

WARNER ROBINS ROTARY CLUB

Sept. 15, 2009

PROGRAM REPORT

Sept. 8, 2009

Dr. Georgette Chekiri

Our own Dr. Chekiri gave a progress report on the Houston County Community Action Team for the Ferst Foundation, which is dedicated to promoting literacy by providing an age-appropriate book each month for the first five years of a child's life.

It's an effort Rotary has spearheaded.

"Without this Rotary Club, the Ferst Foundation would not be here in Houston County," Chekiri said.

The program is important because over half of all low-income families don't have a single piece of reading material that's appropriate for a child to read in their home, she noted. The idea of the Foundation - founded by Robin Ferst in Madison, Ga. - is to begin literacy efforts at birth. Parents are encouraged to be active in the process as well.

"When parents read to children, the kids associate reading with fun and love rather than homework and school," Chekiri said.

The Ferst Foundation partners with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a non-profit organization that selects the books and negotiates with publishers to keep costs down to \$36 a year per child.

Grandparents can sponsor their grandchildren with a one-time payment of \$100 and then \$36 each year. Books can be mailed to any address in Georgia through this program.

The local community action team is charged with public relations, fundraising and registration of children. Currently about 185 kids are receiving books in Houston County - but plans are to reach 85 percent of the 10,000 children under 5 in the county within five years.

Our club's upcoming golf tournament will benefit the Houston County Community Action Team.

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

If you have a suggestion for an upcoming program, contact Randy Randall by phone at 922-9234 (work) or 951-2178 (mobile), or by e-mail at glcml@cox.net.

Greeters

Today Chad Bryant, Bruce Shaver, Ashley Sitz
Sept. 22 Ryan Gilchrest, Carl Slocum, Guy Starling

Invocation.....Terry Horton

Pledge of Allegiance.....Mike Hale

Four-Way TestShane Reagan

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Larry L. Najera Jr.,

Najera Design + Associates

On Social Media in Middle Georgia

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sept. 22 Bob Hoffman, basketball coach, Mercer University
meeting will be at Macon State College

Sept. 29 Terry DiDiego, executive director,
CASA of Houston County

Oct. 6 classification talks

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anyone who has information that needs to be printed in the weekly bulletin is asked to get it to Rex Gambill by 5 p.m. Friday. Information can be e-mailed to rexgambill@yahoo.com, or call Rex at (478) 447-7676 (cell).

