



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

I think like most parents, I thought the summer was long and hot. If you asked our kids they would swear it was only a few weeks long and felt way too short!! Our kids had a great summer with opportunities to go to Brevard Zoo camp, Suntree Country Club camp, various sports camps, dance/cheerleading camps and many fun trips to the beach and parks. We also were able to balance in daily reading and journal writing to keep our kids on track over the summer.

School began bright and early on August 10th. All of our 31 kids started that day, from our preschoolers to our high school students. Because of our children's different special needs they have different school programs that they are involved with -- we currently have children in 9 different schools throughout the county. We are lucky to have two tutors, Carol Dana and Ellen Christie, that work with our children to help get them on grade level for those that are below. Our kids are excited about the new school year and the new opportunities for sports and clubs.

Kim Straehla

Havenly Happenings
Published Quarterly by
The Haven Guild

Volume 24 Issue 3
September 2011

While every attempt has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication we apologize for any errors or omissions

Please call any error or omission to the attention of the editor and it will be corrected in the next issue.
ksrudloff@gmail.com

HAVENLY AFFAIR HITS THE AIR

Cumulus Broadcasting and WA1A on air personalities Lisa and Timmy V. are longtime supporters of The Haven. Each year they help promote both the Golf Tournament and the Havenly Affair. This in-kind promotion is a great boost to our promotional efforts and we are so grateful for their support!

Pictured here are Havenly Affair Co-Chairs Victoria Wilmarth and Ellen Parda with Lisa Moldovan. Lisa recorded a community spotlight featuring the Havenly Affair which will be on air promoting the event on November 5th at the Rialto Hilton.



The Haven for Children

Kim Straehla, Executive Director
JoAnn Petrone, Assistant Exec. Director

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Scott Kemps, Vice President
Pam Whittington, Secretary
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Cindy Kane, Jennifer Kriete
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Kim Tsamoutales, Victoria Wilmarth

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James Nance and Sunny Rudloff

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Ellen Parda, Internal Vice President
Carol Colombo, Community Vice President
Diane Johnson, Recording Secretary
Judy Anderson, Corresponding Secretary
Linda Moore, Finance Officer
Tracy Bacon, Asst. Finance Officer

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Kaye Cantrell, Education/Advocacy
Susie Morris & Kathy Gagen,
The Lamb Shoppe
Mary Ann LaPorte, Shauna Brown, &
My Huynh, Chef du Jour
Judy Roub, Social
Kaye Boggs, Bylaws
Joyce Bornmann, Internal Volunteer
Coordinator
Joyce Wheeler, External Volunteer
Coordinator
Pam Whittington, Historian
Diane Heldreth & Tracy Bacon, Luncheons
Mary Gilbert & LeGay Carter, Donations
Ellen Parda, Birthday Cakes
Vacant, Directory/Invitations

The Haven for Children newsletter is
published quarterly by The Haven Guild

Editor: Kathryn Rudloff
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Summer Never Ceasing

Judy Roub, Haven Guild President

While most of us were relaxing, traveling or just enjoying the summer, some things kept going like a well oiled, polished machine!

Kim, JoAnn, the Haven staff and volunteers manage to keep up with a VERY active group of ever growing kids---camps, trips, tutoring, shopping for school clothes, organizing school supply lists---just to name a few. At the same time handling all of the everyday tasks that three homes and a large family entail. Kudos! We are all so proud of all you do.

Susie Morris and Kathy Gagen keep the Lamb Shoppe ticking with hauling, sorting, donating, dumping, tagging and SELLING! All of this while fighting dumpsters, plumbing and a shortage of summer volunteers. You deserve crowns.

Shauna Brown and Mary Ann LaPorte have meals taken care of every day for three homes---that is 1095 meals a year, incredible.

In spite of having demanding jobs in their private lives Ellen Parda, Victoria Wilmarth and Pam Whittington have been working for months on what promises to be one of the best Havenly Affairs ever. Their energy and enthusiasm is contagious and I hope we all support them.

Of course there is Tracy Bacon who has done so much for the Haven. She hasn't slowed down one bit and has been a tremendous help to moi! Thanks.

To the entire guild, thank you for answering the calls to help with shopping, stuffing, stamping, labeling, cooking. It is such a pleasure to work with all of you

Judy

In Loving Memory

Shirley Ann Sinsel Lopez, beloved Guild member and Lamb Shoppe Volunteer passed away peacefully on 23 August 2011. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Lou, and her daughter, Lori. Shirley is remembered for her dedication and years of support to her students at Hoover and the children of The Haven.

