BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MARTIN COUNTY

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

VOLUME 3

HOBE SOUND TOPPING OUT CEREMONY

Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County celebrated a construction milestone at the Hobe Sound Club with a Topping Out Ceremony recognizing the placement of the building's highest structural element. BGCMC leadership, Board members, community supporters, and the Proctor Construction team gathered to mark the progress of the new Club.

The ceremony recognized Proctor Construction employees and subcontractors for their work on the project, along with the architectural team at Architects Design Collaborative. Guests also enjoyed a barbecue buffet provided by Fork in the Road, BGCMC's culinary workforce development program.

The project represents a significant investment in the Hobe Sound community, creating a new facility to accommodate BGCMC's educational, workforce development, and youth enrichment programs. Construction continues as the organization prepares for the next chapter of Club programming in Hobe Sound.








ACADEMIC SUCCESS: AMERICORPS OPENING DAY






BGCMC celebrated the return of its AmeriCorps Literacy Program with an Opening Day ceremony attended by organizational leadership, AmeriCorps volunteers, community partners, donors, and elected officials and their representatives. The event marked the beginning of a new year of service focused on strengthening literacy skills among elementary school students.

The program provides individualized and small-group literacy instruction to students in kindergarten through fifth grade at four BGCMC Clubs. Working in alignment with Martin County School District, AmeriCorps volunteers provide additional instruction and practice to help students develop foundational reading skills and improve academic performance.

The event also recognized the community partners and supporters who helped make the program's return possible. WPTV NewsChannel 5 covered the celebration, bringing additional attention to the literacy resources available to local students through BGCMC.

CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP: CHARACTER COUNTS! WEEK

Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County celebrated Character Counts! Week in partnership with Martin County School District (MCSD), reinforcing a community-wide commitment to the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Powered by BGCMC, the initiative brings schools, families, and community partners together to promote positive character and recognize those who demonstrate these values.

This year's celebration included Power Greetings and student spotlight recognitions, highlighting students who lead by example and make a positive difference in their schools. Expanding the program's reach, BGCMC is also introducing adult spotlight awards to recognize community members who demonstrate these same values through their actions, leadership, and service.

Through its partnership with MCSD, BGCMC continues to extend Character Counts! beyond the classroom, recognizing positive role models of all ages and encouraging a shared commitment to strong character throughout Martin County.











CLUB EXPERIENCE: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



Martin County Fire Rescue visited the Bill & Barbara Whitman Club in Indiantown for an interactive Disaster Preparedness experience focused on emergency response and personal safety. The experience reached 110 members in grades K–8, who learned directly from firefighters about their protective gear, the role of EMTs, and how equipment such as a gurney is used during emergencies.

Members also learned the P.A.S.S. method for operating a fire extinguisher: Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep. A hands-on simulator allowed them to practice the technique in a safe environment, turning important safety information into a practical learning experience.

The event gave members a better understanding of how first responders serve their community while equipping them with knowledge they can use to respond safely in an emergency.









CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP: COMPASSION BENCH DEDICATIONS

Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County dedicated new Compassion Benches at the Bill & Barbara Whitman Club in Indiantown, the John & Marge Bolton Club in Port Salerno, and the Greater Stuart Club. Members at each location helped decorate their Club's bench, contributing their creativity to a project focused on kindness and inclusion.

The benches provide designated spaces where members can connect with peers, particularly when someone needs companionship or encouragement. By helping create these spaces, members participated directly in an initiative that encourages friendship, compassion, and positive relationships within their Clubs.



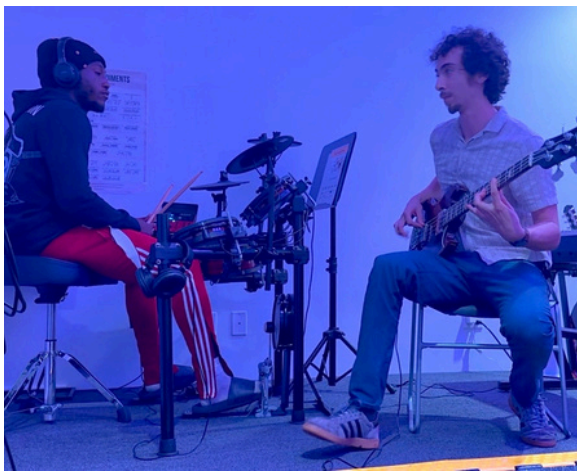








STAFF HIGHLIGHT: PABLO FALCON, STUDIO CLUBHOUSE DIRECTOR









For Pablo Falcon, music has been a lifelong passion. Raised by parents who played instruments and inspired by a father who served as his elementary school music teacher, Pablo began pursuing music seriously after high school before eventually finding his way into music education.

