

NEWS BRIEFS

Stay Alive, Just Drive hold awareness event

Stay Alive, Just Drive is holding "Bikes, Blues & BBQ" Nov. 23 at the Sun Sports Mall on Colonial Boulevard to raise awareness for its effort to curb distracted driving.



Today, most people consider inattentive and unsafe driving by others as a major personal threat to themselves and others. Ultimately, the goal of Stay Alive, Just Drive is to reach every motorist in Lee County, with its message encouraging motor vehicle operators to support the effort to curb distracted driving. Awareness is the key to understanding how one second can change a life forever.

The organization recently received a \$75,895 in grant from the Florida Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. The local news media, public safety organizations, businesses, civic organizations, churches, schools and clubs have partnered to help support the initiative.

"Bikes, Blues & BBQ" runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and features the popular Cracker Blues band. Food, drinks, door prizes, vendors and plenty of fun is promised by organizers.

The Sun Sports Mall is at 3441 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers. For information, go to www.sajd.org ■

Political consultant Kinnaman to lead women's discussion

"Women Discussing," a new BIG ARTS workshop, will host political consultant Brenda Kinnaman on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 a.m.

Ms. Kinnaman worked on Sen. Hillary Clinton's first campaign, and Sen. Barack Obama's bid for the presidency. She has a political science degree from George Washington University and a public administration degree from St. Louis University.

She has helped elect senators, mayors, and presidents through her consulting business. Ms. Kinnaman also worked to elect the first African American mayor of St. Louis, Freeman Bosley Jr., in 1993. She was instrumental in seating the first African American judge on the bench in Arkansas.

Aside from working for political candidates, Ms. Kinnaman has worked to promote adult stem cell research, the environment and smoking prevention.

BIG ARTS requires participants to pre-register at least three days before start date. BIG ARTS Workshops are sponsored by Sony Corp. of America.

For further information about workshops, classes and events at BIG ARTS, to purchase tickets, sign up for workshops, or to become a member, stop by BIG ARTS, 900 Dunlop Rd., Sanibel, call 395-0900, e-mail info@BIGARTS.org, or visit www.BIG-ARTS.org. ■

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