



# NEWS

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## “PINK LADIES” GIVE THEIR HEARTS TO GLADES GENERAL HOSPITAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Belle Glade, FL, March 19, 2008 – The gift shop volunteers adorned in pink jackets at Glades General Hospital give their time and dedication because they enjoy helping others. Referred to as the “Pink Ladies,” most are retired and spend time selling merchandise at the hospital’s gift shop. The group, in existence for over 40 years, consists of 14 members who would like to see membership expand.

During their most recent monthly meeting, one of the ladies offered to crochet a beautiful throw in a pattern called "Shifting Sands" (48" x 64") to be raffled to benefit Glades Healthcare Foundation, which is leading the fundraising campaign for the construction of a new regional hospital to serve the western Palm Beach County communities bordering Lake Okeechobee. Mildred Miller, a long-term resident of the Glades, created the blanket. The ladies are very excited about selling raffle tickets with a goal to sell over 1,000 at \$1 per ticket. The winning raffle ticket will be drawn on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase in the gift shop, from any of the Pink Ladies and through Glades General Hospital’s Administration Department.

The “Pink Ladies” volunteers are organized under the auspices of the Glades General Hospital Auxiliary Club, and also welcome men to join. In the past, the Pink Ladies have been responsible for purchasing important pieces of equipment for the hospital such as newborn invasive blood pressure monitor, incubators, copiers, cardiac rehab equipment, and cafeteria tables and chairs. While their main fundraising comes from the gift shop, they also host jewelry sales, book sales, art sales and uniform sales throughout the year. David Zechman, CEO of Glades General remarked, “I am excited about the Pink Ladies future contributions and growth at our new hospital and how important they are to meeting our mission of serving the community.”

The blanket will be displayed in the gift shop until the raffle in May. The new hospital will feature a larger gift shop and the quality and quantity of merchandise will continue to expand as well. “We are excited that the fruits of Mildred’s talents and time will help raise money for our new community hospital,” remarked Auxiliary President Mary Frances Burke; “The afghan is beautiful and is a labor of love representing all the Pink Ladies’ feelings about Glades General.”

### About Glades General Hospital:

*Glades General Hospital, Palm Beach County’s only public hospital, is a JCAHO accredited 73- bed acute-care facility located in the heart of a large agricultural belt on the southern shores of Lake Okeechobee. Operated by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, GGH is one of the largest employers in the Glades with just over 300 employees. The Health Care District is currently constructing a new regional hospital and medical campus that will open in 2010. Glades Healthcare Foundation is leading the \$73 million fund raising campaign for this state of the art facility that will feature all-private patient rooms. The new 70-bed hospital hopes to attract physicians and patients from all over Palm Beach County with services including: a Trauma Hawk air landing pad; a 24-hour physician staffed emergency room; obstetrics with advanced diagnostic testing; general surgery; social services; radiology and nuclear medicine.*