



KAIR

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



November 2012

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Marathon, FL 33050
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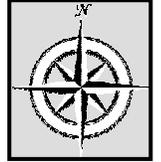
KAIR KORNER

The other night, the Tony Bennett music special was on PBS. The music was beautiful and the chemistry he had with the other artists was magical. What struck me though, was what some of the musicians said about him. They talked about how he still had the "fire" for what he does. Their biggest compliment was that he "shows up" every single time. He means every word and note and understands the impact music can have on others. He is never on autopilot. This year at KAIR, we have seen so many people each day and each with their own story. Fishermen with a poor catch who need food for their families; a mother with a premature baby who needs regular visits to a Miami specialist; an elderly man with Parkinson's so advanced that he could hardly write his name who just wanted a holiday dinner; families with young children; lonely peo-

ple with no one. No two people walking through the KAIR door came from the same place or circumstance; no two people faced the same obstacles but all share the same uncertain future. There can be no higher aspiration than to just "show up" for each person who walks through our door. We don't represent us as individuals but instead stand in for you, the community. It is you that keeps us going, provides us the tools and means to assist and inspires us to be mindful that every word and action we do may make that difference in someone's life. Keeping that "fire" may just be what makes that uncertain future a little more bearable. You are always there - sometimes on the front lines with us as volunteers and sometimes standing behind us with encouragement and support. For that, we thank you.

INDY CAY CORNER

KAIR recently started managing Independence Cay which provides services to the homeless in Marathon. One of the programs it provides is a transitional shelter for 8-10 men committed to making positive changes in their lives. One of the men currently staying there is Mike Balloy. Mike is legally blind and for some people, that might be an obstacle they could not overcome. In Mike's case, it just means that he works harder at being fully independent. Mike has a wonderful talent of caning wicker chairs. His deft fingers more than compensate for his limited sight. His work is available to be seen at the Iona Art Guild at St. Columba. Photos are also available upon request. If you are interested in talking further with Mike about having some caning done, please call him at 305-587-1462 or call Marj Roberts at 305-393-6621.



Share Your Holiday Happiness



For most of us, the holidays bring warm fuzzy feelings, being with family and friends and sharing gifts and goodies. For some people in our Middle Keys community, however, it's just another time to worry where the food will come from to feed their families. During this season of happiness, it seems even more tragic that we have neighbors who go without and this has been a tough year for many who never faced this crises in their past. With the support of businesses and individuals, KAIR is able to provide a family with a complete holiday dinner in their home for \$25. This dinner includes a ham, side dishes, rolls, many vegetables and fruits, even a pie!

Please help us assist 250 families this holiday. Perhaps your family would like to sponsor a family for \$25; any contribution is greatly appreciated. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Name(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Please accept our check for \$ _____ .
THANK YOU!

Please mail or deliver form and check to:
KAIR 3010 Overseas Hwy/Marathon, FL 33050

Zonta Reaches Out to KAIR

Zonta recently held their annual Festival of the Trees at the Marathon Airport and invited KAIR to participate on Wed. the 28th. Lynn Voit, Terry Lynn Kelly and Ardie Banks created a special sand dollar tree to gather toys for children that won't receive any this year. They also collected funds for the Christmas food baskets that will be distributed on December 22nd. KAIR was also represented by a large beautiful Christmas tree decorated by Roco's Dockside Restaurant. It was a wonderful successful. Thank you Zonta, Lynn, Ardie Terry Lynn and Roco's!



Thankful Thanksgiving!

This is the smiling face of one of our volunteers as she helps KAIR distribute the 265 dinners that were given to people in our community so they could share Thanksgiving with their families. Thank you, everyone, for your KAIRing kindness!



Thank you, FKEC!

Florida Keys Electric Cooperative Craig Rabito presenting food & check to the KAIR food pantry.