

By Lynne Ward

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION CELEBRATED "LIFE SAVERS" AT "HEARTS ON FIRE" BALL

∖he Monmouth and Ocean Counties American Heart Association/American Stroke Association recently held its Heart Ball themed "Hearts on Fire" at The Ocean Place Resort and Spa. The event honored Charles and Beth Melita of Fair Haven with the Morgan Cline-Benjamin D'Onofrio Humanitarian Award and recognized Meridian Health for the launch of their Community of Life Savers Program which trains students in CPR/AED use. The



event paid special tribute to the late Morgan Cline for his years of support. In addition, the Heart Ball raised funds and awareness for its mission of building healthier lives, free of cardiovascular disease and stroke. Evett Shulman (left) is the regional director of Monmouth and Ocean Counties. She is standing with Deborah Goodman (senior V.P. of field operations for the Heart Association), Lou Russo (event emcee, morning host of 94.3FM, The Point), Diane Russo and Carleen Kelly (chair of the Central Jersey Regional board of directors).



Pictured are representatives of Meridian Health, an event sponsor. From left: **Denise Swan** (senior manager, surgical services, Riverview Medical Center and Bayshore Community Hospital), **Kathy McKean** (chief nursing officer), **Dr. Stephanie Reynolds** (director of the ER at Riverview), **Elizabeth Maiorana, Dawn Williams** (regional manager of cardiology services, Riverview and Bayshore), **Tria Diebert** (director of marketing), **Laura Ahern** (director of community outreach, Meridian Health), **Sheila Hintze** (senior manager of operations at Riverview) and **Rachel Weiss** (V.P., physician and business development).



K. Hovnanian Homes was an event sponsor with representatives (from left): Peter and Mary Ellen Rinaldi, Louis and Christine Yaccarino, Tricia and Daniel Zichello and Barbara and Ray Guida. Other sponsors included Barnabas Health, CentraState Healthcare System and N.J. Natural Gas.



Dr. John B. Checton and his wife **Maria**. Dr. Checton presented the tribute to Morgan Cline who passed away this past April.



Event honorees Charlie and Beth Melita.



From left: Carleen Kelly, Elizabeth Maiorana (corporate director for cardiovascular services for Meridian Cardiovascular Network) and Linda Savino (of Health South Rehabilitation Hospital of Tinton Falls).

BRANCHES HOSTED 5TH ANNUAL BIG WAVE AWARDS



♦ he Fifth Annual Big Wave Awards was presented by the Jersey Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau and was recently held at Branches, West Long Branch. This annual event provides recognition to individuals and organizations that have gone above and beyond to provide a positive impact on tourism and economic development in Monmouth and Upper Ocean Counties. Six prestigious awards were given out: the Lifetime Achievement Award to Robert Provost, formerly of The Star-Ledger; the Anchor Award to The Jersey Shore Partnership, accepted by Margot Walsh, executive director; the Rising Tide Award to Laurita Winery's Ray Shea and Randy Johnson; the Spirit of the Shore Award to Patti Baxter of Spark Market Solutions LLC; the Icon Award to Bar Anticipation; and the Resilience Award to The Borough of Seaside Park. The organization is organized and operated exclusively to promote tourism in the regions of Monmouth and Northern Ocean Counties, to stimulate commerce, strengthen the regional tax base and to support educational, cultural, and historic and tourism institutions.



From left: Jim Hickey (chairman, Jersey Shore Convention and Visitors Bureau), Mary Brabazon (of the Belmar Tourism Commission), Patti Baxter (award recipient) and Robert Hilton (executive director, JSC&VB).

