

## Treasure Coast

### Volunteers share confidence building tips with students

**Christina Tascon**

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

All of the volunteers at the Gifford Youth Achievement Center are fabulously dedicated. Some may come on board when donating to the annual School Supply or Christmas Toy Drive, but they are always convinced to stay by the children and students at the center.

Jackie and Mike Rose are neighbors from nearby Waterway Village. Jackie is a retired high school science teacher who taught biology for 26 years and Mike worked for the Connecticut Department of Revenue, so he really knows his math.

After moving to Vero Beach in 2016, the two stopped by one day when they heard the students needed backpacks filled with school supplies for the beginning of the school year.

"We drive by every day so it basically came down to proximity and wanting to see what they needed," said Jackie. "It is always a good thing to get to know one's



**Volunteers Mike and Jackie Rose at the Gifford Youth Achievement Center.**

CHRISTINA TASCÓN

neighbors and we said why not help serve the community in which we live?"

Jackie had already begun to think of finding a place to tutor students, but Mike said he was surprised when Volunteer Coordinator Millicent Carpenter and GYAC icon Freddie Woolfork encouraged him to think about working with the students on their math.

Now, the older students can always count on "Mr. Mike" for the more ad-

vanced math and Jackie on any subject where the students have need.

#### The Roses' Recipe to Improve Confidence:

- Show them what they already know.

- Highlight their achievements and assets.

- Figure out what motivates each student and build on that motivation.

Not only do they tutor students, but they also have become dedicated GYAC volunteers helping the seniors, working with the Stamp Out Hunger collection day, volunteering on committees for fundraisers like last year's "Starry Nights."

GYAC feels very lucky to be a part of the Roses' list of places they volunteer. The two each put in 40 to 50 hours per week helping others.

If you wish to volunteer at the Gifford Youth Achievement Center, call Millicent Carpenter at 772-794-1005. GYAC is 501(c)3 non-profit agency at 4875 43rd Ave., Vero Beach.

### Volunteers applauded for 6,368 hours of library service

**Erick Gill**

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

The Friends of the St. Lucie County Library Association held its 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon April 17 at Lakeview Terrace at St. Lucie Trail Golf in St. Lucie West.

In 2018, 96 volunteers and Library Advisory Board members donated almost 6,368 hours of time to the library system.

Independentsector.com calculates that an hour of volunteer time is worth \$24.69, which means volunteers saved St. Lucie County libraries \$157, 219.75 in labor costs.

About 75 volunteers, Friends of the Library, Advisory Board members and St. Lucie County staff and County Commission attended the luncheon.

Volunteers work in a variety of capacities at the six branch libraries, including calling patrons about materials that are available for pickup to helping with genealogy research and repairing materials.

To find out more about the St. Lucie County Library System, visit [www.stlucieco.gov/library](http://www.stlucieco.gov/library).



**St. Lucie County Commission Vice Chair Cathy Townsend, left, with Friends of St. Lucie County Library Treasurer Padrick Pinkeny, President Carnelle Clifton and County Commission Chair Linda Bartz accepting the ceremonial check with the value volunteers brought to the library system in 2018. PROVIDED BY FRIENDS OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY LIBRARY**

### Humane Society of Treasure Coast honors its 477 volunteers

**Doreen Poreba**

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers  
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Day in and day out, the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast's staff depends on its devoted volunteers.

To show their appreciation, the agency recently organized a party at the Elliott Museum in Stuart. A nautical theme decorated the space and the event included raffle baskets, awards, a live band and Italian food.

"We literally couldn't do what we do each day without our wonderful and dedicated volunteers," said Sarah Fisher, manager of the Humane Society's volunteer program and mobile adoption coordinator.

The volunteers were recognized with some fun awards: Biggest Smile Award: Roy Cuellar; Inspiration Award: Donna Griffin; Early Bird Award: Paula Meyerson; Rolling with the Punches: Kandy and Kim



**Heidi Fischer, left, and Sandi Banks show off the Man's Best Friend Award.**

HUMANE SOCIETY OF TREASURE COAST/SPECIAL TO TCPALM

Penenori; Jack of All Trades: Cindi Strub; Feline Friends Award: Linda Baughman; Man's Best Friend Award: Sandi Banks;

Bunny Whisperer: Rosalie Goebel, and the Bend Over Backwards Award: Lisa Cirminello.

Every winner got a \$25 gift card to Pet Supplies Plus of Port St. Lucie, one of the Humane Society's donors.

"We would like to give a very special thanks to the Elliot Museum for hosting this special event for our volunteers and to generous donors Rick Carroll Insurance & Stryker Electric & Air," said Fisher.

This past year, the Humane Society had 477 active volunteers totaling over 48,000 voluntary hours. The different volunteer areas consist of dog walking, canine companion, cat care, critter care, front desk, mobile adoptions, special events, spay and neuter, dog enrichment, thrift stores, cat care, administration and animal photography.

For information regarding volunteering with the Humane Society, call Sarah Fisher at 772-600-3217.