



TWO RIVER PEOPLE

By Lynne Ward

MHA HELD VIVA LA VIDA : CELEBRATE LIFE KICK-OFF PARTY



Abbi Finch and Bill Wilson recently hosted a Viva La Vida Kickoff Party at her home for committee members and friends of the Mental Health Association (MHA). This well-attended event featured delicious Venezuelan style tapas that were donated by Sweetpepper Eatery of Bradley Beach. MHA Foundation Board President, George Whitelaw and MHA Operating Board Vice-President, Susan Tellone-McCoy welcomed the attendees and introduced this year's honoree, Ramon Solhkhah, M.D., Chairman of Psychiatry, Jersey Shore University Medical Center and Corporate Medical Director, Meridian Behavioral Health Services who is being honored for his tremendous efforts to advocate, educate, and treat those affected by mental illness and drug addiction in Monmouth County. The Mental Health Association's Fall Celebración, Viva La Vida: Celebrate Life will be held on Saturday, November 15th at Raven & the Peach in Fair Haven. Proceeds from the event will support MHA's free programs and services that are available to all families in Monmouth County. For more information about the event or sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.mentalhealthmonmouth.org, call 732-542-6422 x108 or email sdecke@mentalhealthmonmouth.org. Pictured (from left) are Foundation Board member, **Nancy Pearson**, **Pedro Trivella**, Executive Director **Wendy DePedro**, **Abbi Finch**, **George Whitelaw** and Foundation Board members **Donna Crosson** and **Stacey Donovan**.

Foundation Board member, **Nancy Pearson** (left) with **Abby Daly** and **Justine Robertson**.

Susan Tellone-McCoy and event honoree **Ramon Solhkhah, M.D.**

Operating Board member **Mike McLaughlin** (left) with **Megan** and **Mike Harper** of Red Bank.

MONMOUTH COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION CHAIR RENEE B. SWARTZ HONORED AT ARCHIVES DAY



Throughout the last four decades, **Renee B. Swartz** (second from right) has been a true library champion and advocate – as she unceasingly guided the development of the Monmouth County Library, founded the New Jersey Center for the Book, and served on both the New Jersey State Library and the School of Communications, Information and Library Studies at Rutgers University. Monmouth County officials recently gathered at Monmouth County Archives and History Day to pay tribute to Swartz's remarkable public service career. Freeholder Director and Library Liaison **Lillian G. Burry** (third from left) presented Swartz with a special proclamation from the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders honoring her years of dedicated service. Freeholder Deputy Director **Gary J. Rich Sr.** (fourth from right), and Monmouth County Clerk **M. Claire French** (left) congratulated Swartz on her accomplishments. Also pictured: Monmouth County Library Commissioner and Shrewsbury Mayor **Donald Burden**; Library Commissioner **Grace Abramov**; Jane Clayton Award winners **Angel** and **Jack Jeandron**; Monmouth County Library Acting Director **Judi Tolchin** and **Eliana Swartz** (right, Renee's granddaughter), who sang the National Anthem.

Pictured at Archives and History Day: Monmouth County Archivist **Gary Saretzky**, honoree **Renee B. Swartz** and Shrewsbury Mayor **Donald Burden**.


MONMOUTH COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HELD WOMEN IN BUSINESS LUNCHEON




The Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce (formerly Northern Monmouth Chamber) Quarterly Women in Business Luncheon was recently held at the Beacon Hill Country Club in Atlantic Highlands. The event spotlights women in business, even though both men and women attend the luncheons. Pictured is "Spotlight Presenter" **Robyn Stratton-Berkessel**, who is an author, TEDx speaker, and world-renowned expert in Appreciative Inquiry, an approach to bringing positive, strength-based perspectives into life and workplaces.



The Monmouth County Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Luncheon team included (left to right): **Debbie Wagner**, **Jill Merriman**, **Sherilyn Przelomski**, **Tess Elkins**, **Teresa Rolke**, **Debbie Downie**, **Mary Vassilakos** and **Jane McClutchy**.



