# Fall 2022

#### A NEWSLETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE CLINIC

	Marie Constitution of the		Á
Welcome			
Patient and		•	
Volunteer Stories2-3			000
VIM Colo 2022			
VIM Gala 2022			####
Peace, Love & Flower Power 4-5			[A3]
The Oak Society5	The state of the s		
The dan decisty			шини
VIM Gala 2023			
Gala Chairs and Sponsorship			
Opportunities6-7			
Golf for Life		XIIIIII	
Robert F. Novins Memorial		AND ANAMA CHANG	
Golf Tournament8-9			
VIM Fit Fest8		The state of the s	
Thank You Donors			
Thank you Supporters10-11			
Thank you Volunteers & Partners 12-13			
		[]`	
MOOOO			

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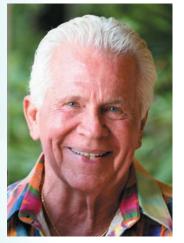
**Patient Eligibility** 

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## It's all about the Dignity of Compassionate Care



I was asked how I got involved with VIM Clinic. It started pretty simple, I enjoyed the Gala and all the kind people I met there. But after a few years of attending, it became so much more. I came for the party, but stayed for the mission!

I am so proud of the compassionate care that VIM Clinic provides for our Martin County neighbors in need. I see the true dedicated compassion in the staff, health care providers, volunteers, donors and partner

organizations. Compassion can't be underestimated, it is where the "care" begins. Steve Maraboli said it best, "A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal."

I share the Clinic's story with everyone I meet. VIM Clinic has been providing free health care to uninsured, low-income adults ages 18-64 since 1995. Our patients make up the heart of our community working a variety of services. In 2021 we served over 9,500 patient visits, providing them the dignity of excellent health care so they and their families can flourish.

There are many ways you can support our mission. You can join us at one of our exciting events like the *Dancing Around the World Gala* on January 28th, 2023 at Willoughby Country Club or the 22nd Annual Robert F. Novins Memorial Golf Tournament and Reception on May 5th and 6th, 2023. You can help spread the word about VIM Clinic by sharing our mission with your friends and neighbors. You can also plan a tour of the Clinic - we love to show it off!

Financial support is crucial to our success. For your convenience you can make a charitable donation with the enclosed envelope or call our Community and Donor Relations Manager,
Lisa Baxter at 772-463-4128 X 211. Thank you for being a wellness champion and giving the gift of health.

With sincere gratitude,

Took on By weste

Frank M. Byers Jr.

## The Treatment is Free - The Care is Priceless

I am now in my second year as Medical Director of Volunteers in Medicine Clinic. I honestly didn't expect I would still be working at this stage of my life, but VIM has given me an opportunity to continue to do what I love in a setting that is so conducive to doing it well. I am lucky to work with a staff that all share the same dedication to providing the best care possible to our patients.

Having practiced in this community for over 30 years, I can say without hesitation that the care our patients receive is second to none. With our onsite staff and with our close relationship with Cleveland Clinic Martin Health, Diagnostic Imaging Services and local volunteer providers we are able to offer our patients access to a full spectrum of medical care. We provide preventative healthcare and



screen for cancers based upon current guidelines. We also pay it forward and provide clinical training to the next generation of physicians and nurse practitioners by teaching medical students from Florida State University College of Medicine and nurse practitioner students from Florida Atlantic University School of Nursing.

Oftentimes our patients say it best. One recently wrote, "I have experienced excellent medical care in the past and wasn't confident that a place that offered medical assistance for the "economically challenged" could provide any care resembling the level of medical proficiency I had in the past. I witnessed the staff and volunteers at every visit being so professional and sensitive to the needs of all their patients. They don't practice medicine for the organizational and managerial aspects, they do their work for the love of humankind."

None of this would be possible without the support of our community.

Thank you for all that you do.

Jordan Bromberg, MD Medical Director "Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have." - Winston Churchill

#### **LOCAL IMPACT**

**Volunteers in Medicine Clinic 2021** 

Patient Base: 738

Patient Visits: 9,578

**Patient Specialist Referrals: 592** 

Value of Volunteer Hours: \$570,179

Medications Disbursed: \$4,025,508

Cleveland Clinic Martin Health Absorbed Patient Costs: \$4,070,328

Value of Medical Care Provided because of the Community and our Partners: \$9.7M

#### A Patient's Story



#### Michael - New lease on life!

At 15, Michael had his first hip surgery and was fine for many years. But recently, his hip health deteriorated to the point that his leg was turned outward, he could hardly walk, and was in constant pain. Michael, who is 42 years old today, became unable to work and found his way to VIM Clinic in December of 2021. Once enrolled, Michael received medical help, and Kim Ouellette, VIM Clinic's social worker, helped the patient with transportation and a food stamp application.

Dr. Jordan Bromberg, Michael's primary provider, started to treat him for various conditions and referred him to in-house volunteer orthopedist, Dr. John Delahay, who quickly realized surgery was the only option. As he works at Cleveland Clinic Martin Health, Dr. Delahay was able to make a quick connection with orthopedic

surgeon, Dr. Vincent Fowble. He performed a total hip arthroplasty on Michael, who has made incredible progress with the help of physical therapy following the surgery. He is now walking normally with little to no pain.

Michael has also been successfully treated for Hepatitis C, something he has been living with for 8 years, as he never before had access to the expensive curative treatment. "VIM Clinic has given me a new lease on life", were Michael's words when asked about his current health situation.

## William Heller. PhD, receives the Inaugural USP William M. Heller Lifetime Achievement Award

Of all places, William (Bill) Heller, Ph.D., a beloved volunteer at VIM Clinic for over 26 years, chose the Clinic to host the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) as they presented him with the inaugural William M. Heller Lifetime Achievement Award. The award, named in his honor, was presented by representatives of the USP on June 1st, 2022.

USP, founded in 1820, is an independent scientific organization that collaborates with the world's top experts in health and science to develop quality resources and standards for medicines, dietary supplements and food ingredients.



"Dr. Heller's lifetime contributions to USP's mission, public quality standards and mentorship of other USP volunteers have had an extraordinary impact in expanding the supply of quality medicines and improving patient lives," said Ronald T. Piervincenzi, Ph.D., CEO of USP. "His more than 60 years of service to USP set a record that may never be surpassed. The USP William M. Heller Lifetime Achievement Award honors Dr. Heller's remarkable example of leadership and volunteerism in public health."

Congratulations to Bill for this fantastic recognition!

First ever chiropractic volunteer

For the first time in VIM Clinic's history we signed on a volunteer chiropractor after the VIM Fit Fest in October 2021. Dr. Thomas Kleinman, who was one of the health care vendors who joined us for the free wellness fair last fall, mentioned at the event that he is very interested in helping our patients and getting involved with VIM Clinic. Shortly afterwards, he met the whole team at the Clinic and offered to see VIM patients at his practice down the street. Dr. Kleinman accepted the first referral in early January this year and has seen 16 more patients since then. One of the patients seen by Dr. Kleinman, was very impressed by the thoroughness of the treatment, which included examination, X-rays, review of the results and putting together a treatment plan, as well as recommendations of self-care at home. The patient said, "This is a gift that only those that experience will appreciate." We are equally thankful to Dr. Kleinman for joining our team and helping our patients!



#### Freestyle Libre 2 for diabetic patients

The arrival of continuous glucose monitors (CGM) has changed the way diabetics can live their daily lives while managing a chronic disease. For decades, diabetics' only option for monitoring their blood sugar was to prick their finger with a needle and test their blood. This is painful, and only shows a snapshot reading, not a trend of whether the blood sugar is rising, falling, or staying steady. CGM's allow the patient to understand how their blood sugar is affected by food, activity, amount of sleep, and a myriad of other factors that can influence their numbers.

In 2021, VIM Clinic reached out to Abbott Laboratories and was able to receive some free samples of the Freestyle Libre 2 to use on patients. VIM Clinic coincidentally employs a diabetic who had already been using the Freestyle Libre system and she was able to help orient the patients on applying and using the sensor. Appropriate patients were identified by the primary care providers and offered the use of the system. Abbott Laboratories provides samples as often as possible. When there are no samples on hand, VIM Clinic purchases the sensors for the patients, thanks to a generous donation.

