Transportation to and from the Clubs is difficult for many families. Thanks to the generosity of John & Hope Reese, more Martin County youth have access to high yield learning programs at Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County. Our new 29 passenger bus allows families with limited transportation options in Indiantown, access to all the benefits of the Club experience—Club members can truly Ride With Hope. In addition to daily transportation, the bus transports Club members to and from sports league games and educational field trips. “Transportation opens up a world of new experiences and learning opportunities”, says John. “We were happy to be able to provide something so versatile that will impact the lives of so many for years to come.”

“Transportation opens up a world of new experiences and learning opportunities”—John Reese

Full story online at www.bgcmartin.org
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MARTIN COUNTY**

**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

**PHYLЛИS & BOB LEVIN**

**GIVING BACK FOR GENERATIONS TO COME**

Life changing work happens at the Club every day and Phyllis and Bob Levin want it to stay that way. They began volunteering in their local Club in 2006, but wanted to do more. Working directly with Renee Booth, the Levins funded two charitable gift annuities to sustain programs, strengthen ties to the community, and bring hope and opportunity to future generations of Club Kids.

*Find out how you can start a charitable gift annuity and learn more about planned giving. Contact Renee Booth: 772-545-1255 or rbooth@bgcmartin.org.*

“My son’s teacher recommended him for the Boys & Girls Club literacy program”, said the mother of Santino, a member who attends the Cole-Clark Club in Hobe Sound. “It was the difference between him staying in first grade and moving on to second. It was the push he needed to succeed and become confident with reading.”

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**CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP**

90% of parents agree their children have a stronger sense of community service & doing things for others

**HEALTHY LIFESTYLES**

91% of parents agree their children have developed a better understanding of positive lifestyles and healthy behaviors
FIFTH ANNUAL
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER’S LUNCHEON

Michael B. Mukasey, 81st Attorney General of the United States, toured the Cole-Clark Club in Hobe Sound and met with Club members before his scheduled speech at our Fifth Annual Distinguished Speaker’s Luncheon at Sailfish Point Country Club.

Club member Aristo Onassis accompanied the judge on the Club tour and shared his experience and information about Club programs focused on Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. In a Q & A session, Club members asked Mukasey questions such as how he started on his career path and what was his favorite part of the college experience. When asked “What worries you most about the future”, Judge Mukasey answered, “There won’t be enough people like the people in this room...When I listen to you folks, I am very encouraged about the future. I think this country has a tremendous amount of potential and a lot of it is right here in this room. It’s a remarkable thing, an inspiring thing.”

Full story online at www.bgcmartin.org

CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

93% of members have established a positive, trusting connection with an adult staff member or volunteer at the Clubs

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

97% of teen members have abstained from cigarette smoking
Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES
HELPING LOCAL YOUTH “BE GREAT”

Local resident & Boys & Girls Club Alum, Derek Boyd Hankerson is partnering with Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County to launch the Alumni & Friends program. “The majority of children need positive outlets, away from family and friends to blossom, grow, and become adjusted to the larger world. Boys & Girls Clubs provide that outlet” said Hankerson.

It’s a partnership that began when Derek was five. From the Laurel and New Carrolton, Maryland Clubs, Hankerson remembers his roots. A Club Kid throughout his school years, he was introduced to organized sports through the Clubs—football, basketball, track, baseball. He learned to swim at the Club and found great success in swimming competitively through age thirteen. He also developed healthy habits during his years at the Clubs—teamwork, sportsmanship, social and communication skills— which helped him in school and beyond. Hankerson attributes much of his success and persistence to the Club.

THANK YOU

Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County directly impacts the lives of over 3,000 Martin County youth and their families annually. Thank you to the foundations and corporations who generously support youth development programs.

Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Best Buy Foundation
Children’s Services Council of Martin County
Christ Memorial Chapel
Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Hobe Sound Community Chest
Indiantown Community Trust
Loblolly Community Foundation
Martin County Board of County Commissioners
PNC Foundation
Publix Super Markets Charities
Taco Bell Foundation
TD Charitable Foundation
The Batchelor Foundation
United Way of Martin County & Character Counts
USA Football
Verizon Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation

APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Susie & Erling Speer hosted a reception at Willoughby Golf Club, to thank friends and neighbors for their support and to learn more about the Boys & Girls clubs. Three teens joined the festivities to share the impact of an exceptional club experience—

• Safety – thousands of children and youth in Martin County are supervised and no longer at risk during non-school hours.

• Award-winning – youth development programs inspire and assist children & teens ages 6-18 in a positive, engaging environment.

• Affordable – membership is $35 per child for the school year, helping families struggling to make ends meet.

If you’re interested in hosting an event in your community, contact Renee Booth at rbooth@bgcmartin.org.
Our 23rd Annual Benefit Blazed the Way to Bright Futures for Martin County Children. It was a stellar evening as guests celebrated in support of Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County’s youth development programs at the Jupiter Island Club.

Guests were star struck when greeted by enthusiastic “Jr. Astronauts” as they arrived at the launch pad. Once inside, Teen “Pilots” shared their Club experiences and explained the vital program experiences that help them to achieve Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles. Club members spoke about program opportunities in teen leadership & recognition, Robotics, financial literacy and career exploration, athletics, tutoring, academics, and more. An out of this world silent auction paired with dozens of gift-giving opportunities matched to specific program needs at the five clubs in Martin County rounded out the evening.