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VNA HEALTH GROUP HELD "BULLISH" BENEFIT DINNER AT NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE



Visiting Nurse Association Health Group recently held a successful Benefit Dinner fundraising event at the iconic New York Stock Exchange. The event honored two VNA Health Group Trustees from Monmouth County for their extraordinary leadership and support: **Scott Carmilani** (center), president, CEO and chairman of the board of Allied World and a resident of Rumson, and Robert Dibble, managing director of Deutsche Bank, a resident of Spring Lake. Attendees who included board members, donors, VNA Health Group staff, corporate sponsors and volunteers, enjoyed cocktails in the electric atmosphere on the floor of the exchange with dinner and awards ceremony following. Guests participated in a live and silent auction and were entertained with music by Jersey Shore's rock legend Bobby Bandiera and bass guitarist Graham Maby. **Nicole Petallides**, (left) anchor and correspondent on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange for FOX Business Network, was the evening's Mistress of Ceremonies. Also pictured is **Jim Vaccaro** (Chairman, VNAHG board).

A great group of VNA supporters (above): **Alyssa Katz**, **Maria Polanksy** (VNAHG Foundation trustee), **Ann Gargano** (VNAHG Foundation trustee), **Maureen Mulheren** and **Mindy Minerva** (Chairman, VNAHG Foundation board).



Jim and JoAnn Vaccaro with **Dr. Vincent Zales** (VNAHG trustee, right).



Above: **Nancy Barone**, **Roseann Paone** and **Barbara Etter**.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY GEOFF HAUSCHILD

Dr. Greg Greco, **Dan Ranger** and **Donnie and Dakota Woodham**.



Standing (from left) are **Maggie Riker**, **Johnathan Brewin**, **Dr. Steve** and **Ally Friedel**, and **Eileen Luby** (VNAHG Foundation trustee). Seated are **Mindy Minerva** (Chairman, VNAHG Foundation board), **Daniel Minerva**, **Lindsay Minerva** and **Alyssa Katz**.



VNA Health Group was also honored to join Deutsche Bank to ring the opening bell that morning to kick off a record day of trading! Since only firms listed on the Exchange typically ring the bell, the event was a unique way to acknowledge VNA Health Group's mission, celebrate its success, and thank donors, employees and many volunteers for their passion and commitment.

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SCOTHIGH FARM HOSTED 23RD ANNUAL HALLOWEEN FEST



Halloween Fest at Scothigh Farm was a wonderful fall event held to raise funds for the VNA of Central Jersey's Children's Auxiliary which brings vital health services to children who would not otherwise have access to health care. The well-attended event boasted a petting zoo, arts and crafts, games and rides, pumpkin picking, pony rides, a chance auction, live music by Stone Bullets, and so much more! The kids had a truly fabulous day, as did the adults! Committee members included (from left): **Esther Carmilani, Lisa Halikias, Michelle Barber, Jill Drummond, Nikie Sourlis** (chair of the Children's Auxiliary), **Cindy Spitz, Kathleen Smith, Libby Haverstick, Maryam Spector, Danielle Krasko** and **Allison Landers**.



Catherine Delaney took a ride on a pony!

Committee members **Esther Carmilani, Danielle Krasko** and **Nikie Sourlis** with **Dr. Steven Landers**, CEO of the VNA Health Group.



Young attendees got the "royal treatment" of hair, make up and nails by aesthetic artist **Cindy Gosling**.



Some of the kids came in adorable costumes! Here, **Niki and Shane Haverstick** and **Dr. Tara Lally** and **Doug Schairer** are joined by 2 mermaids, a big, bad wolf, and Little Red Riding Hood!



The Ansell Family had a very nice day in Rumson at Scothigh Farm: **Mitch, Steven, Carly** and **Mary Ansell**.



Danielle and **Mike Wynn** with 6-month-old **Beatrice**.



VNA board members **Lisa** and **Debbie Docs** with board chair **Mindy Minerva** (center).



