



811 23rd Avenue East
 Bradenton FL 34208
 mealsonwheelsplus.org
 941-747-4655

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Tropical Nights

2011 ON THE MEDITERRANEAN
 CHECK INSIDE FOR DETAILS!

TIME TO SHOP!



Christmas in July

Treat yourself to a day of shopping and fun that benefits our PLUS programs. The fun includes: door prizes, raffles, music, special gift deals and more. Food and beverages will be available at our 9th Street Bistro. Renaissance on 9th, 1816 9th St. West, Bradenton, FL 34205. Dates & times coming soon. Call 941-749-0100 for updates or vendor information.

GOURMET GIFTS!

Grandma's Goodies

They're not just delicious...they're an opportunity to support your favorite charity, Meals on Wheels PLUS! Indulge your sweet tooth!

Order gourmet cookies & confection combos for office parties, meetings, family get-togethers, or as gifts.

Call 941-749-0100 to place your order, or visit mealsonwheelsplus.org



Thank you to our Annual Golden Fork Sponsors
 Find out how you can become an annual or event sponsor. Call 941-749-0100 today!

update SPRING 2011

811 23rd Avenue East
 Bradenton, Florida 34208
 941-747-4655 Fax: 941-747-9871
 info@mealsonwheelsplus.org



on the MOVE

To get your news online, sign up at www.mealsonwheelsplus.org today. Your information will be kept confidential.

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Ellen J. Campbell
 Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee

Dear Friends,

Spring is upon us, which is always a busy time of year for us at Meals on Wheels PLUS as we prepare for our 18th Tropical Nights fundraiser. Tropical Nights "On the Mediterranean" promises to be another spectacular event! Guests will experience the sparkling coasts of France, Italy, Greece, Morocco, and Spain – all from the beautiful waterfront home of Bill & Peggy Robinson in Northwest Bradenton. The event will take place on Saturday, April 9th, 2011, and you are invited to join us! (Ticket information and other details are listed on page 3.)

Events like Tropical Nights, with all the sponsors, underwriters, and volunteers, help spread the word about Meals on Wheels PLUS and raise much-needed funds for our programs. Also essential to our operations is the generosity of individual donors and local organizations who support us throughout the year. We could not accomplish all we do for seniors and the hungry without your care and compassion of our neighbors and friends.

Spring is also the season for the Feinstein Challenge, where a portion of every dollar or pound of food donated to The Food Bank of Manatee is matched, through a national campaign to end hunger. Details of how you can help are listed on page 2. Also inside this edition of "On The Move," you will see the 2010 facts and figures, and I hope they impact you as much as they have impacted me. When you think of the thousands of homebound seniors and the millions of pounds of food distributed to our neighbors in crisis, it is almost difficult to comprehend. Yet through the generosity of our community and the dedication of our staff and volunteers, we are able to serve the people who need us most throughout Manatee County.

From the Board of Directors and all of us at Meals on Wheels PLUS, I thank you for your continued support. Together, we truly are making a difference in our community!

Sincerely,

Ellen J. Campbell
 President/CEO



GOOD DEEDS

The Junior League of Manatee donated \$8200 and food for The Food Bank.

The Lakewood Ranch Women's Club raised \$6,000 for Meals on Wheels PLUS.

Lakewood Ranch Rotary awarded a \$5,800 grant towards security screening costs.

The Bradenton Eagles donated \$1,690 for Daybreak Adult Day Services.

The Bridge Street Merchants Association donated \$400 collected during their holiday celebration and boat parade.

Several local banks made generous donations to the programs of Meals on Wheels:

- Bank of America • BB&T • First Bank
- Wachovia • Whitney Bank

Thank you all for your support!

BALL GAME BENEFIT

Get tickets for the Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Houston Astros baseball game on March 23, 2011, when \$1 of each ticket sold will go to Meals on Wheels PLUS. Stop in the 9th Street Bistro before the game for a pulled-pork BBQ sandwich, Cole slaw and chips for just \$5. The Bistro is open 11-2 pm, Monday-Friday.

CLAY BIRD BENEFIT

A portion of proceeds from the Spring Sporting Clays 100 Bird Tournament on April 9, at Sarasota Trap, Skeet & Clays will benefit Meals on Wheels PLUS. For more information call Bob Fowinkle at 941-755-2628.

by the numbers

HOW WE BENEFIT EVERYONE

When you consider the big picture, our mission of assisting seniors to remain independent, and stay in their homes not only helps them, it benefits us all:

- ♥ Medicaid (our tax dollars) spent \$58,055 last year on nursing home costs per person.
- ♥ Medicaid (our tax dollars) spent \$5,982 last year on in-home care per person.
- ♥ Our assistance saved over \$68 million just in Manatee County by allowing our clients to stay in their home.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Laurie Fox

"As a volunteer for Meals on Wheels, I am not only delivering a hot nutritious meal, I am delivering love! A simple smile or kind word means the world to some of these special people who eagerly await for us to arrive! It is a wonderful organization and 'I am the one blessed' for being part of it!" Laurie is a Seniors Real Estate Specialist with Coldwell Banker. Call 941-747-4655 if you would like more information on volunteering.

