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# Gospel Fest to raise money for hurricane repairs in Wabasso

By KEONA GARDNER

WABASSO — A year later, Julianne Price still can recall the excitement residents here felt when a volunteer church mission group arrived to repair hurricane-damaged homes.

"Everyone was so amazed," Price said. "It was unbelievable. The results were tremendous."

A small army of about 382 youths and adults from World Changers spent a week painting and repairing the roofs of 26 houses last June.

Now, Price, with members of the West Wabasso Civic League, wants the group to come back and is organizing a Gospel Fest to raise funds to cover building supplies for more repair work.

Eugene Douglas, the league's president, said the group hasn't set an amount it wants to raise but needs enough money to repair at least three homes.

"We're trying to help elderly people on a low, fixed income," he said, adding the elderly residents once worked as seasonal workers, picking citrus fruit.

Douglas said the rising cost of building materials make it difficult to set a price, but he asks the public to send whatever it can.

Also, the event will feature singers and musicians from local churches, and the main attraction is a newly formed Indian River County choir.

Also, the Indian River County Heart 2 Heart program will unveil new fitness equipment at the event. The program is designed to promote a healthier lifestyle for the area's residents.

Last year, the Indian River County Commission approved \$20,000 for the group to refurbish homes in Gifford area, but not West Wabasso.

## **If you go**

What: Gospel Fest 2006

When: Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday

Where: West Wabasso Park