

# Your News

Jensen Beach, Stuart, Palm City, Hobe Sound

YOUR NEWS • MARTIN COUNTY • WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2013

## 4 GIVING BACK

### Keep Martin Beautiful volunteers beautify Indiantown

BY EVELYN LESPINASSE  
YourNews contributor

**INDIANTOWN** — More than 160 people gathered in Indiantown Feb. 23 to kickoff Keep Martin Beautiful's annual Great American Cleanup. The cleanup in Indiantown was the first event of a series of community cleanup events that will take place from March 1 to May 31.

Volunteers spent the morning removing nearly 6 tons of wilted plants and shrubbery, old plywood, litter and other debris from the Booker Park community in Indiantown.

Although volunteers of all ages came out to beautify the neighborhood, teenagers played a dominant role during the cleanup efforts and proved just how dedicated they are to improving and preserving the quality of life for all of those living in Martin County.

Among those lending a hand were students from South Fork High School's Junior ROTC and girls basketball team.

Col. James Daly, leader of the South Fork High School JROTC, was very pleased with the number of students who came out to help the community.

"These types of events teach our youth about how to be a better version of themselves — community-minded, committed and hardworking. Watching their enthusiasm endure throughout the day made me proud to call them our future leaders," he said.

Every year Keep Martin Beautiful (KMB), along with Keep America Beautiful affiliates across the country, participates in the Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest, annual community improvement program. In addition to community cleanups campaign that takes place over

three months, KMB hosts the Extreme Martin Makeover, which is a series of projects that focus on litter removal, revitalization and beautification efforts in specific neighborhoods throughout Martin County. This year is the second year of the Extreme Martin Makeover: Indiantown Edition, and expands the work that volunteers did in 2012 to repair and revitalize 40 homes in Booker Park.

The widespread success of Extreme Martin Makeover events is due mainly to all of the dedicated volunteers, but also to the strong community partners that include Habitat Angel, Indiantown Non-profit Housing Inc., Habitat for Humanity of Martin County and Indiantown Cogeneration, Inc. These organizations continuously dedicate their time and effort to improving the communities throughout Martin County and enhancing the quality of life for all of the county's residents.

Volunteers are needed for the follow-up project in Booker Park on March 16. Volunteers will be painting homes and landscaping. If you are interested in joining KMB for this cleanup, or if you would like to host your own cleanup in your community, please call KMB at 772-781-1222, email [infokeepmartinbeautiful.org](mailto:infokeepmartinbeautiful.org) or visit <http://www.keepmartinbeautiful.org>.

"When we host an Extreme Martin Makeover, our goal is to instill community pride. We want neighbor helping neighbor, year after year, so that our projects have long-term positive impacts for the residents. We have had success with this with help from our sponsors, our community partners and our dedicated



Submitted to TCPalm.com/Your News  
Keep Martin Beautiful volunteers, including South Fork High School JROTC members, participate in the 2013 Great American Cleanup.

volunteers," KMB Logistics Coordinator Rob Ranieri said.

Thank you to the sponsors who have made the 2013 GAC events possible, which include Seacoast National Bank, Martin County Solid Waste Authority, Treasure & Space Coast Radio, Red Tail Hawk, Redeemer Lutheran, Habitat for Humanity of Martin County, Indiantown Ministerial Alliance, First United Methodist, Waste Management, Christ Fellowship, Victory Garden International, Palm City Presbyterian Church, South Fork High School JROTC, Lowe's, The Firefly Group, Ampersand Shirt Shack, Steven Martine Photography,

Freedom Waste Services, AgTec, Archer Western, Florida Power & Light, Sailor's Return, Wallace Automotive, AmeriSweeps, Cook Electric Inc., NisAir, Waste Pro, Whitticar Boat Works, and Culpepper & Terpening.

About Keep Martin Beautiful  
Keep Martin Beautiful is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit community organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Martin County through litter prevention, promotion of recycling, improvement of solid waste management practices, and beautification and community revitalization

activities. KMB signature events and programs include the annual Environmental Stewardship Awards Ceremony, International Coastal Cleanup, Great American Cleanup, Adopt-A-Road program, Adopt-A-Street program and other educational and outreach activities.  
Find KMB on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/KeepMartinBeautiful>, follow KMB on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/KMB-martin> or visit <http://www.keepmartinbeautiful.org>.  
About Habitat Angel  
Habitat Angel is a faith-based nonprofit Christian organization dedicated to loving God and loving others through positive actions. Habitat Angel is committed to working together with churches, organizations, cities, counties, states, groups and individuals, to help repair and rejuvenate homes, buildings and ultimately people's lives. Choosing projects based on community relationships and working with organizations and families, Habitat Angel addresses the real needs that people have on any given day. For more information, contact Habitat Angel at (772) 678-0357 or [infohabitatangel.org](mailto:infohabitatangel.org).

About INPHI  
Indiantown Non-Profit Housing, Inc. (INPHI) was established in 1979 and is a 501(c)(3) specializing in the development and management of low and very-low income housing. INPHI promotes the general social welfare of the community and provides long-term, safe, decent and affordable housing, community, social and economic development opportunities for low income residents of Indiantown. For more information about INPHI, call 772-597-3667 or email [infoinphi.org](mailto:infoinphi.org).