A Message From New Board President Pat Hughes

Four years ago I was asked to join the Board of Directors of The Haven for Children after retiring from industry. This year, beginning in July, I am now honored to assume the leadership role of such a unique and wonderful organization, which is rescuing, protecting, nourishing and developing children. The work of our Executive Director, Kim Straehla, and her very talented and dedicated staff, is a daily inspiration to myself, and all of the Board's members.

During these four years we have all seen and experienced dramatic changes in our national, state and local economic landscape and many charitable organizations have been adversely impacted. But our community support, highlighted by the energy, innovation, devotion and generosity of the Guild has enabled The Haven to not only maintain but prosper.

The Havenly Affair, the chef du jour program, the Lamb Shoppe and the many other supporting projects of the Guild are highly recognized by the Board as indispensable components of The Haven's continued success. So let me take this opportunity to thank the entire Guild membership for your generous financial support, your participation in Guild events and activities, the Golf Challenge and the Downtown 5K run. But mostly, THANK YOU for your love, dedication and personal sacrifice for the sake and welfare of our children.

Like the Guild, our Board is very active. This year we will be faced with addressing both legislative changes and financial challenges. To that end we will be focusing on expanding and enhancing our Planned Giving Program. As we mature this initiative, I will plan to update our progress in future Guild newsletters, so those in the community who are interested can see how they can participate.

Pat

Membership Corner

Welcome to our new members! We hope your experience as a member of The Haven Guild will be rewarding. Your commitment and generosity is appreciated.

**Natasha Duran, Laura Pitten,
Lori Taylor and Debbie Roub**

We also want to send a big thank you to our faithful volunteers who are so giving of their time, commitment, and generous donations. This summer volunteers pulled double duty at the Lamb Shoppe, helped with mailings as well as donating and helping organize ALL the Back-to-School clothes and supplies.

Pauline McKeone
Membership Committee Chairperson

'Tis Almost The Season



Christmas is just around the corner and if individuals, organizations, church groups, or businesses would like to be a Santa Shopper for one of the 31 children at The Haven, please send an email to Kim at

thehaven@cfl.rr.com

Kim will be making a list of volunteers and as it gets closer to the holidays and each kid has finalized their wish list, she will be contacting you with the details.

THANK YOU TO THESE SPECIAL SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR RECENT DONATIONS

Gifts Received June 1st 2011 - August 31st 2011

Individuals

John & Pamela Bard
Nichole Bernhardt
Carl & Joyce Bornman
Clark Brown
Jeanette Bunting
Richard & Deanna Burner
Richard & Linda Calhoun
Ellen Christie
Sheldon & Sandra Coe
Glen Coltes
Michael & Carol Dana

Barbara Demarer
Joye Eiker
Charles & Martha Fisher
Steve & Ruth Fleming
Walter Gose
Donald & Karen Hagen
Carlee & Christine Hendrix
Virginia Hessen
Natasha Irizarry
Marie Klug
Deborah Lynch
Clarence Mills

Ralph & Patricia Oliva
Lee & Betty Pike
Joseph & Geraldine Sequenzia
Carole Sisko
Alina Slotwinski
Joan Taffet
Frank & Kimberly Tsamoutales
Carol Veneziano
Joyce Wheeler
Billy & Margaret White
Col. Ronald & Darlene Williams
Dianne Wilson

Corporate and Community Organizations

Allstate Giving Campaign
Angelo Bruno Business Library
Bank Of America United Way Campaign
Cocoa Beach Womans Club
DRS Tactical Systems
Eastminster Presbyterian Church
Echo
Harris Foundation

Hobbs Electric
Indian River Embroiders Guild
Meredith's Bridal Shop
Merrill Lynch
Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class
Randall-Reilly Publishing Co.
Senior Partner Care Services
United Way Of Brevard

Havenly Affair Benefactors

Carol Craig
Allen & Rebecca Dukes
Steve & Connie Feldman
Robert & Patricia Henry
Kevin Hill
Louise Jones
Scott & Deb Kemps
Michael Kott
Mike & Althea Krasny
Rhodes & Jennifer Kriete
Victor Marchese
Jim & Margaret Martin
K. Murdock
Bob & Ellen Parada
Esther Parker & Michael Maynard

Marilyn Peasinger
Bryan & Judy Roub
Alex & Kathryn Rudloff
David & Sunny Rudloff
Jack & Martha Sinclair
Alan Smith
Charles & Cynthia Snell
Teresa Suchoski
Stephen & Ann Titus
Joseph & Joyce Wheeler
Mike & Pam Whittington
Michael & Theresa Williams
Steven & Victoria Wilmarth
Marion Woods
Drs. Leonor & Peter Zies

FROM THE FIELD: LAMB SHOPPE UPDATE

The Lamb Shoppe is a project of The Haven Guild.

