

Stanton Lions Hear About Eliminating Debt

By John Seymour

ORANGE COUNTY NEWS



Photo credit: Photo by Loreen Berlin

Stanton City Administrative Services Director Terri Marsh (left) was the Stanton Lions Club guest speaker Wednesday, April 14, addressing the subject matter of personal finances and getting out of debt. Also pictured is Stanton Lions Club President Barbara Dotson (right).

Controlling your finances is possible. That was the message of Terri Marsh, administrative services director for the city of Stanton, in a talk on personal finances for the Stanton Lions Club Wednesday, April 14.

Marsh said that seven percent of Americans live pay check to pay check, and for high wage earners, those earning more than \$100,000 a year, it is 80 percent because they get caught up in looking good and going farther into debt. “It doesn’t have to be that way,” she said. Marsh said people make mistakes in handling their finances.

“Ten years ago I had a burning desire to

start saving,” Marsh said. Marsh promotes financial management, which she said is a personal love of hers, in order to help people.

Marsh teaches a course for City of Stanton employees on financial management. It promotes putting a plan into action to get out of debit, save, and take other steps to improve your financial situation. When Marsh put such a plan into action for herself, she found after five years, she was in the same place. “So, I started working on one thing at a time. I worked myself out of debit. Self discipline is the key to success.” Marsh said she now has no debit except her mortgage, explaining that you have to do something ‘differently.’

She made sacrifices such as working part time at Wal-Mart while working full time in city finances. She sold a lot of her personal items. She went on a ‘clothes fast’ in buying for a year. She used the bus when gas prices became high. She went two years without cable, using rabbit ears for her TV.

Marsh advised people to be careful from whom they take financial advice. She does advocate using books by well-know financial experts. She said those who succeed are often family people; people who work hard as well as being honest. She cited such examples such as Col. Sanders, who did not fry any chicken until he was 67. She said people need to work together to do it, “one step at a time.”

For Stanton Lions Club information, www.stantonlions.org