At least 16 patients have started on the Freestyle Libre 2 since the first samples arrived. On average, these patients have decreased their A1C, which is their 3 month average glucose reading, by 1.5 points. They've reported gaining better insight into how their behaviors affect their blood sugar, which has allowed for more real-time correction. Not to mention, they are happy to be free of all of those finger pricks!







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The Peace, Love & Flower Power VIM Gala was just the gas!
Our Gala Chairs, Sharyl and David Lum kept the evening hip
and hilarious. With dancing to the far out Original Studio 54 Band
& belly laughs with comedians Spaz McGoorty and Casey Peruski.
We all were digging Willoughby Golf Club's fantastic food and service. We are grateful
to our patient Robert M. for sharing his experience at VIM Clinic and to all who attended and
generously contributed to keep VIM Clinic thriving and grooving long into the future!

Photos by Liz McKinley



Peace Love

Flower

VIM Gala 2022

















You may have noticed the oak leaf next to the names of some of our donors in the newsletter. The leaf symbolizes membership in The Oak Society. It is an elite group of philanthropists who commit to remembering VIM Clinic in their will or other planned gift. This very special donation ensures your passion for helping others lives on for many years. We had our 1st annual Oak Society Reception in April at Pietro's on the River, sponsored by Wilmington Trust. It was a beautiful evening recognizing these special individuals who so generously have included VIM Clinic in their planned giving. We look forward to our 2nd annual Oak Society Reception in 2023. If you would like to learn more about how easy it is to make a planned gift and join The Oak Society, please contact our Community & Donor Relations Manager, Lisa Baxter, at 772-463-4128 x211 or lbaxter@vimclinic.net. Please join us to grow the future of VIM Clinic.

## Dancing Cirorind the World

VIM Gala 2023

#### Willkommen! Dobrodošli! Bienvenue!

It's with great excitement that we invite you aboard for the 2023 VIM Clinic Gala, Dancing Around the World. Come along for the ride, dress in your favorite elegant attire, black-tie optional, or in a themed outfit, reflecting one of your favorite places on earth. Along with culinary highlights from around the world, dances representing various cultures and styles will be enjoyed. You too, will be able to dance to the fine tunes of Euphoria Band.



This outstanding event raises almost half of VIM Clinic's annual budget and this year's Gala Chairs, Bob Massey and Annie MacMillan, are excited to continue their support and invite you to do the same. Hopefully, our patient stories will touch your hearts and you will help us continue our journey of caring for our friends in need in Martin County.

The adventure starts at Willoughby Golf Club on January 28, 2023 at 6pm.

See you there! Andiamo!

Chairs
Bob Massey
Annie MacMillan



#### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Taj Mahal

\$50,000

10 Gala Tickets, 8 VIP Party Tickets, prominent 2-page Gala Program Ad

**Pyramids of Giza** 

\$25,000

10 Gala Tickets, 6 VIP Party Tickets, prominent 1-page Gala Program Ad

**Grand Canyon** 

\$15,000

8 Gala Tickets, 6 VIP Party Tickets, 1-page Gala Program Ad

Colosseum

\$10,000

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\$5,000

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\$3,200

4 Gala Tickets, 4 VIP Party Tickets, 1/4-page Gala Program Ad

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\$2,500

3 Gala Tickets, 3 VIP Party Tickets, 1/4-page Gala Program Ad

Sydney Opera

\$1,600

2 Gala Tickets, 2 VIP Party Tickets, 1/4-page Gala Program Ad

Machu Picchu

\$1,200

2 Gala Tickets, 1/8-page Gala Program Ad

**Ticket** 

1 Gala Ticket

\$400

Camera Ready art to be included in gala program must be received by 12/5/2022. For more information, please call 772-463-4128 ext. 216, or email gala@vimclinic.net







## VIM: FIT FEST

The Clinic held its 2nd VIM Fit Fest on October 23rd in Flagler Park. This family-friendly event had 100 runners participating in our fun 5K Color Run. 50+ health and fitness businesses and organizations were on hand for demonstrations and to share information. Check out vimfitfest.org to see all photos.