Benefit Co-Chairs Annie Galyean and Cathy McGraw, along with their dedicated event committee; wish to thank all their sponsors and volunteers who rocketed the evening to record success, blazing the way to bright futures for thousands of Martin County youth and teens. They are especially grateful to Fenton Lang Bruner & Associates, the Cosmos Sponsor. Ground Control sponsors included Bessemer Trust, D&D Constantakos, Inc., Dailey Janssen Architects, P.A., Florida Power & Light Company, Law Offices of Marc R. Gaylord, P.A., Northern Trust, Sands Construction, U.S. Trust - Bank of America Private Wealth Management, Wells Fargo, and Wheels up.

**CLUB HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS**

**2017 YOUTH OF THE YEAR**

The future is bright for these teens and all Martin County youth who enter our doors!


Selected among all five outstanding youth, Jordin Preston was named the 2017 Youth of the Year. The Youth of the Year title is a prestigious honor bestowed upon an exemplary young person in recognition of leadership, service, academic excellence, and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle. Jordin received a scholarship from the generosity of the Nancy A. McLernon Youth of the Year Endowed Scholarship.

Full story online at www.bgcmartin.org
While many teens in Martin County enjoyed Spring Break by relaxing or going on holiday, 9 Club teens shared an unforgettable week participating in Hurricane Island’s Outward Bound School in the Florida Keys.

Teens and their chaperone spent the week navigating the Keys, exploring mangroves, tidal flats, and coral reefs. Each individual was critical to the success of the entire group; Outward Bound states “awareness and respect of others is not optional; it is necessary for success.” The group’s goals for the week included increased self-awareness, resiliency, capacity for leadership and supporting others. One participant said the experience gave her the opportunity to become closer to her sailing mates, some of whom she goes to school with, but didn’t really know. She’s now more connected with people; the experience helped her improve communication skills and decrease time online.

Chief Development Officer and group chaperone, Renee Booth summed up the experience this way, “Each of us reached into our survival reserve to overcome the challenges and adversity we faced - through failure we found success, through fear we found confidence. The experience brought out new found leadership skills in us all.”
Charlie Moore joined the board in 2007 and served as board president from 2010 – 2013. “Charlie has worked tirelessly at the Clubs assisting children who need help achieving grade level reading and mentoring older teens to ensure they successfully graduate with a defined plan for their future after that. We are grateful for Charlie’s continued passion, support, and guidance for the youth in our community”, says CEO Joanne Towner.

Charlie saw a need and wanted to do more. This year he created a pilot mentoring program. He assembled an impressive group of friends and colleagues, with big hearts and altruistic motives. Together, they created a movement that’s gaining momentum within the Club. “Sometimes, it’s difficult to determine who’s having more fun – us or the teens!” said Charlie.

The goal was to partner corporate leaders with male teens to focus on creating meaningful connections and positively impacting the lives of Club members. “We hoped the teens would see the need as much as the mentors do; to appreciate the value”, said Charlie. We’re seeing enthusiasm on the teens’ part and we’re excited and motivated by it.”

Charlie and the other mentors are working with teens from all five Clubs to guide them in setting goals for success after graduation. Meeting each month, the teens spend time with their mentors learning about career opportunities, exploring college, the military and learning from guest speakers such as Steve Bisciotti, owner of the Baltimore Ravens. He talked about the need to have impeccable manners, respect, a strong work ethic, making good choices, and working hard in school.

The pilot program wrapped up this month with dinner at Duffy’s – something teens and mentors really looked forward to! Charlie and Club Leadership will spend the summer planning and will build upon the successes of the pilot program to launch an even more robust program in the fall.

Manners, respect, work ethic are keys to success. One out of every three young people doesn’t have a trusted adult outside their family who they can turn to for guidance. With a mentor, at-risk youth are:

- 52% less likely than their peers to skip a day of school
- 55% more likely to be enrolled in college
- 46% less likely than their peers to start using drugs
- 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities

* (www.serve.gov/mentor)

**CELEBRATING GREAT FUTURES**

Taco Bell Foundation partners with Boys & Girls Clubs around the country to inspire and celebrate local high school graduates through scholarship opportunities and events. Friends, families, and Club families celebrated graduates at the Bill & Barbara Whitman Club in Indiantown on May 19. The event, designed to honor local graduates and send them on their journey to Great Futures, was made possible through a grant from the Taco Bell® Foundation. The Graduation Celebration brought families and the community together, anchored by the singular goal to celebrate Great Futures. “We’re so pleased to honor the effort and accomplishments of our graduates and we want to ensure each one feels personally celebrated”, says Joanne Towner.

“I want to go to college to make a difference in the world... I want to do something in this world to forever change it for the better.”

—Jonathan Sandoval
I DID IT... MY WAY

My will reflects my wishes and my values. I have decided to leave my estate to those I care most about instead of letting the state disburse my property.

My will lets me leave money to my children and grandchildren, when I think they will be prepared for the responsibility.

My will identifies the charities to receive special bequests, including Boys & Girls Clubs.

My will can be amended at any time if my family's financial circumstances change.

My will is safely stored. I have a copy at home, the original is with my attorney. My will is legally valid. I sought expert legal advice from an attorney specializing in estate planning.

My Will . . . my way. My will is my best plan for my beneficiaries and me.

For years, I lived with a nagging apprehension about what might happen if I died without a will. Now I have control over the future of my estate.