Candlelight Ball Continues Its Successes

The Scripps Health Foundation recently hosted the 88th Annual Candlelight Ball at the Fairmont Grand Del Mar. The December sold-out event raised $150,000 for the A. Brent Eastman, M.D.; Trauma Area inside the Barby Family Emergency and Trauma Center at Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. In addition to supporting the trauma center, patrons further contributed to the trauma program by supporting clinical research and graduate medical education to advance trauma medicine. Premier sponsors for the 88th Candlelight Ball were Union Bank and Rady Vickaratzis. Nearly 450 guests enjoyed fine cuisine and entertainment by William Close and the Earth Harp and dance music by The Mighty Untouchables.

PHILANTHROPY

Changemaker Luncheon Looks To Advance Civility, Community

One hundred of San Diego’s influential women converged for the National Conflict Resolution Center’s inaugural women’s changemaker luncheon to discuss civility and action plans toward a brighter future for the communities NCRC serves. The luncheon was held at the home of member Ann Navarra Navarre, the 2018 recipient of the Convivio Communities Award for Leadership for her commitment to education, quality health care and the dedication to excellence which defines her family’s entrepreneurial legacy (Jerome’s Furniture). Convivio is a San Diego nonprofit dedicated to promoting Italian arts, culture and heritage, through education and research, while embracing an innovative approach to cultural advancement. NCRC is partnering with schools and law enforcement to transform San Diego’s juvenile justice system and avoid the “school to prison pipeline.” NCRC’s groundbreaking restorative justice model keeps youth in school and out of jail, builds and strengthens communities, and helps heal victims of crime. NCRC was founded in 1983 by the University of San Diego Law Center and the San Diego County Bar Association. NCRC is recognized as an international leader in mediation instruction and conflict resolution. Visit ncrconline.com.

PET Program Taps the Healing Powers of Animals

Helen Woodward Animal Center’s Pet Encounter Therapy, or PET, brings the unconditional love and tactile benefits of animals to people in skilled nursing facilities, children’s shelters, hospitals, psychiatric units and other institutions. The basis of the important therapy stems from studies showing that interacting with animals provides benefits such as relaxation, lower blood pressure, improved long- and short-term memory and sensory stimuli. Dan Walker, a 3.5 year old cat, was pulled from the streets of Tijuana missing his two back feet in addition to severe wounds on his back legs. After rehabilitation at the center, his foster — turned permanent “mom” — Stacey Agan immediately saw a love for people in Dan and had him tested into the center’s PET program where he passed with flying colors. Right now, Dan is one of just two cats in the PET program. In the last 25 years, there have only been six who have met the high standards of the program.

Not-So-Secret Santas Deliver Joy for Kids at Rady

Red O La Jolla, a Mexican restaurant in La Jolla, hosted a toy drive during the first two weeks of December and donated more than 60 unwrapped gifts to the sick children of Rady Children’s Hospital San Diego. Each guest who brought in a new and unwrapped children’s toy, received a free appetizer or dessert during their next Red O visit. Some of the sick children of Rady Children’s Hospital’s are unable to spend their Christmas at home, as many are faced with chronic illnesses and life-threatening diseases. Rady Children’s Hospital is the only hospital in San Diego dedicated exclusively to pediatric health care and is the region’s only designated pediatric trauma center. Its facility is a major pediatric clinical research center that works in collaboration with world-renowned institutions, including UCSD and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

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