#### Thanks to all our supporters:

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WRPBiTV
YMCA of the Treasure Coast
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## 21st Annual Robert F. Novins Memorial Golf Tournament

May 7th, 2022 marked the tenth year that Carson Novins, owner of Carsons Tavern in Stuart, and his sisters Beth Novins and Jeffrey Hartt have chosen Volunteers in Medicine Clinic to be the beneficiary of their annual golf tournament in memory of their father.

This event truly represents the very best of our community's giving spirit. Hundreds of local businesses and individuals rallied with contributions and sponsorships. The event kicked off on Friday night with a festive reception at Carsons Tavern with dinner, live music, raffles and a live auction. Adding to the excitement this year was a special donation from Josephine Quinlan, owner of Celtic Golf, with a Dream Golf Vacation for 4 to Ireland valued at \$25,000.

Stuart Yacht and County Club again hosted the tournament on a beautiful day with a spirited day of golf, competition and camaraderie. A heartfelt thanks to our amazing committee, sponsors and golfers whose efforts resulted in over \$150,000 raised for VIM Clinic!

Mary Fields, Executive Director of VIM Clinic, said, "Thanks to our volunteers, medical partners, and supporters, VIM is able to provide \$1.5 million in medical care from this tournament. Thank you!"

Photos by Robert Holland





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#### **Thank You to our Supporters**

Volunteers in Medicine Clinic gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of our donors. Please accept our warmest thanks. Your support makes a big difference in our community.

Donations received between August 1, 2021 - July 31, 2022

#### **Founders**

#### \$75.000 +

Martin County Board of County Commissioners George & Patsy Conrades FL Association of Free & Charitable Clinics Robert F. Novins Memorial Golf

Tournament Dr. Howard Voss, Daren & Jane Voss

#### Grand **Benefactors**

\$50,000 - \$74,999

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Guillermo AbesadaTerk MD John K.B. Afshar MD Anis Akrawi MD Paul Avidon PA Christopher Bailey MD George Balis MD Kevin Barnewold PA Gregory Barron MD Brett Beecher MD John Beelitz MD Gregory Benedict MD Norman Bennett MD Alan Blackburn, II MD Mauricio Botero-Velez MD Craig Breslauer DPM Brian Breslaw MD Adam Buncy PA Hali Burke PA-C William Carlson MD Jorge Castillo MD Juan Castro Combs MD Anthony Cerminara MD Kasem Charnvitayapong MD Elizabeth Clemow-Tilly APRN Tara Cobb PA Berjan Collin MD Jacob Connelly MD Teresa Cortinas MD William H. Davenport MD Nicolas deFabrique DMD Nicholas DeMarco PA-C Alpana A. Desai MD Scott Desman MD Karl Drehobl MD Christopher Duncan MD

Shawn T. Engebretsen DMD Peter Evans MD Blair Ezbicki APRN Amy Eversole MD John B. Fasano MD Ted Feldman PA-C Darrell Fiske MD Stephen Fitzgerald MD Robert I. Forster MD Ronald Frenkel MD Vincent Fowble MD Joseph Gage MD Paul Gallogly MD Sunil Gandhi MD Frank Garcia MD Nidia Garcia APRN Juan C. Giachino MD George Goldman MD Matthew Green DMD Chervl Grumbach APRN John M. Guerrero MD George J. Haas MD Heather Hackney Alan Haspel DMD Howard Helfman MD Nathaniel Hill MD Jeffrev Hillmann MD Corbin Hodder DO Donald Hoffman MD James Hoffman MD Todd Horkins MD John M. Houri MD Daniel Husted MD Nicholas lannotti MD Arif Ishmael MD

