

# The Communicator



Fall 2014 Issue

Official Newsletter of Community Conscience

80 E. Hillcrest Dr., Suite 110 • Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 • Phone: 805.494.3543 • Fax: 805.379.2053 • [www.communityconscience.org](http://www.communityconscience.org)



## Mark Your Calendars! Mardi Gras Ball - February 21, 2015

### Looking for the 2015 Mardi Gras Ball King & Queen!

Community Conscience "Under One Roof" is accepting nominations for individuals who have made a contribution to the Conejo Valley through their volunteer service to the community. If you would like to nominate someone who you feel is deserving of this honor, please call Barbara Ashcraft at 805-497-3469, or send an email to: [Robin@communityconscience.org](mailto:Robin@communityconscience.org).



Twelve non-profit organizations at the "Under One Roof" Human Services Center will benefit from your sponsorship!

*Nominations are due by November 25, 2014.*

### Sponsorship Opportunities

Our Major Sponsors for the Mardi Gras Ball help us to keep the exceptional quality services flowing to those most in need by providing Rent-Free space to twelve non-profits, allowing them to utilize their funds to provide direct social services to our communities that they would otherwise have to spend on rent.

If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor for the 2015 Mardi Gras Ball, please contact Cindy at 805.494.3543, or email her at [info@communityconscience.org](mailto:info@communityconscience.org)

*Please see page 9 for the list of sponsorship opportunities.*



2014 Queen Frances Prince &  
King Bob Biery

*Photo credit: Laughing Light  
Studios - Darrel Priebe*

## Donating Appreciated Stock: A Double Play of Tax Benefits

submitted by Community Conscience Treasurer & Trustee, Ed Sahakian

Are you looking for a great way to save more money on your taxes? Almost everyone knows that you get a deduction for donating cash to qualified 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations like Community Conscience. However, did you know you can also save on your capital gains taxes by donating your appreciated stock? The article below talks about the benefits to you and your selected charity.

Community Conscience is currently accepting these donations. To find out how you can help us and help yourself on taxes, please contact our office and we can provide you the details.



**The following is an excerpt from an article from Ray Martin columnist from CBS MoneyWatch.**

*Given the run-up in the stock market over the past 12 months, many investors who bought individual stocks are very likely to own shares that have substantial unrealized gains. And some of those shares were bought just about 12 months ago.*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## News from the Executive Director - Robin Britt

### The Unexpected!

There were certain things I expected to happen upon taking the position of Executive Director at Community Conscience. One expectation was to learn the history of the charity. I planned on making lots of new acquaintances in the Conejo Valley community. Another was to learn about the daily operations of the Under One Roof building and also the programs of the organizations that provide services here.

What I did not expect was to see such a change in the lives of people who visit the building seeking help. Since January, I have witnessed some people who are in such need that they are literally on the ground when they arrive, too weak to stand while waiting for charities to open in the morning. It is humbling to see others at a stage in life where all seems lost. Then I see these people again as they visit the charities here regularly, keeping appointments and making changes. I can tell there are changes in their lives because they hold their heads up, smiling, wearing nicer clothing, clean, groomed and organized.

Recently joyous laughter and cheers emanated from the entrance of a charity because a regular client got a job. She got a big piece of her life back and this was worth celebrating.

The unexpected, for me, was miracles like that. They happen here every day! I suppose I will never get used to experiencing such growth, it will never be common place or ordinary. Persons who are lost find hope here. This is extraordinary! It fills my heart with happiness.

**Help keep the exceptional quality of services flowing to those most in need.** Enclosed in this newsletter is an envelope. Your support for Community Conscience makes it possible for us to continue our mission. We have added PayPal to our website for your convenience. Visit [www.communityconscience.org](http://www.communityconscience.org), then go to the DONATE tab. Are you an Amazon shopper? You can sign up for AmazonSmile by visiting our website and using the link. It is really easy, does not cost you anything, and Community Conscience will receive proceeds of 0.5% from your purchases. It adds up and we appreciate it!