Today, Pablo brings those experiences together as BGCMC's Studio Clubhouse Director, a role he describes as a dream job he never saw coming. Through the Studio Clubhouse, members learn instruments, write and record music, perform, and explore podcasting, gaining a creative outlet while being introduced to different forms of artistic expression.

For Pablo, the work is also deeply personal. By sharing the encouragement and guidance that shaped him as a young musician, he hopes to give members the same kind of support as they find their own creative voice and begin to see where it can take them.



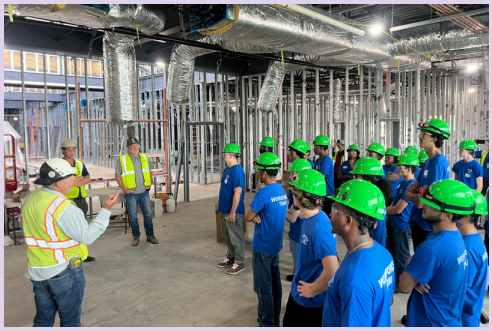
CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE LATEST EDITION OF FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS OF MARTIN COUNTY, FEATURING "FLETCH'S PERSPECTIVE."

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: HOBE SOUND CONSTRUCTION SITE TOUR

BGCMC Workforce Development students visited the Hobe Sound Club construction site to observe the skilled trades involved in building the future Club. Hosted by Proctor Construction, the tour gave students an opportunity to see how technical skills and construction processes are applied on an active job site.

Students observed the work underway and learned about the coordination required among different trades throughout the construction process. The visit connected their classroom and hands-on training with professional applications, providing exposure to the work environments and career opportunities available in the construction industry.






HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

BGCMC's approach to youth development extends beyond traditional after-school programming, incorporating professional care and everyday activities that help members build essential life skills, understand their emotions, and navigate challenges. In recognition of World Mental Health Day, kindergarten through third-grade members participated in an activity combining literacy, physical movement, and emotional awareness.





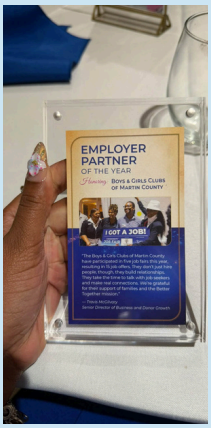
Following a read-aloud of The Color Monster, members participated in an outdoor SPARK scavenger hunt, identifying colors associated with different emotions. The activity demonstrated how BGCMC integrates personal development into daily programming, complementing the individualized care and guidance available through its on-site support professionals.




WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: EMPLOYER PARTNER OF THE YEAR







Boys & Girls Clubs of Martin County's Workforce Development Program was named Employer Partner of the Year by Better Together at the DOie Awards for Central East Florida. The recognition acknowledges BGCMC's commitment to helping young adults pursue meaningful employment while addressing the financial realities facing many participants and their families.

A central component of the program is its earn-while-you-learn model, which allows participants to receive compensation while gaining hands-on training and developing industry-specific skills. This approach helps reduce financial barriers to career preparation, allowing young adults to contribute to their households while working toward greater economic independence.

The award recognizes BGCMC's role in bridging the gap between workforce training and employment, demonstrating how partnerships with organizations like Better Together can expand access to career opportunities for young adults and their families.

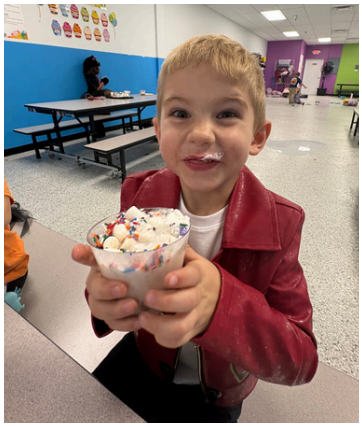
CLUB EXPERIENCE: HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Halloween festivities took place across all five BGCMC Clubs, bringing members and families together for seasonal activities and Family Night celebrations. These events encouraged family participation, strengthened connections with Club staff, and brought the Club communities together.

At the John & Marge Bolton Club in Port Salerno, President & CEO Keith “Fletch” Fletcher, Board Chair Elizabeth Ainslie, and several BGCMC Board Champions joined the celebration, spending time with members and their families while enjoying the festivities. Their participation provided a firsthand look at Club activities and an opportunity to connect with the young people and families served by BGCMC.











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IF YOU’RE NOT ALREADY FOLLOWING BGCMC, CLICK THE LINKS TO SEE HOW THE CLUBS, STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS, AND VOLUNTEERS ARE MAKING AN IMPACT EVERY DAY.