

FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

OFFICE OF FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



MITCHELL E. DANIELS, JR., GOVERNOR
PAULA PARKER-SAWYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



2008 Conference Highlights: Henry Lozano



One of the many highlights of the 2008 Governor's Conference on Service and Volunteerism will be our keynote speaker, Henry Lozano. Mr. Lozano currently serves as Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of USA Freedom Corps. As such, he encourages citizens to serve causes greater than themselves and to work to strengthen the culture of service, citizenship, and civic responsibility in our nation.

A long-time civic activist and former CEO of Californians for Drug-Free Youth, Mr. Lozano has served as a direct appointee under Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps, Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America programs.

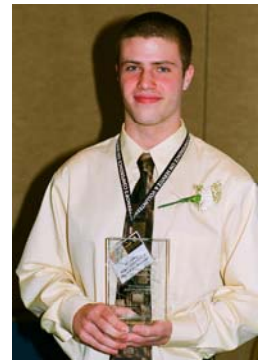
Mr. Lozano will deliver his address as part of the Governor's Conference Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, March 25th.

Only two weeks remain to take advantage of discounted Early Bird registration rates for the 2008 conference. To register for the conference or the awards luncheon, visit <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2472.htm>.

2007 Governor's Awards Spotlight: Thomas Gaither

Thomas Gaither of Indianapolis was the winner of the 2007 Governor's Award for Volunteer Service in the Youth Category. Thomas was nominated by Rosemarie Kuntz, the Service Learning Coordinator for Perry Township Schools, for his extensive service throughout high school. He has been active in his community through several service-learning projects, is a Spanish tutor, and has contributed thoughtfully as a member of the township's Service Learning Advisory Board.

Rosemarie Kuntz wrote in his nomination that, "Thomas' strengths lie in his integrity, in his unassuming leadership, in his respect toward all persons, regardless of age or ethnicity, and in his keen perceptions within community collaborations. Thomas Gaither is a dedicated citizen who exemplifies civic virtue, giving of himself to improve the common good."



Only one week remains to nominate a deserving volunteer for the 2008 Governor's Awards for Volunteer Service. To submit a nomination, go to <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2509.htm>.



Now Introducing: OFBCI Training Resources!

Need training on non-profit management or organizational maintenance but unable to attend training events? Check out the new FREE training resources provided by the OFBCI on the following topics:

Starting a Non-Profit
Grant-Writing
Boards & Governance

Resource Development
Financial Management
Program Development

All resources now available at: <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2393.htm>

WorkOne job fair will match job seekers with employers hiring skilled workers in Marion County

WorkOne
Indianapolis

Job seekers looking for good jobs in manufacturing, logistics and the construction trades can connect with employers at a job fair next Tuesday. The fair will take place **Tuesday, February 19th**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Ramada Inn, 7701 E. 42nd St. (Interstate 465 and Pendleton Pike, Exit 42) and is free to all job seekers.

In addition to holding job fairs, the five WorkOne centers in Marion County offer such no-cost services as weekly sessions in career counseling, General Educational Development and computer literacy classes, resume writing, interview skills and scholarships. Free information sessions about these services are held weekly at all WorkOne centers; more information is available at www.workoneindy.org.

Employers interested in participating in the job fair or in using other WorkOne services for businesses should contact Sandi Jarboe at (317) 358-4534 or sjarboe@jobworksinc.org.



February is American Heart Month, a time to raise awareness for cardiovascular disease. Youth are encouraged to join “**What Moves U**”, a free program from the American Heart Association and the National Football League designed to get kids active in all areas of their life. To learn more, visit <http://www.WhatMovesU.com>

The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, a coalition of Federal agencies that will help support communities and organizations working on behalf of our nation's youth, has recently been established. This program builds on the success of Helping America's Youth. To learn more, visit <http://www.helpingamericasyouth.gov/>



According to a working paper from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, there is strong evidence that youth with religiously active parents are less affected later in life by childhood disadvantage than youth whose parents did not frequently attend religious services. To read the full report, visit <http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/research/wpaper.nsf/rwp/RWP07-037>

Earth Day 2008 is coming on April 22. Thousands of groups have jumped on the bandwagon and Earth Day events are popping up all around the globe. From Tokyo to New York, from Togo to Buenos Aires, Earth Day Network is registering worldwide events on their site.