Henry J. Jean MD Chaquera Johnson PA-C Anna Iskandar PA Joseph Janke DO Daniel Jones MD Steven Jordan MD Jordan Kaltman DMD Check Kam MD Christopher Katakowski APRN Michelle Keen APRN Sefi Khamo MD Resham Khilnani MD Daniel King MD Robert Klafter MD Nelson C. Klaus III MD Matthew Klein MD Thomas Kleinman DC Philip Laird MD Robert Lambert PA-C Adrian Lavina MD Nickola Lekic MD William E. Lippisch DMD Michael E. Lustgarten MD Michael MacKechnie MD Steven Malosky MD Juancarlo Martinez Gonzalez MD Jayce Reed PA Sean McGregor DO George McLain MD William McManus MD Stephen McIntyre MD Marlene Mercado MD Mark Michels MD John Minni DO Sandra Montie PA-C

Mark Moran MD

Bill Moskos MD Philip W. Moyer MD Adam Mues MD Larry Mufson MD Aaron Muncey MD John Murphy MD Benjamin J. Ngo MD Ryan O'Meilia MD Navomi Omura MD Sykanya Pachaidee MD Kym Pallatto PA Norman Palmeri MD Stephen Patten MD Sonya Pease MD Matthew N. Pebbles MD Mark Perlman MD Morgan Peterson DO Eric Pfeiffer MD Anui Prasher MD Caitlyn Prucinsky PA-C Vadim Purygin MD Moti Ramgopal MD Juan Ramos MD Satvesh Rana MD Kiran A. Reddy MD George Rittersbach Jr. MD Anthony Romano PO Seth Rosen MD Kelly Rospigliosi MD Edward Rossario MD Michael Ryan LMHC Daniela Saadia MD Denise Sanderson MD Julio Sanguily III MD

Evelio Sardina MD Houssein Abdul Sater MD Zahraa Sater MD Edward Savage MD Theodore Schiff MD Todd Schroeder MD Gaurav Shah MD Adarsha Shrestha MD Sandy Shultz MD Jeremy Singer MD Jonathan Slonin MD Jason Stabley DO Shanna Stone APRN James Strauss DMD Sorrell Strauss DMD Thomas C. Suits MD Paul Swanson MD Michael Sweet MD Samuel Tapper MD Michael Trociuk MD Aron Trocchia MD Jean Vickers MD Robert Vickers MD Andrew Vollman MD James Vopal MD Craig Wengler MD W. Edward Wengler MD Michael Wertheim MD Bella Williams APRN Grace Wu MD Kimberly Wyatt MD Ihsan Yassine MD Heather Yeckes-Rodin MD David Zamos MD

#### **Referral Offices**

Ameripath Florida Inc.

Advanced Digestive Care of Stuart

Atlas Health Solutions Breast Care Center of the Treasure Coast Cardiology Associates of Stuart Center for Specialized Dentistry Cleveland Clinic Martin Health Coastal Care Corporation Coastal Eye Center Coastal Urology of Stuart Cornea & Refractive Consultants of the Palm Beaches David L. Smythe Wound Center at Martin Health deFabrique Aesthetic Dentistry Diagnostic Imaging Services Doctor's Outpatient Surgery Center East Florida Eve Institute ENT and Allergy Associates of Florida Florida Orthopedic Specialists

#### 2022 VIM GALA Volunteers

Araceli Calderon Anne Cooling Evelyn Dodd Vickie Dodds Cheryl Donofrio Petra Eberle Linda Evans Mary Fields Carol Howe Jessica Johnson David Lum

Sharyl Lum Carolyn Michaud Mauri Mozeleski Kelli Mulvihill Estella Negron Kim Ouellette Kimberly Perron Judi Powell Sandy Razavi Anita Salas

Florida Vision Institute **Gastroenterology Consultants** Hematology Oncology Associates of the Treasure Coast Laser & Surgery Center, Palm Beaches Martin Back & Spine Center Martin County Anesthesia Group Martin Gastroenterology Group Martin Medical Group Martin Memorial Medical Center, Inc. Martin Primary Care, LLC Midway Specialty Care Center Moffitt Cancer Center Oral-Facial Surgical Associates Orthotic & Prosthetic Clinic Palm Beach Pathology Pulmonary Internal Medicine Associates Retina Care Specialists Rheumatology Associates