FOOD BANK HEROS

During the months of November and December more than 370,000 pounds of food were donated! So many organizations hosted food drives that we couldn't possibly list them all. We extend a heartfelt thanks for helping us provide for our neighbors in need.

Join us in the Feinstein \$1 Million Challenge to Fight Hunger

For the 14th consecutive year, Alan Shawn Feinstein from Rhode Island will divide \$1 million among hunger-fighting agencies nationwide, including The Food Bank of Manatee. We encourage you to host a food drive or donate March 1 - April 30, because all food and monetary contribution at that time, will be added to the matching challenge total. Please remember to specify that your contribution during this time is for the Feinstein Challenge.



Thank you to the University Park Women's Club

Because of their tireless efforts, The Food Bank of Manatee received a donation of \$10,000 and numerous baby items. Thanks to a grant from the Lakewood Ranch Community Fund, we also have brand new baby barrels for collections to raise awareness of the special needs of kids under two years old and infants.

WAL-MART FOUNDATION GRANT

The Food Bank of Manatee recently received a 24' refrigerated truck (valued at \$87,763) through a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. We use the vehicle to pick up food donations from area retail stores, which we distribute to our 80+ local partner agencies. The truck allows us to safely transport more fresh produce, meat, and dairy from stores, which means we can provide our agencies with more nutritious food for infants, children and families in need.



18th Annual Benefit Celebration, Saturday, April 9, 2011, 6-11 pm

Bill and Peggy Robinson are once again providing a beautiful water-side setting.



Photo by Susan Wilcox, Sarasota Herald-Tribune.

Come for the food!

Chef Joe has created some of the tastiest dishes from the Mediterranean: enjoy beef bourguignon, a dessert crepe station, tzaziki, lamb moussaka, fruttii di mare pasta, wild mushroom gnocchi, chicken tagine, and salmon with apricot glaze. Spanish tapas-style appetizers will be provided by Ezra, The Beach House, Harry's Continental Kitchens, and SOMA Diner.

Come for the festivities!

The competing bartenders are back by popular demand! Visit Mary Forristall for Casablanca Cocktails, Bob Simons for Bellini Bombshells, Summer Smith for Greek Tigers, and Will Robinson for the French Flamingo. All tips will be

donated to the cause, and may the best bartender win!

Come for the fun!

Dance under the stars to the music of Available Sound DJ Rob Gerhart, witness amazing professional dance demonstrations by David & Rox, and take a chance to win a trip, raffles and terrific silent auction items.

Come for the future!

As guests your contribution to our mission is vital as we continue to serve needy in Manatee County.

Tickets: \$150 (\$100 is tax-deductible) Call 941-749-0100 or visit www.mealsonwheelsplus.org

Sponsored by

Bill & Peggy Robinson



**Bright House Networks • Johnson Printing
Living Out East • Nitelites • MedXChange
The Mosaic Company • Whitney Bank**

Together, we made a difference in 2010:

<p>160,440 nutritious meals were produced and 1,308 home-bound seniors were served through our meal programs.</p>	<p>2.6 million pounds of food were distributed to the hungry, including 2,058 Emergency Family and Baby Baskets for our neighbors in crisis.</p>	<p>2,026 trips were provided through our Senior Wheels program for seniors who can no longer drive.</p>
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Contact Kristen Theisen for more information at 941-749-0100, or clip and mail the attached form to Meals on Wheels PLUS 811 23rd Ave East Bradenton FL 34208

We invite you to consider leaving a legacy with Meals on Wheels PLUS – one of compassion, dignity and the promise of nutritious food to those in need. Planned giving options include making sure your loved ones are taken care of, and that your legacy will be honored for years to come.

Please contact me about my Legacy Society opportunities

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City, St, Zip _____

Email _____

Thank you for your consideration!



NEW PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES!

Our members gave us several great suggestions about activities to provide at the Senior Enrichment Center. We've added Bunco, Euchre, day trips, pancake breakfasts, and more.

Call 941-749-0100 if you would like to join or schedule a tour of our Senior Enrichment Center. Come see the great opportunities for active adults over 50. Members get terrific perks including discounted pricing.

Renaissance on 9th
1816 9th St. West
www.renaissanceon9th.org

LOYALTY REWARDS

Join our Friday Lunch Club at the 9th Street Bistro and after five great lunches, the sixth one is on us! Shop at Generations Gift Shop and earn even more discounts. Call 941-749-0100 for details.