PAONE THOMPSON

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MONMOUTH CONSERVATION FOUNDATION'S ART IN NATURE, NATURE IN ART DEBUTED AT OYSTER POINT





Mary Eileen Fouratt (left, executive director of Monmouth Arts) enjoyed the reception with Mame Green, artist Robert Pillsbury (president, Salmagundi Club), Teja Anderson and Cindy Zipf (executive director, Clean Ocean Action). The Salmagundi Club is a 140 year-old social club for practicing artists.

onmouth Conservation had its opening night at the Oyster Point Hotel of Art in Nature/Nature in Art – a collection of nature inspired art by nationally and internationally renowned artists – as well as well-known local artists. Participating artists/photographers are: Avery Brighton (second from left), Tina Colella, Jasmina Danowski (far right), Joseph Difiglia (second from right), Stuart Fullerton, Guy Hembling, Lucy Kalian, Joe Keiffer, Emilie Lee, Robert Pillsbury, Deborah Redden and Skip Whitcomb. The show will be exhibited through January 5, with a portion of the proceeds to benefit Monmouth Conservation Foundation whose overarching mission is to create a permanent legacy of open space, parks, farmland, woodlands and protected natural habitat throughout Monmouth County for everyone to enjoy. Also pictured are Sarah Fleming (far left), Alice DiFiglia (center, left) and Kathy Donnelly (center, right).



Lisa McKean (left) is the director of development for the MCF and is pictured with Nancy Gravina, artist Joe DiFiglia, Alice DiFiglia and Susan Blakney.



A wonderful supportive group: Jill Kerwick, George Whitelaw, Alex Smith, Marti Huber, Janet Rotchford, Quinn McKean and photographer Avery Brighton.



Lillian Gilden (left) with **Bill** and **Tina Kastning**. Bill Kastning is the executive director of the MCF.



George Whitelaw (left) with artist Guy Hembling and Howard Aronson.

SEA BRIGHT RISING AND ST. BERNARD PROJECT JOINED FORCES



Artist and event organizer Lucy K.H. Kalian (left) is pictured in front of her painting titled "Anchorage, Sea Bright" (oil on canvas) with her son Terrin, her husband Mazin and Chris Brighton.



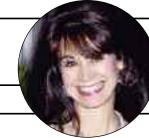
cocktail reception for Sea Bright Rising and the St. Bernard Project was recently held at the Navesink Country Club for attendees to hear about the progress that is being made in Sea Bright and plans for the future. The board members of Sea Bright Rising include (from left): Ilene Winters, Peter Forlenza, Jake Gehret and Chris Wood (owner of Woody's Ocean Grille).



Pictured are Chad Carson (left) of the St. Bernard Project, with Leslie Johnson, a Sea Bright resident whose home was rebuilt post Sandy by Sea Bright Rising. The two listened to Zack Rosenberg, (president and founder of the St. Bernard Project, not pictured), about the project's plans for the continuing recovery of Eastern Monmouth County.

TRT BLUE

PROWNS



By Lynne Ward

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICE HELD "BLUE DANUBE" AT NAVESINK COUNTRY CLUB



ore than 250 people recently attended the sold-out Blue Danube event, at the Navesink Country Club, to benefit Family and Children's Service. Guests dined and danced the night away as they celebrated 105 years of service to the community. The night also paid tribute to the agency's 2014 Community Service Award winners, Brookdale Community College and The Monmouth Park Charity Fund, and the Lifetime Achievement Award winner Nina Riccio, a longtime FCS Board member and true friend to the agency. When it was all over, Blue Danube raised more than \$100,000 to support critical FCS programs and services, including homelessness prevention, home care and adult protective services. Pictured are honoree Nina Riccio (standing center) and her extended family.



2014 Blue Danube Gala committee members included (from left): Madonna Robinson, Diane Hayes, Karen Gibbens, Taphy Harcsar (co-chair), Debbie O'Donoghue (co-chair), Susan Sorokolit, Ursula Atkinson and Jill Gemmel.



Gala committee members Tiffany Senft and Amy McCooey with Carolyn DeSena (right).



From left: Dennis Drazin, The Honorable Lawrence M. Lawson, Valerie Lawson, Eileen Zazzali and The Honorable James Zazzali.



FCS supporter Susan Sorokolit with her daughters, Nicole Croddick (left), Amy McCooey and Beth Stencel (right).



