

"Spend enough time brushing and flossing. You need to spend three minutes brushing."

Dr. Michael Sohl

&amp; VIEWS

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## Visit Germany's Black Forest via United for Families' Le Bal Masque

Event to be held on March 2, 6:30 p.m. at Mariner Sands Country Club

**For Your Voice News & Views**

The 2013 Le Bal Masque will be held on March 2, 6:30 p.m. at Mariner Sands Country Club to benefit United for Families, a non-profit organization that positively impacts the lives of virtually every known abused or neglected child in Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin and Okeechobee counties.

As part of the annual Le Bal Masque travel series, a new locale is explored every year, with the region's cultures and customs thematically woven into the entertainment, décor and cuisine of the evening.

This year, guests will be transported to the Black Forest of Germany, where they will experience the mystery and wonder of the

enchanted forest that once lit the imaginations of the Brothers Grimm.

Guests of this black-tie affair will partake in traditional German cuisine and libations, and enjoy entertainment from the Swinging Bavarians who will perform Bavarian dance, Alpine yodeling and Austrian cowbells, all while wearing authentic attire, lederhosen!

Tickets are \$125 each or \$875 for a table of eight and can be purchased online at <http://uff.us/>

Funds raised at Le Bal Masque will go towards the Road to Success Program. While United for Families receives a portion of its funding through state and federal sources, The Le Bal Masque fundraiser provides an opportunity to raise funds for underfunded critical programs, such as its Road to Success Program, which

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Photo courtesy of United for Families

Back row, from left: Rebecca Beckett, Michelle Cavil, Amber Gilbert, Carissa Zerga, Donna DeMarchi, Jessica VanValkenburgh. Front row, from left: Karin Torsiello, Penny Morin.

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prepares teenagers for life outside the foster-care system by teaching independent-living skills such as financial planning and budgeting.

Thanks to the Road to Success program, more teens are graduating high school and pursuing college educations, while fewer are getting into trouble with the law or experiencing homelessness.

Committee members include Penny Morin, Carissa Zerga, Michelle Cavil, Jessica VanValkenburgh, Donna DeMarchi, Amber Gilbert and Rebecca Beckett.

Sponsors include: Seacoast National Bank; QVC; Secrets of Mod-

ern Parenting/Behavior Basics; Cloudspace; Ticktin Law Group; AC Advantage; Suntrust; Leopold Law; En Vogue Event Planning; Jane's Dance Boutique; Wealth Management of the Treasure Coast; Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines and Frank; Hugh Eighmie.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://uff.us/> or call (772) 528-0362.

The mission of United for Families is to break the cycle of child abuse through a diverse network of community partners and innovative services. Our vision is to become a recognized, statewide leader providing a continuum of dynamic and innovative services for children and families.