



**FAITH IN ACTION OF EDGAR COUNTY**

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**“A Neighbor’s Independence Depends on You.”**

[www.fiac.com](http://www.fiac.com)



*May 15, 2008*



***SERVING OTHERS***

If I can stop one heart from breaking,  
I shall not live in vain.  
If I can ease one life the aching,  
Or cool one pain,  
Or help one fainting robin  
Unto his nest again,  
I shall not live in vain.

*Emily Dickinson*

***Here we grow!***

Faith in Action would like to welcome *Janette Vandermark* as our newest FIA Volunteer! She is very interested in helping out in the areas of visiting and working during busy times in the FIA Office. Janette is a wife, mother, grandmother and former nurse.

*We are happy to welcome Janette as our newest FIA Volunteer!*

***New Volunteer Orientation***

**New volunteer orientation will be held:  
Thursday, May 15 and Thursday, June 19th  
At the FIA Meeting Room  
1:00pm – 3:00pm**

Other times and places can be arranged to fit individual time schedules.

All new Faith in Action volunteers and anyone interested in learning more about our program are encouraged to attend.

Call Nila at 466-6388 for reservations.



*~ Creative Card Angels ~*



Just a reminder and invitation to let you know our *Creative Card Angels* will be getting together **June 24th** at **10:00 A.M.** to “create” a card to remind our care receivers that they are in our thoughts and hearts. Plan to join these ladies for a morning of light hearted fun! Questions?, Call Cathy 275-3500; Debbie 275-3755; or Nila 466-6388.

# News-News-News

## New Email Address

Faith in Action of Edgar County now has a new email address. Please add [fiac@joink.com](mailto:fiac@joink.com) to your email address book.

## Monday Morning Coffee Break

We are having a great time during our every Monday Morning Coffee Break! If you are in town on Monday mornings from 8:30 – 9:30, stop in for a hot cup of coffee or tea and fresh baked donuts! The coffee, tea and donuts are free, but the conversation is priceless! So, plan to join us by jump starting your week at our Monday Morning Coffee Break!

## New Faith in Action Video

Thanks to the hard work and skill of Nate Alexander, Children's Minister of Lake Ridge Christian Church, Faith in Action will soon have a new 15 minute video! It will be divided into three five minute segments, each depicting the various ministries of Faith in Action of Edgar County. Nate has video taped volunteers and care receivers in action as each share their involvement in the program. The video was designed to be used as three 5 minute mission moment presentations. He has also agreed to put together a five or six minute video that will capture the highlights of the 15 minute video. I am very excited to see this come together and appreciate all the time and effort that Nate and all people involved have willingly put into it.

## Gasoline Prices on the Rise! ----this is no big surprise----however,

Faith in Action is wanting to help our volunteer drivers with this dilemma. We encourage all drivers to complete a volunteer mileage reimbursement form. This covers all miles driven with a care receiver to any medical appointments local or out of town. FIAEC reimburses \$.25 for each mile driven. We realize the strain putting gas in your car now puts on your wallet. We also realize the sacrifice of making these trips for others. Therefore, we want to help you in your effort to reach out to help others. Reimbursement forms are available in the office. Call or email and we will be happy to send a few copies.

## Shrine BBQ Weekend ----- We Need Your Help

Faith in Action will once again have a Bake Sale during the Shrine Weekend Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. We need helpers to work in the booth for two hour increments throughout both days. The times will be 8:00 – 10:00; 10:00 – 12:00; 12:00 – 2:00; and 2:00 – 4:00. If you are interested in helping during any of these times, please call or email me. You might have a couple times in mind just incase your time slot is filled. I hope to be able to have two people working each session.

We also need baked goods for the bake sale. If you would like to donate items such as fruit pies (no cream pies, please as we can't keep them cold enough); cookies; cakes (pieces or whole cakes); brownies; dry noodles; breads; puppy chow; fudge; or anything else you think might be appropriate. These items can be brought to the office on the Thursday before, if you like. Each item should be wrapped and ready to sell. For example if you donate cookies, you can put several on a plate, sealed in a gallon baggie or wrapped in plastic wrap. Or smaller quantities could be put in little sandwich bags. Kids love to purchase those. Pies and cakes should be sealed in plastic wrap. Our booth will be scheduled for an inspection from the dept. of health at least once during the event. Therefore, it will be necessary for a list of ingredients to be available for each different item donated. We will keep the ingredient listing available in a file box in the booth. This is such a fun weekend! We meet so many great people! Last year our bake sale made \$334 to help promote the work of FIAEC! We are hoping to even do better than that this year!

