

# First Benefits Group, Inc.

*Make a Difference!*



## **October 2012**

What are you doing to make a difference in the lives of others?

### **Make A Difference Day**

Make A Difference Day was initiated in 1990 by "USA Weekend" magazine and falls on the fourth Saturday in October. This year it is October 27.

The purpose of this day is to bring people together to assist others through volunteerism. Who you help, be it your neighbors, your community, or a non-profit organization, is a personal choice. The important thing is that you join the millions of people who will be volunteering their time in an attempt to improve the life of another.

A few volunteer organizations are highlighted below. Perhaps this will spark an interest for you.

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### **Did You Know?**

**Susan G. Komen For the Cure:** Susan Goodman Komen, was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 33. She died of the disease at age 36 in 1980. Komen's younger sister, Nancy Goodman Brinker, who believed that Susan's outcome might have been better if patients knew more about cancer and its treatment, promised her sister that she would do everything she could to end breast cancer. To fulfill that promise, Brinker founded the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation in Komen's memory in 1982.

### ***October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.***

**ASPCA:** Founded in 1866 by Henry Bergh, the ASPCA was the first humane organization in the Western Hemisphere. It's mission is "to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals throughout the United States." The ASPCA works to rescue animals from abuse, pass humane laws and share resources with shelters nationwide.

### ***October is National Adopt a Shelter Dog month.***

**Senior Friendship Centers:** Was founded in 1973 by Brother William Geenen, CSC, to help older adults in Southwest Florida live with dignity and independence. Their belief focuses on "People Helping People" through volunteerism for the delivery of services to older adults. With our country's aging population, this charity is ripe for expansion throughout the nation.

*October is also:  
National Domestic  
Violence Awareness  
Month*

*National Diabetes  
Month.*

*National Lupus  
Awareness Month*

*International Drum  
Month*

*National Vegetarian  
National Seafood  
National Country  
Ham  
National Popcorn  
Popping  
National Pizza  
National Cookie  
and  
National Apple Jack  
Month*

The content provided above is for informational purposes only, and does not serve as an endorsement of any of the organizations mentioned.

### **October is National Clergy Appreciation Month.**

**Habitat for Humanity:** In 1968, in Americus, Georgia, 42 half-acre housing sites with four acres reserved as a community park and recreational area, were laid out at the Koinonia farm. Capital was donated from around the country to start the work. Homes were built and sold to families in need at no profit and no interest was charged. The basic model of Habitat for Humanity was begun.

**Millard and Linda Fuller** were responsible for the creation of Habitat for Humanity International in 1976.

**Boys and Girls Clubs of America:** Boys & Girls Clubs of America was started in 1860 by three women in Hartford, Conn.: Mary Goodwin, Alice Goodwin and Elizabeth Hammersley. Believing that boys who roamed the streets should have a positive alternative, they organized the first Club. Originally created as a Boys Club, Girls were added in 1990. Boys and Girls Clubs of America's mission is to offer education and activities designed to build character.

**We haven't even made a dent in the number of formal charities with which you can volunteer.** In Sarasota and Manatee County alone, over 1900 not-for-profit organizations with at least a 5 year history, have a presence!

**Volunteering for the day might mean getting your neighbors together to pick up the litter in your neighborhood.** Maybe you'll help a friend or neighbor with a project such as yard work, painting, small repairs, or housekeeping. You might simply make a meal for someone, give packaged food to the Food Bank, or keep a housebound individual company.

**It doesn't really matter what you choose to do,** but if each of us pitches-in, in some way, we can Make a Difference!

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At First Benefits Group, Inc. we make it our goal to make a difference in people's lives by educating our clients through quality, timely and useful information. We offer knowledge and provide solutions for making your money more efficient. We believe there is more to be gained by avoiding losses than picking *apparent* winners.

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