Donnie and **Dakota Woodham**, pictured with their delightful son, **Cash**, generously hosted the Halloween Fest at their home, Scothigh Farm.

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MUSICIANS ON A MISSION "BANDED" TOGETHER FOR DRUG RECOVERY EFFORTS



Regan's Hollow Farm in Farmingdale recently hosted a wonderful day of music and fundraising for CFC Loud N Clear, an organization that dedicates itself to drug recovery efforts in Monmouth and Ocean Counties, specifically, for relapse prevention programs so that people of all ages can continue to live a sober lifestyle. The event was sponsored by Musicians on a Mission, a local non-profit made up of area musicians who want to make a difference by participating in musical events to raise funds and awareness for charitable organizations. CFC Loud N Clear has helped over 175 families in the past year and has helped many more to enter much needed treatment programs. The Regan family not only hosted and co-sponsored the event, they also open their farm to the program, by hosting meetings and therapy sessions. Family members include (from left): **Ashley, Daniel** (who has now been sober for 2 years), **Emily, Lynn** and **Marc Regan**.



Rock and Roll Hall of Fame drummer **Artimus Pyle**, of Lynyrd Skynyrd, with **Dina Lombardi**.

Dawn Bearce (left) is standing with event sponsor **Chuck Gorczynski** and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame drummer **Vini "Mad Dog" Lopez**, formally of the E Street Band.



Event emcee **Jeff Raspe**, of 90.5 The Night Radio, with **Emily Grove**.



Event organizers and MOAM board members **Cathy Noblick** (right) and her daughter **Jenny Woods** of High Strung Jewelry, who designs incredible jewelry made out of recycled guitar strings.



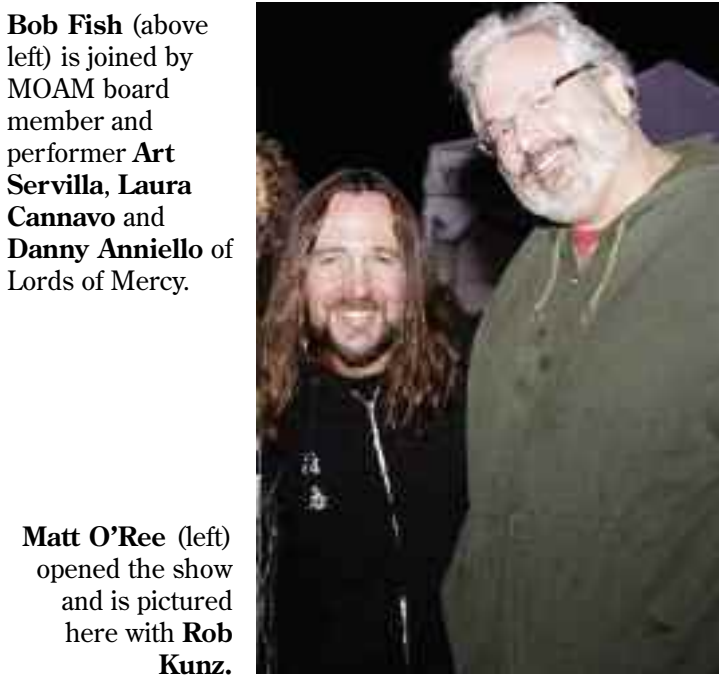
Bob Fish (above left) is joined by MOAM board member and performer **Art Servilla**, **Laura Cannavo** and **Danny Anniello** of Lords of Mercy.



MOAM board members **Brenda Wirth** and **Pam McCoy** (left), working the silent auction tent.



Rebel Yell A Capella Rock and Roll Chorus from Howell High School performed a great song by Cold Play called "Fix You."



Matt O'Ree (left) opened the show and is pictured here with **Rob Kunz**.



Danny Coleman (left) and **Dave McMann** of 40 Foot Hole Studios streamed the music live on internet radio to 112 countries. For more information about this charity visit www.cfcloudnclear.org.



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