Please call or email me if you would like to donate goodies or your time for the Shrine Weekend!  
 ~~~~Thanks!



*Volunteers reporting hours on the rise!*

You are making a difference and it is being felt all over the county.

Thank you for all you do.

During the month of March - 37- volunteers reported their hours of service. This was a few less than February, but several service areas increased! In March there were -163- contacts with their care receivers! This reflects an increase of 12 contacts with our residents over the month of February! Reaching out and touching lives is what Faith in Action is all about. Seeing the increases of those reaching and those being touched each month continues to be heartwarming. We truly are putting our Faith in Action and it is on the move!

Services and Times and Miles provided were:

Miles Driven in March – 3,278!

**FAITH IN ACTION VOLUNTEERS.....ON THE MOVE! MONTH OF MARCH, 2008**

| Service                    | Hours             |                                        |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Transportation             | 160               | (+18 hours in comparison to February)) |
| Visiting                   | 26                | (+11)                                  |
| Shopping/Errands           | 14                | (+3)                                   |
| Light Housekeeping         | 0                 |                                        |
| Yard Work                  | 0                 |                                        |
| Telephone Contacts         | 6                 |                                        |
| Sewing and Mending         | 0                 |                                        |
| Special Projects           | 6                 |                                        |
| Office Assistance          | 82                |                                        |
| Board Meetings/Fundraising | <u>12</u>         |                                        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>306 Hours!</b> |                                        |

**THANK YOU FIAEC VOLUNTEERS!**

Remember to Visit [www.fiaec.com](http://www.fiaec.com)



*Pizza Hut Night*



Come and spend Memorial Day with us Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 4PM – 8PM. Lillie Davis will be our Hostess. She is a member of the FIAEC Board of Directors and works part time as a nurse for Dist. 95 and HRC. She along with her husband Marion have devoted a lot of time as volunteers of FIA. Lillie was one of the original board members who were responsible for bringing the program of Faith in Action to Edgar County!

Pizza Hut has donated nearly \$2,400 to help the work of Faith in Action during the passed two years!  
 Plan to share an evening with your friends and .....meet Lillie at “The Hut”! ☺



*Burger King Night*



Burger King Nights continue to be a huge success! Last month FIA earned \$109.95, just by getting together with friends and eating at Burger King! As a special treat during our night on May 8<sup>th</sup>, carnations were handed out to all ladies in honor of Mother’s Day. You never know quite what to expect during our evenings at Burger King.

**June 12<sup>th</sup> will be our next fun night!** Beings we celebrate father's in June, I am sure there will be a surprise for them as well! During the past year Burger King has donated over \$1,237!

Coupons are always available inside or taped to the door if you are going through the drive-thru!

## *A little History about the roots of FIAEC (born 9/1/2003)*

### Faith in Action

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Faith in Action is a network of interfaith, [volunteer caregiving](#) service providers with hundreds of locations throughout the [United States](#). It was initiated by the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#), a national charity dedicated to improving the health and health care of Americans, headquartered in [Princeton, New Jersey](#). The purpose was to provide start-up monies to create community volunteer programs across the country to serve people who are isolated or homebound due to long-term health conditions as the result of old age and/or [disability](#). The initial grants were made in 1984. Over the course of twenty years, more than 1,500 local programs were funded and many continue to serve people with long-term health conditions.

A major focus of Faith in Action is provision of volunteer assistance to those who need assistance with normal, everyday activities due to a health condition. *Faith in Action* is a privately funded program developed and supported by a private foundation – not by the government. Faith in Action volunteers come from churches, synagogues, mosques and other houses of worship, as well as the community at large. Volunteers help people by providing non-medical assistance with tasks such as providing a ride to the doctor, visiting with people on a regular basis and helping with grocery shopping or home maintenance.