Robert and Carol Weissman Cancer Center at Martin Health Romagosa Barron Dermatology Group Schmidt's Optical Schoppe Foot and Ankle South Florida Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Stuart Cardiology Group Stuart Cardiovascular Associates, PLLC Stuart Eye Institute Stuart Oncology Associates Stuart Urology Group Symmetry Vascular Center The Surgical Center of the Treasure Coast, LLC Treasure Coast Anesthesia Group Treasure Coast Medical Concierge, LLC Treasure Coast OB/GYN Associates Treasure Coast Pathology Treasure Coast Podiatry Center Treasure Coast Surgery, Inc. Water's Edge Dermatology

#### **Medication, Supplies & Services Donors**

Advanced Digestive Care of Stuart Advanced Safe & Lock Athena Health/Epocrates AmeriCares/USAccess Associates in Infectious Diseases Direct Relief Network Florida Dept. of Health, Martin County Florida Gastroenterology Specialists Friends at Loblolly Gastroenterology Consultants Hobe Sound Family Care

Market on Main operated by Stuart Main Street

Martin Health Auxiliary Martin Health Physician Group Martin Nephrology & Internal Medicine Associates Martin Health Pharmacy, Mike Tesson OxyPros Plus **Publix Pharmacy** Schoppe Foot and Ankle St. Mary's Episcopal Church Stuart Oncology Walgreens Water's Edge Dermatology WebSuited. Rhett Llovd

#### 2022 Robert F. Novins Reception & Golf Tournament Volunteers

Sarah Andersen Lisa Baxter Araceli Calderon Juliet Ciaravino Rick Cowan Colleen Diapoules Chervl Donofrio PBR Dave Jennifer Duque Petra Eberle

Emma Elliot Mary Fields Vacey Garringer Robert Holland Dorothy Hyland Rich Hyland Michael Izzolo Jessica Johnson Brendan Leddy Leslie Mandody

Kim McMath Mauri Mozeleski Kelli Mulvihill Mindy Nunnelee Kim Ouellette Kimberly Perron Mariann Reddington Alba Santiago Marian Stauffer Katie Thompson

#### 2021 VIM Fit Fest Volunteers

Fatima Alvarez Sandy Basil Laura Bianco Katherine Chapman Anne Cooling Michelle Dadko Evelyn Dodd Alan Eddison Shelley Eddison Elizabeth Froehling Jane Hall Carol Howe

Jessica Johnson & Family Kyle Keenan Joanne Kelly Tracey MacLeod Zachary McGuire Mauri Mozeleski Kim Ouellette Judi Powell Ken Ramey Sandy Razavi Beverly Renganeschi Candy Rheder

Carty Ricci-Burleigh Kim Romer Alba Santiago Janice Stanford JBHS ROTC Students Carol Sullivan Jessica Tharp Justice Thoman Vanessa Vasquez Mike Wiggins Gene Zweben

#### **VIM Clinic Services**

VIM Clinic provides comprehensive and compassionate medical care at no charge to the patient. We offer access to a variety of medical specialties as well as minor surgical procedures, eye exams and psychotherapy.

#### **Mission Statement**

To understand and serve the health and wellness needs of the medically under-served population living in Martin County. This mission will be accomplished primarily by volunteers, retired medical professionals and other residents in the area, working in concert with current medical resources of Martin County.

#### **Vision Statement**

May we have eyes to see those who are rendered invisible and excluded; open arms and hearts to reach out and include them; healing hands to touch their lives with love; and in the process, heal ourselves.

www.vimclinic.net

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417 SE Balboa Avenue Stuart, FL 34994 www.vimclinic.net



#### Save the Date for Great VIM Clinic Events!

#### **Every 2nd Sunday of the month**

VIM Clinic at Market on Main, operated by Stuart Main Street – Flagler Park
In addition to information for patients, donors and volunteers, we will occasionally feature special guests.

Please stop by and say hello!

#### **January 28, 2023**

Dancing Around the World VIM Gala 2023 – Willoughby Golf Club

#### Spring 2023

2nd Annual Party for The Oak Society – date and venue TBD

#### May 5 & 6, 2023

22nd Annual Robert F. Novins Memorial Golf Tournament & Reception at Carsons Tavern and Stuart Yacht & Country Club