometown's Director of PACE. She and member Betty Rohan (also serves on PACE's Board) worked on organizing and improving this very chaotic closet. PACE obtains the variety of the closet's contents through donations which then provides the reward incentives for its students. Shown are Arlene and Betty who chose the difficult mission to organize the closet to make it visually functional and organized as a "store" for the girls. It took many many, days, hours, and helpers including non-Hometown people who donated their time to finally and successfully complete the massive overhauled closet project. It is an ongoing endeavor; but, PACE and its girls are so appreciative of Hometown's labor of love project for the new and improved "store" that Hometown has accomplished for them. These are just a few snapshots of many showing just what needed to be done. Truly a shocking difference!



Hometown Club has been conducting its monthly meetings at an outdoor covered dining service area of a country club that we utilize regularly in The Villages. We have endured various weather conditions with provided heat towers if necessary while still abiding virus protocols. However, we are hoping to move our meetings indoors there again as restrictions loosen and members become vaccinated. Our attendance has been very good (even have acquired new members) and fortunately for us, our speakers have been gladly coming to our meetings.

Hometown is excited to announce that we now have a fantastic new website: **Hometowncivitan.com**. Our Secretary Judi Higbee and her husband John are the web designers and have been providing and maintaining our club's news, postings, and activities. Also, one of our members Diane Seymour has been providing our club with expert quality newsletters that are published quarterly. Our 2nd one will be available at our April 6th member meeting. Our club is so very grateful and thankful to have our own members to provide these critically needed interfaces for us!

Hometown has other projects planned and looking to implement our ideas when it's possible to do so.