

# HOMETOWN Civitan Newsletter

June 2023



## President's Corner

Well ladies, the third quarter of my year as your President has come to an end. Time seems to be flying by leaving wonderful memories to recount. Although summer is upon us and things are slowing down a bit, we as a club have been engaged and we continue to make a difference in our community.

In April alone we ...

- ★ toured Beacon College, an institution that syncs directly with the Civitan mission. We will continue to be involved.
- ★ received recognition from the Sumter County School Board for our service at Wildwood Elementary
- ★ provided a party at Wildwood Elementary for the special needs class there
- ★ held a new member luncheon for those women who recently joined us
- ★ walked in the Best Buddies cancer walk in partnership with Leesburg Civitan

I truly believe we are a positive force, and I am proud of “us”. To that end I ran across the following creative rendition that I want to share. It encompasses for me what Hometown Civitan is all about.

This is a link to a video- It won't link from the newsletter, but you can copy and paste or just type it in on your browser. <https://youtube.be/LeD-YCFpl>

Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world—one person at a time.

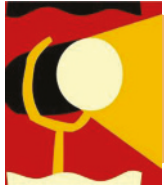
Laura

*Hometown Civitan is a group that's great,  
Our girls are the best—they really rate.*

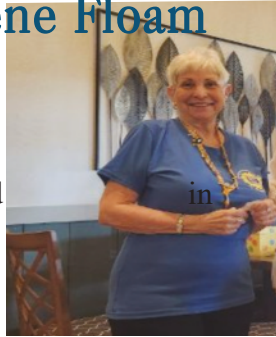
*Being there for one another is our creed,  
Especially to help those in need.*

*We always manage to get the job done,  
And along the way we have some fun.*

(This poem written by founding President Betty Rohan.)



## Member Spotlight Sharlene Floam



Originally from Baltimore MD. Bought in the Villages as a snowbird May of 06 till March of 07 full time. Due to her husband's illness she moved again in 2016.

In Baltimore she worked with a physician who specialized in geriatrics for 20+ years. She was a single mother for 11 years until meeting her 2<sup>nd</sup> husband and remarried in June of 77. Stuart, her husband was a well know photographer in the Baltimore /DC/ Philly area and they were fortunate to travel to many exotic places in the world.

She has a daughter, Mindy who resides in a one stop-light town in PA. And a granddaughter and grandson and 4 great grandchildren ages 4 mos to 9 years.

Being interested in antiques from a young age ( Mom and aunts always going to basement and yard sales) she took spaces in an antique mall for 8 years!

As an avid reader she always keeps a book in her car- just in case! Last year she read over 60 books- and is keeping a list.

About 11 years ago she reconnected with Arlene Kaplan with whom she had attended junior high and high school. Arlene brought her to a Civitans meeting nearly 4 years ago.

She's an active widow playing lots of cards, Maj Jong and still hits the yard sales for fun and reads whenever.

## SCHOOL DAYS.....



On April 11<sup>th</sup> a group of Civitans visited a special education class at Wildwood Elementary. The kids were treated to juice, snacks and slinky toys. We got to interact with them and see what life in a special ed class is like. They enjoyed our visit.

## Monthly Guest Speakers 2

Cheryl Williams of New Horizons Service Dogs spoke to the group on April 4<sup>th</sup>. She and her dog demonstrated many the unique and special things a service dog can do.



In May our Guest Speaker was Captain Amanda Stevenson of the Leesburg Fire Department. She has been with the department for 18 years, starting as a firefighter - she was the only female at the station, lots of adjustments but never any prejudice. After training, she was the engineer who drove the big fire truck. Next in line is a lieutenant who makes decisions and gives orders. Continuing education and maintaining credentials as an EMT are mandatory for promotions to chief and finally captain. There are 49 employees in Leesburg, 6 are women. Every fire truck is equipped with Advanced Life Support equipment and has an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) on board, sometimes also a paramedic as they have more medical calls than fire. Ambulances transport the injured to hospitals. Otherwise, the fire department's main focus is educating the public as to fire prevention, AED use, CPR and smoke detectors. They teach fire safety to school kids and hold boot camps that are fun. They even hold classes to teach parents how to install car seats.



In June, Dick Boyden and his wife Joan Bender spoke to the group about their endeavor called ***Our Moment Cafe***. The group meets once a month and is for Alzheimer, or dementia patients and their spouses. The group has entertainment or activity for an hour followed by socializing and sweet treats.

## Trip to Beacon College April 19th



This was our first tour of the campus. Some walked, some rode in a golf cart. The tour was led by Rich Killiam who also drove the golf cart. After the campus tour we were treated to a catered lunch. Then we saw a video on Beacon College. This school is devoted to providing education and degrees to the IDD community. Students earn a 4 year degree. 90% of them are on scholarships. The students are from many US states and some are from foreign countries. It is one of 2 schools in the US that specialize in Educational offerings for Intellectual Developmental Disabled students.



### BEACON COLLEGE SPEAKER SERIES

August 28- Dance Theater of Orlando

September 25-Dani Mitchell Anthropologist/ Falconer

October 3-Tina McElroy Ansa- Novelist

November 8- Dr Christopher Huff- Historian & Dr A J Marsden  
psychologist

December 4 Dr William Nesbit Author

2024

January 25 Barbara Bergen Author

2/15 Rich Lowry Editor of National Review Magazine

3/2 Flying Horse Big Band

4/25 Elizabeth Randall Author

*Free and Open to the Public.  
Speakers include authors,  
educators and entertainers.*

*Monthly Events August  
through April.*

*Includes Boxed meal of heavy  
appetizers.*



## Member News

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Mary Anderson's group-The Prime Time Twirlers will be the official performers in Las Vegas at the new Horseshoe Casino for the Ms. Senior Universe Pageant competition. This event will occur January 2nd - the 8th, 2024. They will perform more toward the last days. Their Captain Elin Jones is currently serving as Ms. Super Senior U.S.A. (her age of 79) and will also compete for the Ms. Senior Universe title. She has been featured in the Daily Sun. Mary's husband Bob and other lady's husbands will be accompanying them and whom may participate by bringing their wives onto the stage before performing. This will truly be a once in a lifetime opportunity and experience for this Villages performance team of 16 years. Note: look at Wikipedia and search "Baton Twirling"/ Description... scroll down to see the team photo! Mary is in the front right.



Another Blast from the past!

Who is this member?

Email Laura McLaughlin at [Lauramclaughlin3387@gmail.com](mailto:Lauramclaughlin3387@gmail.com)

First to identify the member wins a prize!

**I got myself a seniors' GPS. Not only does it tell me how to get to my destination, it tells me why I wanted to go there.**

## Need a quick dessert? Try This

1 box Jiffy cake mix

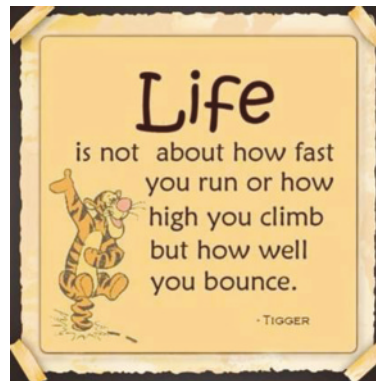
1 can pie filling- any flavor

¼ Cup butter or margarine

½ C chopped nuts ( optional)

Put pie filling in 8x8 pan. Top with dry cake mix and chopped nuts if using. Dot with butter or margarine.

Bake 40-50 minutes at 350°



July

August

September

20 Angela Vickers

1 Sandra Pugrant

15 Marilyn Ettman

21 Doris Field

8 Mary Anderson

17 Maureen Anderson