



Sandy Parker

President of League of Women Voters of Collier County &

Chris Straton

Voter Service Chair, League of Women Voters of Collier County

In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season it is often easy to put things aside until “after the holidays.” But don’t wait. If you want to participate in choosing your next Naples City Council then you need to be registered by January 4, 2010, because Election Day is February 2. If you have moved or changed your name or changed your signature, you need to update your voter registration. It is as easy as going to www.CollierVotes.com to get a form to download and mail in or call 252.8450 for more information.

Did you know that you can vote anywhere? You

The EDUCATION Foundation

Giving completes the cycle of receiving. Take Stock in Children students receive a mentor and the promise of a scholarship when they begin the program. They are encouraged to express their gratitude to the community by giving back time and talents and contributing to the community.

To date, one hundred and eight current Take Stock in Children students and sixty-two graduates have benefited from living in a generous, caring community. Local donors have contributed a portion of the cost of a Florida Prepaid 2+2 tuition scholarship that is awarded to the Take Stock students who successfully complete the program. This donation is matched by the state legislature through the Florida Prepaid Foundation.

don’t have to go to the polls on February 2. You can vote from the comfort of your favorite chair or your boat or anywhere ... if you have requested a mail ballot. The ballot will be mailed to you in plenty of time for you to fill it out and mail it back. Make sure that you provide the address where you want to receive the ballot since it will not be forwarded by the post office. Use a black pen to fill out the form, make sure that you sign the envelope where indicated, and drop it in the mail or at the Supervisor of Elections office at 3301 Tamiami Trail East. To be counted, she needs it by 7 p.m. on Election Day. Go to www.CollierVotes.com to request your mail ballot or call 239.252.8450. You can even check on that website to make sure your ballot was received.

Not sure about who is running or their priorities? Join us for the League of Women Voters of Collier County’s Candidate Forum on January 12 from 6-8 p.m. at Naples City Hall. Questions will be taken from the public, the viewing audience via email and

maybe even via Twitter. Our Forum will be broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 98. If you miss the live broadcast, it will be replayed throughout the campaign season or on the League’s website www.lwvcolliercounty.org.

Want to be reminded about registering, requesting a mail ballot, watching the candidate forum or voting? Send an email to lwvcc@lwvcolliercounty.org and we will send you timely reminders. Just make sure that you include your name and address as well as your email address.

Still have questions? Call the League of Women Voters of Collier County at 239.263.4656.

We will be hosting a HOT LINE on Election Day to answer any last minute questions or help you find your polling place.

Enjoy the holidays, but make sure you also register and vote in the upcoming election. Remember - democracy is not a spectator sport.

Investing in the future: the power of a promise

The program not only provides a scholarship for deserving students from economically challenged families, but it also provides a caring mentor, engages them in character building activities and encourages community involvement. This year, students and mentors worked on a project to create a signature holiday ornament to benefit the Take Stock program.

There are many ways to give to The Education Foundation’s Take Stock in Children program. You can purchase an ornament for \$20, make financial contributions, become a mentor or volunteer to help with enrichment programs for the students. To get involved, please call The Education Foundation at 239.643.4755.



Mentor Frances Kline with student Laura Reyes.

Collier Emergency Medical Services Director Dr. Robert Tober receives FMA Leadership Award

At the Florida Medical Association’s Board of Governors meeting, one Florida physician is recognized for outstanding leadership in the provision of emergency medical services. The Collier County Medical Society is pleased to announce that this commendation – the Roy M. Baker, M.D. Award – was given to 30-year Society member and Medical Director of the Collier County Emergency Medical Services Robert B. Tober, M.D. on Sunday, October 18, 2009 in Key Largo, Florida.

“Dr. Tober continues to impress our membership with his unremitting dedication to the field of emergency medicine,” says Joseph Gauta, M.D., president of the Medical Society’s Board of Directors. “Through his efforts, our community has seen his extraordinary achievements in the form of improved first response time and programs that streamline cardiac care intervention.”

Since 1973, Dr. Tober has managed the community’s emergency medical services needs, whose model was awarded the nation’s top honor by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics in 2000. Through his efforts,

Collier County has one of the lowest cardiac arrest response time records in America, an average three minutes from door to emergency room. Additionally, the area now boasts a 53 percent success rate in the number of cardiac arrest patients who return to spontaneous circulation through paramedic intervention, compared to a national average of 6-10 percent!

Dr. Tober broadened his influence in 1986 when he joined the Governing Board on EMS Education, the Faculty of the University of Miami, and became an affiliate faculty member of the American Heart Association. In 1999, he was elected President of the Florida College of Emergency Physicians, and within a year launched the Code-Save-A-Heart Program, which receives international attention and reports one of the lowest mortality rates for acute myocardial infarction anywhere in the world. Dr. Tober later initiated the Code-Save-A-Brain Program to attack acute stroke injury as fast as possible. These programs have significantly reduced door-to-needle times from 7-8 minutes to 3 minutes.

But Dr. Tober’s greatest triumph was in 2005, when he created an innovative Pit Crew Concept

for dealing with patients in cardiac arrest. The concept gained worldwide attention and Dr. Tober was invited to appear on “Good Morning America,” to discuss its application. Still in effect, the concept – a choreographed approach to arrest management – resulted in Collier County EMS/FIRE and all Collier’s first responders gaining a return of spontaneous circulation in an amazing 53 percent of cardiac arrests in 2008.

The Roy M. Baker Award was created by the House of Delegates in 1995, and is given to a physician or layperson whose efforts have greatly contributed to the protection and health and safety of the citizens of their community, or the state of Florida, either in preparation for or during the time of a natural or caused disaster.

This is the third award recognizing and honoring Dr. Tober’s leadership in 2009.

The Collier County Medical Society is a professional organization of physician members practicing in Collier County, and is located at 1148 Goodlette Road N., Naples, FL, 34102, telephone 239.435.7727.