The Community Conscience mission is to ensure public assistance programs are available and accessible for those who need help.



We thank you in advance for your donations that support our cause of providing RENT-FREE space to twelve non-profit organizations that serve our community offering the unexpected daily miracles that change lives.

Robin Britt



## Message from the President - Cheryl Klepper



It's hard to believe that it is October already! Traditionally the coming of fall means that we at Community Conscience are starting to plan for our next Mardi Gras Ball. I am pleased to announce that our 2015 Mardi Gras Ball co-chairs are Phyllis Rickert, June Glasmeier, and Fran Brough. Mardi Gras Ball 2015 will be held on February 21, 2015 at the Hyatt Westlake Plaza Hotel. We will all be working very hard over the next months to make sure that this will be another wonderful event. We hope to see you all there!

Community Conscience was pleased to take part recently in a number of events celebrating Thousand Oaks's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a city. Community Conscience has been serving Thousand Oaks and the Conejo Valley area for over half of that time and we are looking forward to continuing to serve the area in the future. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find articles and photographs concerning our participation in the Thousand Oaks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade and Time Capsule events. We are happy to be a part of this community.

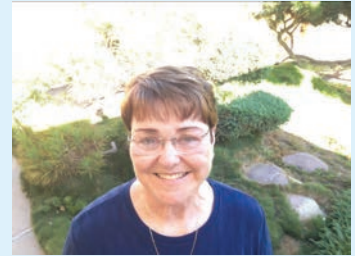
We are honored and wish to thank the Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce for donating a portion of the funds it raised in its recent "Taste of Conejo" fundraiser to Community Conscience. It was a fun event with numerous food, beverage, and other vendors. Those of us who attending bemoaned the fact that we were just too full to taste everything available! We greatly appreciate the Chamber's donation to Community Conscience.

On a more somber note, the Under One Roof family recently lost one of its longtime members recently. Diana Ortuno worked with Lutheran Social Services for many years and will be greatly missed. Community Conscience does more than just provide rent-free space to non-profits, it provides a place where charities are "under one roof" and work together when possible in helping their clients.

## Conejo Pregnancy Center Announces New Executive Director

The Conejo Pregnancy Center welcomes its new Executive Director, Barbara Ramey. Barbara is married to Dinnes, a school teacher and they have a teenage daughter who is a senior this year.

Barbara comes to the Conejo Pregnancy Center with a long, successful history as Executive Director of pregnancy centers in California. She was the founding Executive Director of the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Northern California in Redding in 1984. After a one year commitment as Executive Director of the Crisis Pregnancy Center of San Francisco in 1988, she accepted the position of Executive Director of the Nevada County Crisis Pregnancy Center in Grass Valley in 1989, converting it to Living Well Medical Clinic, a state licensed community care medical clinic in 1991.



"I am thrilled to be at the Conejo Pregnancy Center," Barbara says. "The CPC has always had a stellar reputation and I am excited to be a part of it. I am also excited to get to know the Conejo Valley community. I have met wonderful people since coming here."

The Conejo Pregnancy Center (CPC) is a state licensed non-profit 501(c)(3) community care medical clinic that serves the Conejo Valley and the neighboring communities. All of our services are free and confidential. We have served over 27,000 women and their families since opening our doors in 1985. Each year the CPC sees over 500 clients from all walks of life. Every client is treated with respect, compassion and is offered the full range of our services. Our programs and support groups have been designed to meet the particular needs of those who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy. Our services include pregnancy verification, free 3D/4D ultrasound scans, pregnancy counseling, temporary Medi-Cal, well women exams which include a physical, pap smear and breast exam, STD/STI testing, childbirth classes, counseling, and options counseling. The age range of those we serve is 12 to the late 50's. The majority of our clients' ages range from 17 to 29.

The Conejo Pregnancy Center is funded through individual donors, churches, businesses, civic organizations and grants in our community.