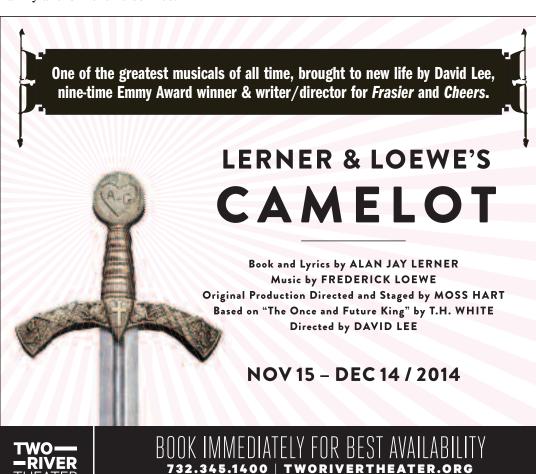


Above:
Four wonderful
couples: Michael
and Vicky
Naughton, Paul and
Eva Squassi, Alan
and Donna
Robinson and Dena
and Jeff Reger.

Gathered together are Dinneen Jackson (left), of Brookdale Community College, Dena Reger (chair, FCS board of directors), Virginia Westee (MPCF), Roberta Sheraton (of the MPCF), Mary Ann Martin (Executive Director, MPCF) and Eva Cavallo (MPCF).



Nona Balaban (left), of the MPCF, with **Dena Reger**, chair of the FCS board of directors, and **Delly Beekman**, CEO of Family and Children's Service.



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MARCH OF DIMES HOSTED ANNUAL SIGNATURE CHEFS AUCTION





he March of Dimes recently held its Signature Chefs Auction at the Eagle Oaks Golf and Country Club in Farmingdale. The event, which was attended by over 180 people, raised almost \$100,000 to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. Top chefs offered attendees an opportunity to enjoy a great night out while raising funds, making friends and increasing awareness of the March of Dimes mission to improve the health of all babies, along with an elegant, upscale evening of fine dining, dancing, a silent auction and enjoying top of the line as well as the newest wines, spirits and liqueurs. Tim McLoone emceed the event and Brian Kirk and the Jirks provided music for the evening. John and Dawn Reinhardt are joined here by event sponsors Phil and Marilyn Perricone (couple on right).



March of Dimes Executive Directors for the Central Jersey Division include: Allie Hall, Dania Sargent and Gina Radice.



Courtney and Victor Russomanno and their children.

Diana Robinson (above left), Dr.
Wayne Fellmoth, Dr. Margaret
Fisher, Robyn D'Oria and Tricia
Kaiser (right) came together for a
photo at the recent March of Dimes
event. The Signature Chefs Auction
was chaired by Pauline Poyner, of
Heritage House Sotheby's International Realty in Rumson and it
honored the outstanding work of
pediatric infectious disease specialist
Dr. Margaret Fisher (center), chair
and medical director at the
Unterberg Children's Hospital at

Monmouth Medical Center.

OASIS TLC AND RESTAURANT NICHOLAS PARTNERED FOR WINE TASTING

ASIS TLC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote inclusion and acceptance of autistic individuals (young adults) into their local communities by establishing farm centers that provide meaningful work, peaceful and healthy residences and community interaction. OASIS stands for Ongoing Autistic Success in Society, and TLC stands for Therapeutic Life Centers. Restaurant Nicholas in Middletown and Chef Nicholas Harari recently hosted a wine tasting event to benefit OASIS TLC, OASIS TLC board members present at the Wine Tasting included (from left): Barb D'Augusta, Marta Petrocelli, Mai Cleary (president and founder), Liz Schiumo, Cindy Squassoni and Liz O'Mara. The farm center is located in Middletown (the former Coe estate) and houses a pony, and many chickens and goats that are tended by the residents, as are the gardens.





From left: Grace Wrightson, Liz O'Mara, Mai Cleary and Ann Jordan.



OASIS TLC supporters: John Cleary, Suzanne and Keith Dice, Chris O'Rourke, Bob Triebel, Victor DiGioia and Cindy Squassoni.



Chef and wine expert
Nicholas Harari (left, owner
of Restaurant Nicholas) with
Mai and John Cleary.



Cathie and Jim McHugh (couple on right) with Matt McGovern (left) and Tom O'Mara.

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