#### Faith in Action Timeline

- 1984 – Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds 25 pilot programs involving “interfaith volunteer caregiving” for people with chronic health conditions.
- 1993 – The Foundation expands the program and awards \$35,000 grants to create 1,091 new local Faith in Action programs from 1993 to 1999.
- 2000 – The Foundation announces an additional expansion, and funds 599 more programs from 2000 to 2003.
- 2003 – Singer and actress [Della Reese](#) becomes national spokesperson for Faith in Action.
- 2004 – The basic grant program is discontinued, but grants of up to \$75,000 are provided to 15 regional/state-wide “collaboratives” of existing Faith in Action programs.
- 2005 – The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation announces that effective July 1, 2008, it will complete its support for Faith in Action and transition the national program to local ownership—looking to congregations, community agencies and local philanthropies to provide ongoing support.

- 2008 – An independent national membership network of Faith in Action programs is formed to provide continuing support after the close of the Faith in Action National Program Office. As of April, there are 629 active Faith in Action programs nationwide.

*It is not difficult to find articles to share about the joy of serving as a volunteer, but this one I got a smile out of as it is:*

### **A Day in the Life of a Coordinator of Volunteers (Program Director) :-)**

Dr. Seuss made silly rhymes, That is my life at times, at times.  
 I ply my trade with volunteers, Have honed my skills o'er years and years.  
 And with each passing month-day-week I've learned to count on no repeats.  
 There is no constant, there is no way to plot a Volunteer Manager's day.  
 Except to say by the time I go home- I've bonded with my telephone!  
 I talk, I talk, I talk some more, I recruit, I train, I ask, I implore.

In the midst of a community fray I coax, I persuade, I turn quietly gray.  
 I provide a shoulder and a gentle pat, then turn 'round and say, "You can't do that!"  
 I must wheedle the Board to free up some cash, Must step on my impulse to do something rash.  
 I've thank yous to write, as well as begging letters, I've a message on the machine from someone knitting sweaters.  
 My voice mail is jammed with good news and grumblers But half of the callers left no name or numbers.

I need a photographer, I need a mall sitter, I need a ticket seller...but no more knit sweaters  
 There's a birthday tomorrow, a sympathy call too, But still the Director asks, "Need more to do?"  
 They are old and young and in between, They're stalwart and cheery and ever so keen.  
 They have children and siblings and lovers or spouses, But they give of their time, leaving their houses...

To do some driving, filing, teaching, ferrying, Web-making, fund-raising, speaking and sharing.  
 They give of their skill, effort and passion pushing the boundaries of care and compassion.  
 They're picky and messy, late and on-time. They're clever, finicky, frenzied, sublime.  
 They're on the Board, they're on the street, And I'm the common ground on which they meet.  
 And meet they do...and me they share The only universal is...they care.

The Christmas Grinch or the Cat in the Hat, This coordinator's a lot like that!  
 The topsy-turvey hoorays and jeers Of clients, care givers, bosses and peers.  
 The wants and the needs of disparate groups, to be rallied and tallied and teamed into troops...  
 Troops that help, that try, that stumble- But whose genuine efforts help keep me humble.

Cause despite all the chaos, the re-vamping and silliness  
 A coordinator's life abounds in willingness...

**For everything I do, I get more in return,  
 For everything they give, I have to learn.**

-Ann West, UNICEF Victoria British Columbia Canada

Thank you and God Bless,  
*Nila Nugent*  
Program Director



### *Coming Up*

- |                                                                |                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 15<sup>th</sup></b> (Thursday)                          | - New Volunteer Orientation FIA Meeting Room ~ 1PM – 3PM        |
| <b>May 26<sup>th</sup></b> (Monday)                            | - Pizza Hut Night with Lillie Davis                             |
| <b>June 4<sup>th</sup></b> (Wednesday)                         | - FIAEC Board of Director's Meeting 8:30 AM – FIA Meeting Room  |
| <b>June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup></b> (Mon. - Fri.)      | - VBS Mission at Hume Christian Church                          |
| <b>June 12<sup>th</sup></b> (Thursday)                         | - Burger King Night (Happy Father's Day)                        |
| <b>June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup></b> ( Fri. - Sat.) | - Shrine BBQ Weekend – FIA Bake Sale on NE Corner of the Square |
| <b>June 23<sup>rd</sup></b> (Monday)                           | - Pizza Hut Night with Diana Acord as Hostess                   |
| <b>June 24<sup>th</sup></b> (Tuesday)                          | - Creative Card Angels                                          |