

THE LADY INCREDIBLE!

April 5, 2024



Dear Friends,

The traditional gift for a 30th anniversary is pearls – which, when discussing our recent 30th Annual Lady in Red Gala that took place March 17th at The Breakers, is highly appropriate for several reasons.

First, pearls represent a strong, long-lasting bond.

And that's what the evening, and all of LIFE, was and is about – the cement-like bond we have as a community dedicated to giving voice to the voiceless, strength to the weak and most vulnerable.

That is wonderfully manifested in our philanthropic support from the gala. We raised \$2 million to benefit two very necessary initiatives:



Lois Pope and Jay Leno



Global superstar singer and songwriter Paul Anka

- ★ Pups4Patriots, which you know is a partnership with our dear friends at American Humane and which rescues dogs from shelters, gives them specialized training, and then pairs them for free as Certified Service Dogs with Veterans suffering from the ravages of PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury.
- ★ Lois' Food4Kids, a program with our wonderful friends at Palm Beach County Food Bank, provides backpacks filled with free nutritious meals and snacks to the many thousands of food-insecure children in our region when they are not in school—on weekends, holidays, and summer, winter, and spring vacations.

Second, pearls are one of the most beautiful jewels, and the Lady in Red was truly a beautiful gem of an evening, our most successful to date. Indeed, the premier social and philanthropic event of the Palm Beach season was an evening of fun and frivolity, as our nearly 700 guests, clad in both red and green (and black tie) for the occasion on St. Patrick's Day, enjoyed the always first-class entertainment headlined by global superstar singer and songwriter Paul Anka and iconic comedian and TV show host Jay Leno.

We also enjoyed a sumptuous cocktail hour featuring a performance of Broadway tunes played by the Palm Beach Symphony Orchestra, a lavish dinner with a lobster and crabcake appetizer and filet mignon main course, and the always popular mile-high, make-your-own ice cream sundae dessert. And all this was followed by music and dancing to the sounds of the Danny Beck Band.

Third, pearls always make for a wonderful present– I know because they are my June birthstone. So while this year's Lady in Red was held on St. Patrick's Day, the traditional holiday "pot of gold" at the end of the rainbow wound up being a pot of pearls: Every woman in attendance received a magnificent long string of pearls as a gift, courtesy of Lugano Diamond and its Co-Founder & CEO, my good friend Moti Ferder. Talk about the "luck of the Irish"!!!

Of course, an event like our 30th Lady in Red Gala and all the work we do at LIFE doesn't happen in a vacuum. It takes a village – a dedicated team of real pearls and amazing people. So, I'd like to take this moment to express my deepest gratitude to all of them:

***"We raised \$2 million
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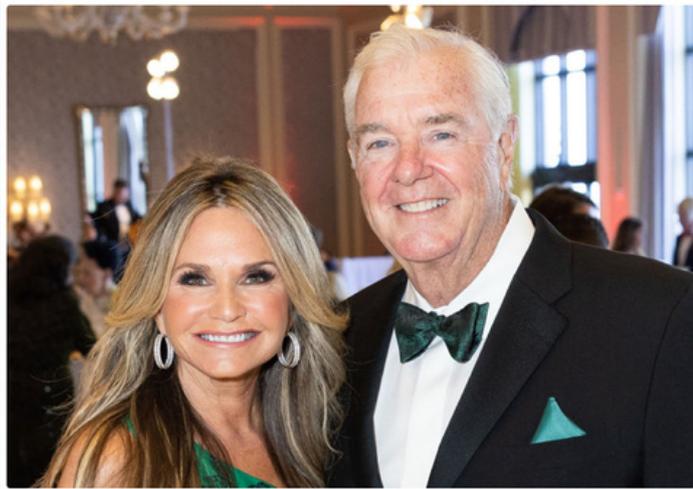
- ★ My fellow Gala Chair Christine Lynn; Grand Honorary Chair Tova Leidesdorf; Honorary Chairs Gail Worth and Frank Orenstein; Co-Chairs Dr. Robin Ganzert and Marti LaTour; Inspirational Chairs Holly and David Dreman, Caroline Harless, and Ari Rifkin; and Entertainment Chair Sunny Sessa.
- ★ Sponsors were Corporate Ambassadors Sally Kimball, President & Founder of Ambassador Realty Corporation; Moti Ferder, Co-Founder & CEO of Lugano Diamonds; Christiane Ouvier, Boutique Director, Van Cleef & Arpels; and Walter J. Schwenk, AAMS, Managing Director-Investment Officer, Wells Fargo Advisors.

As memorable as our 30th Annual Lady in Red was, I promise you that next year's gala – our 31st -- will be equally remarkable. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, March 2nd, at The Breakers. For more information, including sponsorships, tables, and tickets to next year's affair, please call me at the LIFE office at 561.582.8083 or visit www.life-edu.org.

With love always,

Lois

The 30th Annual **Lady In Red** Gala was a Gem of an evening













To learn more,
visit life-edu.org or call 561-582-8083