



KAIR

Keys Area Interdenominational Resources
Food Pantry and Emergency Services for those in Need in the Middle Keys



April/May 2013

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COMMUNITY PARTNERS



The Monroe County Sheriff's Department Major Crimes Unit under the supervision of Sgt. Linda Mixon has started volunteering at both KAIR and at Independence Cay. Here, some members of the unit are transporting food weekly from a local grocery store to the KAIR food pantry.



Dan Mehler of Major Crimes assisted both KAIR and Independence Cay with their computers.



Commodore Bill Knickman of Key Colony Beach Club giving KAIR and Independence Cay donation. Thank you!



Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger"

The National Association of Letter Carriers held their annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive on May 11th.

Thank you to all the letter carriers that participated and thank you to all the nice folks who left non-perishable items at their mailboxes

for pick-up. Approximately 3500 pounds of food was collected and this food was distributed to local organizations who serve hungry people. Summer is traditionally a hard time for food pantries and this collection will keep our shelves full for quite some time.

Shown here is carrier Paige Wofsey with Supervisor Rich Camp.

Thanks to ALL!

Help! We Need.....

- New vinyl shower curtains
- All sizes baggies
- Men's shorts—sizes 30, 32 and 34
- Shelf milk
- Diapers—all sizes
- Men's sneakers—sizes 8 and up
- Computer mouse pad

Why We Keep Doin' What We Do



Sometimes what goes around comes around - literally. On a recent day,

Richard, a disabled veteran from Grassy Key rode his bike to KAIR asking for food. He had an unexpected repair on his trailer which made him short of enough money to buy food. While at KAIR, he got a flat tire. Looking at his bike, his brakes were also in bad shape. While problem solving how to get his bike fixed and also get him home, a wonderful coincidence happened. Max and

his little dog arrived at KAIR. Max had previously needed food, clothing and other help from both KAIR and Independence Cay but has since found work and a place to live. He also has the skills and knowledge of how to fix a bike. Max generously offered to take the bike home and replace the tire and brakes. Richard was transported home and within 24 hours had a newly refurbished bicycle. This was a win, win AND win situation. Richard felt good that someone cared enough to help him; Max felt good that he could give back help after receiving help; and we felt good at KAIR that showing kindness often per-

petuates kindness. It is why we do what we do.



The last several weeks, KAIR has had the

pleasure of assisting in helping a disabled high school student get prepared for work. A special program at the high school helps students with disabilities get the extra help they need to hopefully obtain work after they leave school. We help develop manageable tasks, give directions and encouragement and provide some side by side coaching. We are happy to do it and hope to have more students next year!