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*(Continued from page 1) Donating Appreciated Stocks*

*The tax benefits -- which include deducting the amount of the charitable donation AND escaping the unrealized gains on the donated stock - come from the fact that the deduction for a donation of property to charity is equal to the property's current fair market value. And when the donated property is an investment, the donor does not have to recognize the capital gain. These rules create a "double play" of tax benefits: a charitable deduction AND avoiding tax on the unrealized capital gains of the donated property.*

*For example, let's say you bought stock for \$10,000 last May and today it is worth \$20,000. You plan to donate the entire amount to a charitable organization.*

*If you sold the \$20,000 stock instead of donating it, you would pay capital gains tax on the \$10,000 gain in value. The tax rate for long-term capital gains is 15 percent. Therefore, the tax savings for donating rather than selling the stock would be \$1,500 ( $10,000 \times 15\%$ ).*

*In addition, you can claim a deduction of the market value of the donated shares -- the full \$20,000 -- as a charitable donation deduction. If you are in the 25 percent federal tax bracket, this could generate another \$5,000 ( $20,000 \times 25\%$ ) in tax savings. This brings your total tax savings to \$6,500. If you are in a higher tax bracket, your donation deduction will be even more. Also consider this: you are giving a gift that is two times what it originally cost you.*

Article website:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/donating-appreciated-stock-a-double-play-of-tax-benefits/>

**\*\*This publication does not, and is not intended to, provide legal, tax or accounting advice, and readers should consult their tax advisors concerning the application of tax laws to their particular situations.\*\***



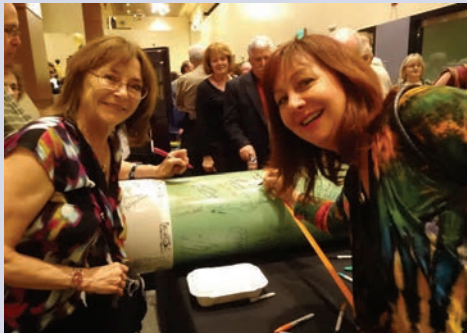
## 50th Anniversary of The City of Thousand Oaks, "Roots of Our Lives" Living Time Capsule Ceremony

### Living Time Capsule Ceremony - October 7, 2014

The City of Thousand Oaks celebrated 50 years on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Arts Plaza and Community Conscience was invited to join the celebration. The "Roots of Our Lives" Living Time Capsule Ceremony included the Guardians of the Time Capsule from 1994 turning over their guardianship to the new youth guardians of Thousand Oaks. The youth took an oath on stage are now the guardians until 2039. Community Conscience co-founder, Marge Wilson, was part of the ceremony and received a standing ovation from the crowd. Marge was instrumental in starting the time capsule project in 1994. City elected officials, dignitaries and community leaders were in attendance. The city provided a wonderful atmosphere with great food, beautiful guest books to sign featuring pictures from the past, and commemorative glasses for all guests.

It was a great time at the well-attended event for the Time Capsule Ceremony held at the Kavli Theater. So many in attendance they had to bring in more food according to John Prescott, Community Development Director for the City of Thousand Oaks. Robin Britt, our Community Conscience Executive Director, and Jacque Turner, Trustee met at the reception and socialized with the crowd to make our presence known on behalf of Community Conscience. The first person we sought out was Keith Parks, Executive Director of Hospice of the Conejo. Keith told us that he & his family were among the "First Resident" group in Thousand Oaks when the population was only 15,000! Subsequently, we spoke to several elected officials which included Thousand Oaks Council members Jacqui Irwin and Joel Price, and Moorpark City Council member, Roseann Mikos. There were many Thousand Oaks supporters and residents in attendance including Community Conscience Advisory Council Members Larry Horner (former TO Mayor) and Tex Ward, both with their lovely wives. We also visited with other supporters of Community Conscience: Andrea Gallagher, Senior Concerns Executive Director, Tammie Helmet of Conejo Awards, Harry Selvin, who has been involved with Community Conscience since its inception, and charming as ever was Kitty Dill, journalist. Ernie Escoto (husband of Soroptimist President Leslie Escoto) and his friend Neil reminisced about their early days in Thousand Oaks playing in Jungleland area where the Civic Arts Plaza is now located. It was definitely a wonderful and historical evening. Who else?? We saw 2014 Mardi Gra Ball Queen Frances Prince & her daughter Julie, 2013 Mardi Ball Queen Joanie Young, and many others.