So join up and join in the fun!

Contact Susie Morris
Lamb Shoppe Chairperson.
for information.

779-1615

1765 S. Patrick Drive
Indian Harbour Beach,
Open Monday-Saturday
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

321-777-6606

The Lamb Shoppe will soon be celebrating its 12th Birthday! We plan to have cake and drinks on Wednesday October 5th to honor the occasion. We will be inviting all our regular customers and anyone reading this to stop in for a treat. Happy Birthday Lamb Shoppe!

We will also be having our second annual Bling Fest the week of October 17-22. This event was highly successful last year. But to make this event a repeat success we need your unused costume jewelry. **Please stop by the shop during the next month and bring us your BLING!** For those attending the Haven Guild event on September 27th, you can bring us your bling then.

We will be putting out Halloween and other fall decorations September 28th so come have a look. We will have costumes and all sorts of décor.

Susie Morris

*Volunteers don't get paid,
not because they're worthless,
but because they're priceless.*

-Sherry Anderson

This Issue's Featured Lamblettes

Peggy Webb, Mary Thornburgh
Marge Dubuque, Jeanne Rossi
and Carol Carillo



Getting Creative in 2012



We are looking for new and fresh ideas for fundraising in 2012. A "Ready, Set, Paint" idea was presented at the last Haven Guild Board meeting and we are looking into it. The concept is to have a paint around, artists participate using their own design to start a piece and within 20 minutes or so, pass to the next canvas, adding their own touches to that picture, until all artists have contributed to all canvasses. During the event, the artists chat with the guest mingling around the works in progress. The environment can be creative, exciting and even get chaotic as the art takes shape. The paintings are then auctioned off.

If you have an eye for art, love thinking outside the box or would just like to help work on this idea, or others you might have for fundraising in the coming year, please let Judy Roub or Carol Colombo know. We would love to have you be apart of this creative process!

COOKS CORNER

We often hear, "Gee, I'd love to, but I have no idea what to make!" So this month we list a few ideas to help inspire our Chefs and guarantee smiles from the kids. Meals should include protein, vegetables and/or fruit, and healthy carbohydrates. Milk, juice and desert are always appreciated in addition to the well-balanced meal. Check out www.thesneakychef.com for ideas of how to hide fruits and vegetables into everyday meals kids love!

BBQ Chicken or Pork, Potato Salad, Corn and Corn Bread

Anything Mexican – Tacos, Burritos, Enchiladas or Casserole versions of these yummy favs. Rice and beans.

Chicken Casserole – any yummy variety, and crescent rolls or biscuits.

Anything Italian – Ravioli, spaghetti, fettuccini, Lasagna with a salad and breadsticks.

Homemade chili or stews with cornbread.

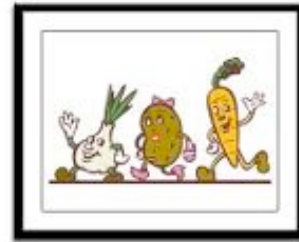
Hot dogs and Hamburgers, Tater Tots, Corn & Peas

Mac n cheese and broccoli

Sub Platter, veggies & dip, chips.

Breakfast for dinner! Egg casseroles, sausage, fruit and biscuits

Chicken Nuggets, mashed potatoes and a veggie side



We Have many open nights at Haven III, check out the google calendar or contact Shauna to sign up. Also, thanks to Tiffany Stergis, who rounded up a group of 50 volunteers from Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy and volunteered to cook on 11 nights in the coming months for Haven II.

Haven I Coordinator: Mary Ann La Porte, 752-9788, malaporte@aol.com

Haven II & III Coordinator: Shauna Brown, 258-2292, Haven@drimplant.com

Go to: <http://www.google.com/calendar> Enter email address: thehavenflorida@gmail.com Password: thehaven2

September Semi-Annual Meeting

Tuesday September 27th at 5:30 PM

Recognizing that other obligations of many members often prevent them from attending midday luncheons, we are trying something different in September: an early evening meet-and-mingle, along with hors d'oeuvres, light supper and a compelling speaker. The February meeting will remain a luncheon.

The event will begin at **5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2011**, at Tuscany Grill, 7640 N. Wickham. We will be delighted to hear the speaker, Dr. Patricia Nellius, CEO of Brevard Family Partnership, an agency which refers foster children. She will enlighten us on how

children end up in foster homes, and what challenges these children face in their experiences.

You will have the opportunity to meet and speak with Dr. Nellius and her colleague, Jim Carlson, following her comments. Additionally, we hope this venue provides an opportunity for you to meet and chat with fellow Guild members whom you may not yet know.

You should have already received your invitation in the mail; if not, please call Tracy Bacon at 321.757.5797 for information and to make reservations by **September 21**.

Diane Heldreth and Tracy Bacon,
Co-Chairs, Luncheon/Meeting Committee

Is Group Foster Care Slowly Becoming Extinct?

By **Kate Santich**, Orlando Sentinel
July 26, 2011

During the past five years, the state of Florida has reduced by more than a third the number of kids in its child-welfare system — a drop that has meant nearly 11,000 children were either never removed from their biological families in the first place or were placed in homes with relatives or adoptive parents.

Though most children's advocates celebrate the trend as a sign of progress, it also means that group homes — once the norm for kids in the state's custody — are slowly disappearing. And some worry the few left will feel increasing pressure to follow suit despite a lingering need.

In Central Florida alone, 29 facilities have closed since January 2008 — including Orlando's Crisis Nursery, which for two decades had taken in babies, toddlers and young children who had been abused, abandoned or neglected. The once-celebrated facility, founded by the Junior League, had housed as many as 400 children during 2006. Three years later, the number had plummeted by more than half and the facility was losing as much as \$250,000 annually.

It closed in March.

You can read the rest of this important article online — we have linked to the Orlando Sentinel article from the news section of www.thehavenforchildren.com

Advocacy in Action

The Haven thrives because of the generous private funding from our local community that supplements the monies received from the Florida Department of Children and Families. The State funding covers about 70–80% of The Haven budget, which is a far cry from the amount it takes to provide these children with the home, care and childhood they deserve. The rest is covered by donations, grants and our fundraising events.

You can help ensure The Haven thrives into the future by helping us continually grow our support base here in the community. Invite friends and neighbors to the Heavenly Affair and to join the Guild. Support the Lamp Shoppe with donations and shopping.

The Haven Board would be delighted to provide a speaker for your business, professional organization, school group, church group or community service organization. We promise an informative presentation with time for questions and discussions with attendees.

Please contact our Education/Advocacy chairperson, Kaye Cantrell at 321-773-3302 or The Haven Executive Director, Kim Straehla at

Over the past 5 years, 105 children have been placed at the The Haven for Children, of those, 39 were adopted, 44 were united with biological parents or family members.

Of the 105, 62 were part of larger sibling groups, a unique feature for foster homes.

The Haven cares for children that had previously had 10, 20, up to 40 prior placements.

The Haven for Children
P. O. Box 327
Melbourne, FL 32902-0327

**We may not be able to change the world,
but we can start, one child at a time.**

www.thehavenforchildren.com



We're on Facebook!!
[www.facebook.com/
thehavenforchildren](http://www.facebook.com/thehavenforchildren)

The Havenly Affair

November 5th, 2011 at the Melbourne Hilton Rialto Place

MYSTERY, MAYHEM, and..... MURDER????

You will not want to miss "The Premiere" at the Havenly Affair this year on Saturday, November 5, 2011. The Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place will be the scene of the crime... err....dinner. Enter this mysterious event with all the suspects via the infamous red carpet. While we don't want to give away too much, let's just say we want to clue you in that this year's event promises to be a fun filled, mysterious, slap stick evening.



Of course, all will again enjoy a choice of three delicious entrees, a dessert "to die for" and fine wines from Petty's. Mark your calendar -- **It would be a crime not to attend!**

To purchase tickets please contact
Ellen Parda bparda@yahoo.com or
Victoria Wilmarth vicwilmarth@cfl.rr.com