To sign up and get involved, visit <http://ww2.earthday.net/~earthday/node/80>



Peace Child International empowers young people to take responsibility for peace, human rights and the environment through education, leadership development, and direct participation in the events that shape our world community. Be the Change! Program provides small scale grants for youth-led projects. To learn more, visit <http://www.peacechild.org/www/pci/?id=121> The application deadline is **March 31st**.

Dr. Suellen Reed, Superintendent of Public Instruction, is encouraging local schools and community organizations to sponsor food service programs for children from low-income families this summer. The federal Summer Food Service Program for Children (SFSPC) reimburses local sponsors that serve healthy meals and snacks to children 18 years and younger in low income areas during the summer months. Sponsorship is open to public and private nonprofit groups, including local government entities, religious organizations, summer camps, recreation centers, and others. In addition to providing food service, many sponsors offer educational, enrichment, or physical activities or partner with others to do so. During 2007, 142 Indiana sponsoring organizations participated in the Summer Food Service Program, serving over 2 million meals across the state. The application **deadline** for potential sponsors is **April 28, 2008**. All sponsors receive training to learn how to plan, operate, and monitor a successful program. For more information on becoming a SFSPC sponsor, call 800-537-1142 or visit the Department of Education Website at www.doe.in.gov/food/summer



Suicide Prevention: Are You Gambling with Your Life? Thursday, April 3, 2008 from 8 AM to 4:30 PM Indiana Government Center South in Indianapolis

This is a one day learning opportunity to develop and expand your knowledge of suicide prevention and intervention strategies. You will participate in workshops presented by experts in the fields of suicide prevention and intervention research as well as others designed to increase your practical skills in working with and understanding individuals, families and groups in need of suicide prevention and intervention programs. Workshops will be offered to provide a better understanding of prevention programs offered across our country and state so you may evaluate and determine which programs may best suit your community needs. Programs will focus on a variety of issues related to suicide prevention and intervention which include alcohol use, gambling issues, firearm accessibility, antidepressants and survivors' of suicide. In addition, a Survivors' of Suicide Panel will share personal experiences regarding their losses to suicide in an effort to educate and personalize all efforts being made to prevent suicide and to implore individuals, organizations and communities to implement prevention programs before anymore lives are needlessly lost.

For more information, contact Michelle Smith at 260-481-4184 or via email smithmr@ipfw.edu

The Rotaract Club of IUPUI invites your participation in A City-Wide Yard Sale Fundraiser for Teachers' Treasures. This special event will be held **April 25th-27th**. You and your organization makes money by hosting a sale location! The event fundraiser makes money from their online sale directory, corporate sponsorships, and food vending. For more information, please visit www.circlecitysale.org or contact coordinator@circlecitysale.org





Looking to buy a home?

HAND's Downpayment Assistance Program may be just what you need to move into a new home and begin to build your equity.

What is HAND, Inc?

Hamilton County Area Neighborhood Development or HAND, Inc. is a nonprofit organization located in the Noblesville Housing Authority offices. HAND, Inc. creates and promotes affordable, safe, quality housing throughout the county.

How can HAND, Inc. help me?

HAND, Inc. has funding from the State and County to help build three new homes and provide closing cost and down payment assistance for eligible families. These homes will be located in an existing subdivision in Noblesville, and will have three bedrooms, at least 1350 square feet, 2 baths, 2 car garages and partial brick exterior.

Am I even eligible?

In order to be eligible, interested homeowner(s) must be below a certain total household income as follows:

Number of people in the Household	Income Limit (your family's income must be at or below this amount)
1	\$36,450.00
2	\$41,700.00
3	\$46,900.00
4	\$52,100.00
5	\$56,250.00
6	\$60,450.00
7	\$64,600.00
8	\$68,750.00

In addition to income qualification, a family must have decent credit and will need to qualify for a conventional mortgage from a bank or mortgage company.

So, what's the catch?

There is no "catch," but the homeowner must agree to participate in 8 hours of homebuyer pre-purchase training and must put down at least \$500 of his/her own funds toward the down payment. Because the homeowner will have a mortgage, there will be regular monthly payments, but they will be more affordable than they would be if the owner bought a house without the HAND down payment and closing cost assistance.

How do I learn more?

Call Sage Hales, Director of Housing Development with HAND, Inc. at (317) 773-5110, ext. 106 or e-mail her at handinc@sbcglobal.net. The first step will be to meet with Sage, review the program details, and discuss your finances and potential eligibility.