Michael Arndt & Marge Wilson welcomed and introduced the new "guardians" of the 2014 time capsule to the stage to join the 1994 guardians. Arndt impressed on them the wonderful responsibility they have accepted to make sure Thousand Oaks continues to be a great community.



*Trustee Jacque Turner and Executive Director Robin Britt sign the Time Capsule*



*Above: Original Guardians and New Guardians introduced for the 2014 Living Time Capsule!*

*Left: Stephen Leys, a 1994 guardian & Grandson of Mayor Emeritus Alex Fiore, spoke about the last 25 years.*

*Right: Marge Wilson was introduced by Michael Arndt, 2014 Time Capsule Committee Chair.*



Community Conscience "Under One Roof" contributions to the 2014 time capsule were the following items:

- **Current picture of the front of the Human Services Center building;**
- **2014 Mardi Gras Ball invitation;**
- **2014 Winter Newsletter;**
- **2014 Summer Newsletter and**
- **2014 Mardi Gras Ball program including dinner menu.**



## History of the Living Time Capsule

As part of the celebration for the 50th Anniversary of The City of Thousand Oaks, the **"Roots of Our Lives" Living Time Capsule Ceremony** was held on October 7, 2014 (the City's actual date of incorporation) at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza Kavli Theatre.

In 1994, a number of ten year-old children were selected as "guardians" of the capsule and it was intended that these guardians would be invited to the capsules' opening and that a new group of guardians would be selected for the next scheduled opening. Some of the 1994 "guardians" of the Time Capsule were on stage to welcome the new "guardians" who are optimistic about the future! At each 25 year anniversary of the city, a 25 year capsule will be opened and another permanent capsule will be filled. Make sure to mark your calendar for the next ceremony to be held in 2039 for the 75th Anniversary!!

**History:** In 1994, the PACE (Public Awareness and Cultivation Events) committee planned events and activities centering on the opening of the Civic Arts Plaza. PACE appointed a subcommittee to explore the possibility of creating a time capsule in conjunction with the opening and the 30th anniversary of the city. The committee was co-chaired by Marge Wilson and Rob O'Neill and included Marion Schillo and Michael Arndt among nineteen other citizens and many more contributors. A time capsule system was created, and was entitled *"The Roots of Our Lives - A Living Time Capsule."* The time capsule was dedicated on October 9, 1994. A unique feature of the time capsule installation is that it actually contains four separate capsules. At the initial installation, two capsules were filled with items collected by committee members. Two were left empty. One container is six feet in length and contained material gathered prior to the



*Marge Wilson poses with the time capsules in 1994*

dedication and will remain sealed until the 100th anniversary of the city. The other filled container was intended to be opened at the 50th anniversary of the city which occurs this year (2014). The intent was to have items from this second time capsule be removed and other items representing current life in the city will be placed in the capsule to be opened at the 75th anniversary (in 2039!). A third container will be filled and sealed until the 100th anniversary. All 4 time capsules are currently sealed in a bench near the Carpenter stage in the park of the Civic Arts Plaza. In short, at each 25 year anniversary of the city, a 25 year capsule will be opened and another permanent capsule will be filled.



*The capsules are 12" diameter PVC pipes.*

### Occupants of the Community Conscience "Under One Roof" Human Services Center

- Community Conscience
- Conejo Free Clinic
- Conejo Pregnancy Center
- Conejo Youth Employment Service
- County of Ventura Human Services Agency
- Food Forward
- Holy Family Services
- Hospice of the Conejo
- Interface Children & Family Services
- Jewish Family Service
- LSS Community Care Centers
- Senior Concerns Bargain Boutique
- Villa Esperanza Services



**OUR MISSION**  
*Ensuring that public assistance programs are available and accessible for the basic relief of those in need in our community.*

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President - Cheryl Klepper  
1st Vice President - Phyllis Rickert  
Treasurer - Ed Sahakian  
Assistant Treasurer - Dr. Jerry Miller  
Secretary - Fran Brough  
Past President - Ricki Mikkelsen

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Barbara Ashcraft  
Suzy Beaty  
David Coonan  
Dave Crawford  
Dee Crawford  
Geordie Crossan  
John Flintoff  
June Glasmeier  
Irish John Gore  
Larry Marquart  
Lynda Miller  
Peter Mogg  
Maria Prescott  
Jacque Turner

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Robin Britt

#### OFFICE MANAGER

Cindy Brand

#### CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS LIAISON

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Communicator Editor: Jacque Turner



# Community Conscience in the Thousand Oaks 50th Anniversary Parade

reported by Robin Britt

The City of Thousand Oaks celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year! As part of this celebration, the City hosted a parade on Saturday, September 27th with the theme "Remembering the past, honoring the memories."

The Community Conscience "Under One Roof" organization was part of the celebration by participating in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade!

It all started before sunrise on Saturday, September 27. Beautiful horses, floats made by local groups, antique and classic cars were

"People loved the Mardi Gras theme and cheered us on."

everywhere! We checked in and were staged on the side streets by category. Our category was automotive, thanks to Silver

Star Mercedes Benz and the use of a gorgeous 2014 Mercedes Benz E350 white convertible. They also provided a professional driver, Dick Goldner, who was outstanding and a lot of fun. Participating in the parade with Robin Britt, Executive Director, were Community Conscience Board of Trustees members Barbara Ashcraft and Suzy Beatty, President Cheryl Klepper, and Executive Committee Secretary Fran Brough.

"With faces painted, feathery masks, Mardi Gras beads and wild hats on we slowly made our way to the parade route," said Robin. (Face painting was courtesy of Robin!)



Robin & Fran take a selfie to show the face painting.

Fran and Robin carried a banner in front of the car: "COMMUNITY CONSCIENCE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS."



Barbara, Cheryl and Suzy waved to the crowd from the car holding bright neon signs: "Mardi Gras Ball February 21, 2015" on one side and "Community Conscience" on the other. People loved the Mardi Gras

theme and cheered us on. The parade went very smoothly and was a lot of fun!

There was a great turn out of people and the support from the crowd was amazing. They yelled out to us, delighted, and applauded. I was touched as I realized how many people know of Community Conscience as a direct result of the impact the Human Services Center has had on the Conejo Valley community for the past 26 years.

This event was televised, and our Board of Trustee member, Irish John Gore was one of the announcers. He did a terrific job, along with Pete Turpel, of describing Community Conscience, our rent-free program and our biggest fundraiser, the annual Mardi Gras Ball!

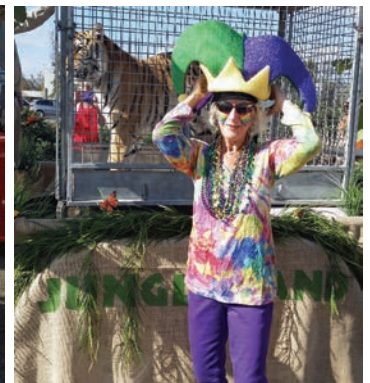
"The next part of the celebration will happen on Tuesday October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Arts Plaza Kavli Theater where "The Roots of Our Lives" Living Time Capsule Ceremony will be held. Community Conscience has donated items for the time capsule. Several board members will be in attendance. I am looking forward to this evening of celebration as we will join the guardians of the time capsule in reflecting back on the past 50 years and look forward into the future," stated Robin.



Back: Cheryl Klepper & Suzy Beatty;  
Front (seated): Barbara Ashcraft  
& driver Dick Goldner



Barbara Ashcraft, Cheryl Klepper, Suzy Beatty,  
Fran Brough & Robin Britt, ready for the parade.



Fran Brough in Mardi Gras Ball  
garb posing with the Tiger from  
the Jungleland float

# Community Conscience benefits from 6th Annual Taste of Conejo's Silent Auction

As reported in the Summer newsletter, the Community Conscience "Under One Roof" organization was presented with one of the 2014 Non-Profit of the Year awards on February 28th from the **Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce** and we were honored to receive a beautifully engraved crystal award. They recognized Community Conscience for their commitment to making the Greater Conejo Valley community a better place to live and work.



The Greater Conejo Valley Chamber went one step further at their October 9th "**Taste of Conejo**" event by partnering with *Community Conscience* and *Westminster Free Clinic* (the two Non-Profit of the Year recipients) for this year's Silent Auction and will be donating a portion of the proceeds raised as a special "thank you for all their invaluable services they provide to our community." We are honored and proud for the acknowledgement and recognition we received for providing rent-free space to other non-profits and sincerely thank the Chamber for this gift!

The Taste of Conejo was held at the Four Seasons Hotel, with vendors placed inside and outside on a beautiful day! Community Conscience Trustees were on hand at the event to help with the Silent Auction & Vendor Check In. The volunteers included President Cheryl Klepper, Assistant Treasurer Dr. Jerry Miller, and trustees June Glasmeier & Jacque Turner.



Jerry had his eye on this bicycle.



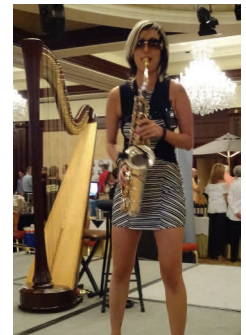
CC volunteers Jacque, Cheryl, June & Jerry.



Cheryl and June kept watch on the Silent Auction & got some ideas for Mardi Gras Ball!



Jacque & Jerry enjoying the food & the beautiful hotel landscaping in this selfie!



Gifted and energetic Saxophonist Hayan Charlston entertained the crowd!

## Event to Benefit LSS Community Care Center



For the past twenty years, No Room at the Inn has displayed over 600 nativity sets from around the world presented by private collectors. The Friday night gala begins the event and is the first time the nativities are open for viewing, along with a special silent auction. Since 1993, No Room has donated over \$350,000 to homeless programs in Ventura County.

Revenue from the annual event benefits Ventura County Homeless programs run by: **Lutheran Social Services**, Salvation Army, Samaritan Center, Society of St Vincent de Paul, and Turning Point Foundation. Our volunteer organization combined with donations keeps our expenses low. As a result, 90% of our proceeds go directly to programs that benefit the homeless of Ventura County.

**DATE OF EVENT: December 12, 13, and 14, 2014, St Paschal Baylon Catholic Church  
155 East Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA**

For additional information, please contact Kris Youngman 805-497-6207 ext. 205,

**[kyoungman@lsscommunitycare.org](mailto:kyoungman@lsscommunitycare.org)**

**[www.nrati.com](http://www.nrati.com) Benefiting Those for Whom There is No Room**





# 2014 Mardi Gras Ball Major Sponsors

## PLATINUM



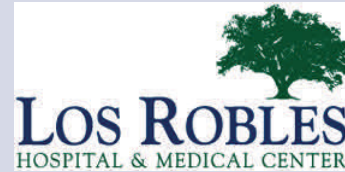
## GOLD



Ashcraft Family:  
In Loving Memory  
of Mel Ashcraft



Suzy & Bob Beaty



Larry Winter & Jeremy Hofer

## SILVER



George & Jeanette Hutchison

## BRONZE



Custom Creations by Jonathan Flintoff, Inc.



Baxter Healthcare Corporation



Candis & Jerry Hong



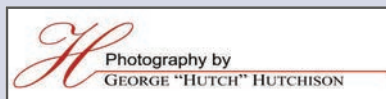
Maria & John Prescott



## IN-KIND DONORS



FB Productions – Frank Barbarino  
17th year - Program Book Printing



George "Hutch" Hutchison  
Photography & Slide Show Presentation



Wine Sponsor



Alfredo Duran  
Audio Visual



John McArthur  
Graphics and Displays



Ventura County Star  
Advertising & Publicity



We ask that you sign up to be a Major Sponsor for our  
Annual Mardi Gras Ball Fund Raiser  
to help keep the exceptional quality services flowing to those most in need

**2015 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**  
**COMMUNITY CONSCIENCE "Under One Roof"**  
**2015 MARDI GRAS BALL - Saturday, February 21, 2015**

**TITLE SPONSOR - \$10,000.00\***

Your Company Name Attached to Our Event - Mardi Gras Ball 2015  
Included in Media / Press Releases & Advertising  
Name Highlighted on the Event Invitation  
Name Highlighted in the Program Book  
Special Recognition at the Event  
Name Highlighted on our Web Site for the year  
Table of 10 with Priority Seating at Event  
Sign with Your Name placed on Table

**PLATINUM SPONSOR - \$5,000.00\***

Name in Media / Press Releases & Advertising  
Name on the Event Invitation  
Name Highlighted in the Program Book  
Special Recognition at the Event  
Table of 10 with Priority Seating at Event  
Sign with Your Name placed on Table

**GOLD SPONSOR - \$3,000.00\***

Name Highlighted in Program Book  
Special Recognition at the Event  
Table for 10 Guests at the Event

**SILVER SPONSOR - \$2,000.00\***

Name Highlighted in Program Book  
6 Guest Tickets to Event

**BRONZE SPONSOR - \$1,000.00\***

Name Highlighted in Program Book  
2 Guest Tickets to the Event

*\*On the night of the event, a large-screen Power Point presentation will display the names of all of the sponsors on a continuous basis.*

**Additional Donation Options Now Available on our Web Site!**

1. Would you like to make your donation or purchase by **Credit Card** or **PayPal**? Click on the "**Online Cash Donation**" Donate button.
2. If you make purchases for the holidays or any other time through Amazon you can select Community Conscience as your non-profit choice! **Access your Amazon account directly from the Community Conscience web site** and we will receive 0.5% of your purchase as a donation through **AmazonSmile**.
3. Of course you can always donate by **Mail**. Just download the donation form and mail it in to us.

***Our TAX ID# is 95-331410***

**Just go to [www.communityconscience.org](http://www.communityconscience.org),  
Click on Donate and you will be taken to a page showing the options below:**

**Online Cash Donation**

Please click on the button below. You will be redirected to PayPal where you can make a donation online via Credit Card or PayPal



**AmazonSmile**

Are you an Amazon shopper? Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to Community Conscience. It costs you nothing and help us with funds to support our cause of providing RENT-FREE space to twelve non-profit organizations. It is really easy!

**Shop at AmazonSmile**

**By Mail**

Don't want to contribute online? Please contact our office to make a donation or download our **donation form** and mail in your donation.

## Fun at the Mardi Gras Ball!



Dancing ladies: Sybil Flintoff, San Lee, Evie Bystrom & Gloria Dyok



Chuck was **happy** to be in the Conga line holding on to two unnamed ladies in front of him and Jacquie behind him!



Dr. Gary Dickey was the piper to honor the Queen Frances Prince & King Bob Biery!



Do you recognize these masked guests? CC Past President Ricki Mikkelsen & husband Don!



Trustee Maria Prescott & her friends enjoyed time on the dance floor.



Candi Wilcox enjoyed leading the conga line fun!



Montecito Bank Gold Sponsor, Sal Sandoval and two lovely ladies!



Frank Bellinghiere & wife Cecelia



Soroptimist volunteers at Registration Desk: Leslie Escoto & Nancy Nevitt



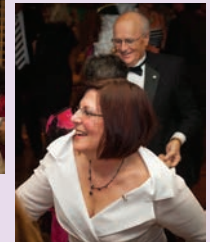
Robin Britt, Community Conscience Executive Director



Bud & Jacquie Marley - silent auction shopping!



Guest with beautiful feather mask!



Everyone got into the action on the dance floor!

Above Photos courtesy of: Darrel Priebe - Laughing Light Studios



Ed Hogan as the Lone Ranger



Trustee Dee Crawford



Trustee Larry Marquart & lovely wife Roshan



Trustee Jerry Miller masquerading as Irish John Gore



Volunteers from LSS Community Care Center: Leslie Orth, Steve Sap, Cheryl Schaffer, and Fiona Kilner



Photographer Darrel Priebe caught dancing!



Key Club Volunteers



Candi & John Wilcox



Dr. Frank Dawson, Advisory Council Member & his lovely wife.



Sue & Irish John Gore, Trustee with Dave & Lois Klein



# In Memorium

## **Diana Hanne Ortuno - Shelter Program Manager for LSS Community Care Center**

**February 9, 1943 - August 27, 2014**

Diana was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and immigrated to the United States in 1982 with her husband, Juan, and their three children. For the past 13 years Diana worked for Lutheran Social Services in the Conejo Valley managing their Emergency Services and Meal & Shelter Programs. Diana's happiness came from being able to help those in the community that needed a hot meal, a place to stay on a cold night, or helping a struggling family with gifts for their children at Christmas. Diana was a frequent volunteer to Community Conscience. The following is a tribute written by Cindy Brand, Community Conscience Office Manager.

### **"The Diana I Knew"**

Diana and I worked in the Community Conscience "Under One Roof" building and became friends in 2002. She worked for LSS and I was in the office working for Community Conscience. Diana was a lovely, friendly lady. I would see her a few times during the day when she came took breaks from her huge workload. I always looked forward to seeing her and discussing recent life, or news events that had taken place. We were friends!



*Diana with donations*

Diana and other LSS staff frequently used the Community Conscience conference room for their many outreach projects. The room was full from floor to ceiling with donations to be given to various families. I watched her in awe of her dedication, the caring way she handled, the Back to School book bag project the Thanksgiving Turkey give away, Adopt a Family and Christmas Gift giving to families in need. All were huge events, sometimes very back breaking work, giving and helping others was her way of life.

Diana spent many days, evenings and weekends at the homeless shelters, and at dinners served to those in need, she was strict with her clients I guess the term is "tough love," but all of them loved and respected her. Another term "If you need something done ask a busy person" is definitely true - in her spare time Diana volunteered to help at various fundraisers for Community Conscience and Soroptimist International of the Conejo, we did a handbag give away together, it was always a labor of love and she was so much fun to work with.

September 10, 2014 was her memorial service at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, the church was full of her "friends" from every walk of life. The service was very touching and absolutely beautiful, a perfect good-bye to a beautiful lady. Diana will be missed by so many - I know my days are not the same I miss her smile, her sparkling eyes and her conversations. I am so lucky to have had such a long and wonderful friendship with her.

Thank you Diana for being my friend. Love you always - Cindy



*Diana, receiving the Living Treasure Award, pictured with co-worker Steve Sap, H2H Case Manager*



*Diana, Cindy, & Leslie Orth, LSS Executive Director*



**Community Conscience sends our sincere condolences to  
Hugo Roche & family and Teresa Seeley & family**



### **Johanna Elizabeth "Jo Beth" Ginther, July 1, 1988 - September 24, 2014 - Granddaughter of Hugo Roche**

Jo Beth was remembered at St. Pachal Baylon Catholic Church on October 4, 2014 by friends & family as a full-of-life brown-eyed, spunky girl who loved every stray animal she found, and had many goals & dreams for her life. Jo Beth was an intelligent and beautiful young lady. She was a lover of sports and during her young life played soccer, basketball, baseball and softball. Jo Beth was an avid Dodgers and Raiders fan. She had a wicked sense of humor and a huge loyal heart. Jo Beth had an interest in construction and was contemplating pursuing her contractor's license. She dealt heroically with this journey we call life, and persevered through many difficult times, never losing faith and providing us with inspiration to overcome our own adversities.

Our thoughts and prayers go to  
Teresa Seeley, Executive Director of Conejo Free Clinic  
on the loss of her husband, Ken Seeley, who passed away on September 1<sup>st</sup> after a long illness.



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