

# *Daily Pilot*

## The Crowd: Philanthropists have their day in the sun



- Daily Pilot

Outstanding Philanthropist Sandra Jackson, Outstanding Youth Vanis Buckholz, Outstanding Founder Laura Davick honored at National Philanthropy Day luncheon.

By **B.W. Cook**

JANUARY 12, 2017, 4:52 PM

**I**t was a day to honor big givers. Philanthropists of Orange County came together to celebrate the 21st annual National Philanthropy Day over lunch at the National Grove of Anaheim.

The event, organized and hosted by the Assn. of Fundraising Professionals, drew more than 800 guests to honor an impressive roster of activists.

Co-chairs and judges Janet Ray and Rich Smetanka reviewed 107 nominations for the annual honors. Ultimately, nine awards were presented. Among those recognized were **Elizabeth** and **Thomas Tierney** of Coto de Caza, **Sandra Jackson** of Newport Beach, **Nancy** and **Irving Chase** of Irvine, and **Laura Davick** of Newport Coast. Corporate honorees are the Bascom Group, Irvine; Fluidmaster Inc., San Juan Capistrano; Pacific Life, Newport Beach; and Vanis Buckholz, Corona del Mar.

One of the O.C.'s most visible and generous activists, **Sandy Segerstrom Daniels**, managing partner at CJ Segerstrom & Sons, served as the event's honorary chair. Emcee duties were in the capable hands of PBS SoCal's **Maria Hall Brown** and KTLA 5 newsman **Henry DiCarlo**.

The O.C. chapter of the Assn. of Fundraising Professionals is one of 250 across the nation that represent some 30,000 citizens making a major impact day in and day out for others in need.

To learn more, visit [npdlove.com](http://npdlove.com).

### **A quarter century of caring**

The 26th annual Share Our Selves Celebrity Chef Dinner unfolded at the Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort & Spa, attracting a ballroom crowd of 300 donors being served amazing multiple-course dinners created by top chefs from O.C. dining rooms working together.

On the culinary team were **Franco Barone, Michael Bech, Adam Feirman, Miguel Mata, Yvon Goetz, Alan Greeley, Linda Johnson, Manfred Lassahn, David Man, Eric Mikel, Alessandro Pirozzi, Rainer Schwarz** and **Paul Squicciarini**. Highlights of the five-course feast included an appetizer of Skull Island Shrimp Escabeche, a pasta course of fresh orecchiette with spinach, topped with crispy pork belly, and a fabulous dessert cake made with Guanaja citrus cremeux and milk streusel orange cream.

The lavish dinner presentation was generously sponsored by leading community service providers such as Hoag Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph Health, and caring donors including Dr. **Richard** and **Sandra Haskell, Michael** and **Diane Stephens**, and the Frome family, among others.

Spotted in the crowd were organizers **Gaye Besler**, **Karen McGlenn** and **Cindy Tusch**, joining SOS sponsors **Marc** and **Lura Harper**, **Geoffrey** and **Nancy Stack**, and **Larry** and **Dulce Kugelman**.

A "fund a need" call for donations raised an impressive \$48,000 in just five minutes for the SOS food pantry, which offers healthy food for homeless individuals and families in the O.C.

Learn more about the work of SOS by visiting <http://www.shareourselves.org/>.

### **Olive Crest's Power of One luncheon**

The Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel welcomed 340 guests of Olive Crest for the annual Power of One luncheon. Olive Crest VIPs in attendance included **Kerri Dunkelberger**, executive director, and **Tim Bauer**, executive director of development.

Olive Crest finds its purpose in caring for adopted and foster families, with special emphasis on assisting abused, neglected and abandoned children in crisis.

Recognized for their commitment to the cause, four awardees at the 2016 event were **Dennis Kuhl**, chairman of Angels Baseball; **Gary Taylor**, O.C. director of Children and Family Services; **Grace Cross**, a local Girl Scout raising significant funds for Olive Crest; and Safe Families for Children of Orange County.

The afternoon gathering featured an address by inspirational speaker **Patrick Combs**, best-selling author of "This Surprising Life." Local sponsors were Toyota of Huntington Beach, Union Bank, the Frome Family Foundation, HUB International and Jacobus Consulting, plus individuals including **Howard** and **Olivia Abel**, the Steven Bernardy family, and **Jeff** and **Shannon Mathews**, among others.

To learn more about Olive Crest, go to <http://www.olivecrest.org/>.

### **Romancing the grape**

Wine dinners have become a staple of the good life. In the O.C., clubs, hotels, restaurants and many organizations sponsor elaborate seasonal wine invitations to delight the crowd.

The Balboa Bay Resort in Newport Beach announced that its 2017 Wine and Spirit Dinner Series will kick off Jan. 25 with a media reception in its signature dining room, Waterline.

Then, beginning Feb. 10, the annual series will feature a wine dinner with Justin Vineyards. The roster continues through the year with notable grapes from Joseph Phelps, Far Niente, Nickel & Nickle, Moet Chandon, Dom Perignon, St. Germain and more. The events will feature a gourmet dinner prepared by executive chef Rachel Haggstrom, along with presentations by vintners and other experts as well as celebrity guests.

The public is invited. For pricing and reservations, call (877) 259-8537.

**B.W. COOK** is editor of the Bay Window, the official publication of the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach.