

# LIFEnotes

## LIFE'S LADY IN RED GALA

### *Dazzles & Delivers*

*Behind the Masks, Over \$1 Million Raised  
for Those Who Need It Most*



March 10, 2026

Dear Friends:

For all of you who attended LIFE's 32nd Annual Lady in Red Gala at The Breakers a few weeks ago, there may be some with "Temptations" to say that it was the best one to date.

But it's not "Just My Imagination" – or yours!

Indeed, more than 600 civic and community leaders who attended the sold-out gala collectively agreed: It was, without a doubt, the social philanthropic event of the Palm Beach season, and it kept alive our three-decades-old tradition of bringing together the finest entertainment and the most delicious food – and to do so while raising several million dollars for our local charity partners.

As the Lady in Red this year featured a masquerade theme, the ballroom was a sea of sequins and glamorous masks, reminding me that I hadn't seen that much glitter since a Liberace show in Las Vegas. Nevertheless, it was appropriate that the affair had such a theme because it was held right before Mardi Gras.



Lois Pope with The Temptations at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lady in Red Gala.

Beyond the Mardi Gras motif, though, the reasons the gala was such a rousing success are manifold, starting with fabulous cocktail hour, which once again featured the always wonderful Palm Beach Symphony performing memorable songs from the greatest, most beloved Broadway shows – from "Phantom of the Opera" to "Oklahoma," among so many others. I know that as I walked around the room greeting and thanking you all for coming, I noticed quite a few of you humming and singing the words to the iconic melodies from those hits.



The legendary Temptations perform at The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lady in Red Gala.



Rita Rudner kept the audience in stitches at the 32nd annual **Lady in Red Gala**.

We were all also singing the praises – actually, we were all laughing uproariously – when our good friend Rita Rudner took to the stage for a set of her sharpest insights and one-liners about life, marriage, getting older, trying to understand the newest technologies, and the differences between men and women. It is no wonder Rita is the biggest selling Las Vegas comedian of all time!

Of course, when it comes to the biggest and best, we couldn't have had a greater musical headliner than the legendary Motown group The Temptations. Few, if any, do harmony better than they do, and they had everyone on their feet while they crooned such huge hits as "Treat Her Like A Lady," "The Way You Do The Things You Do," "Get Ready" "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me," and "Just My Imagination." They capped off their awe-inspiring performance by engaging three attendees in a mini "sing-off" of their biggest hit, "My Girl."

When we weren't all singing and dancing, we thoroughly devoured mini lobster rolls and other delectable appetizers during the cocktail hour; enjoyed the most tender crab cake, lobster tail and filet mignon dinner followed by individual make-your-own ice cream sundaes for dessert – and then we danced off all those calories to the sounds of the famous Legends Band.

Amid all the Lady in Red's signature glamour and celebration, the evening also carried its meaningful purpose, raising more than \$1 million in support of the Pups4Patriots program at American Humane Society, Lois' Food4Kids at the Palm Beach County Food Bank, Lois' Vision4Kids at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, and the Lois Pope Pet Center at Tri County Animal Rescue.

Putting on such a successful gala is no small task, as you can imagine. So, while I thanked them that evening, I want to again express my deepest gratitude to my fellow chair Suzi Goldsmith; honorary chair Ari Rifkin; co-chairs Marti LaTour, Mike and Diana Retzer; and Gail Worth and Frank Orenstein; Friends for LIFE chairs Holly and David Dremen, Nancy Pontius, Brooke Samples and Lloyd Schiller, and Suzie Sayfie; LIFE Savers chairs Christine Lynn and Denise and Lee Rizzuto; Junior chair Erika Rizzuto; Inspirational chairs Dr. Peter and Simone Bonutti, Dr. Robin Ganzert, Caroline Harless, Drs. Henry and Marsha Laufer, and Cindy and Ron McMackin, and Entertainment chair Sunny Sessa.

The evening's Corporate Ambassadors were Sally Kimball, President and Founder of Ambassador Realty Corporation; Christiane Ouvier, Boutique Director of Van Cleef and Arpels, and Walter J. Schwenk, Managing Director and Investment Officer at Wells Fargo Advisors.

Now, if this year's Lady in Red was our best to date, the only way to possibly top it is to make sure that next year's gala is even better. We've already started the planning – our **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lady in Red Gala** is set for **Sunday, March 14, 2027**, at **The Breakers Palm Beach**. It promises to be a wonderful start to your St. Patrick's Day festivities. For more information about tickets and tables, becoming a sponsor, or making a donation please contact me at the office at 561.582.8083, [life@life-edu.org](mailto:life@life-edu.org), or [www.life-edu.org](http://www.life-edu.org).

I look forward to speaking with you, and seeing you in the coming days and weeks. In the meantime,

Love Always,

*Lois*

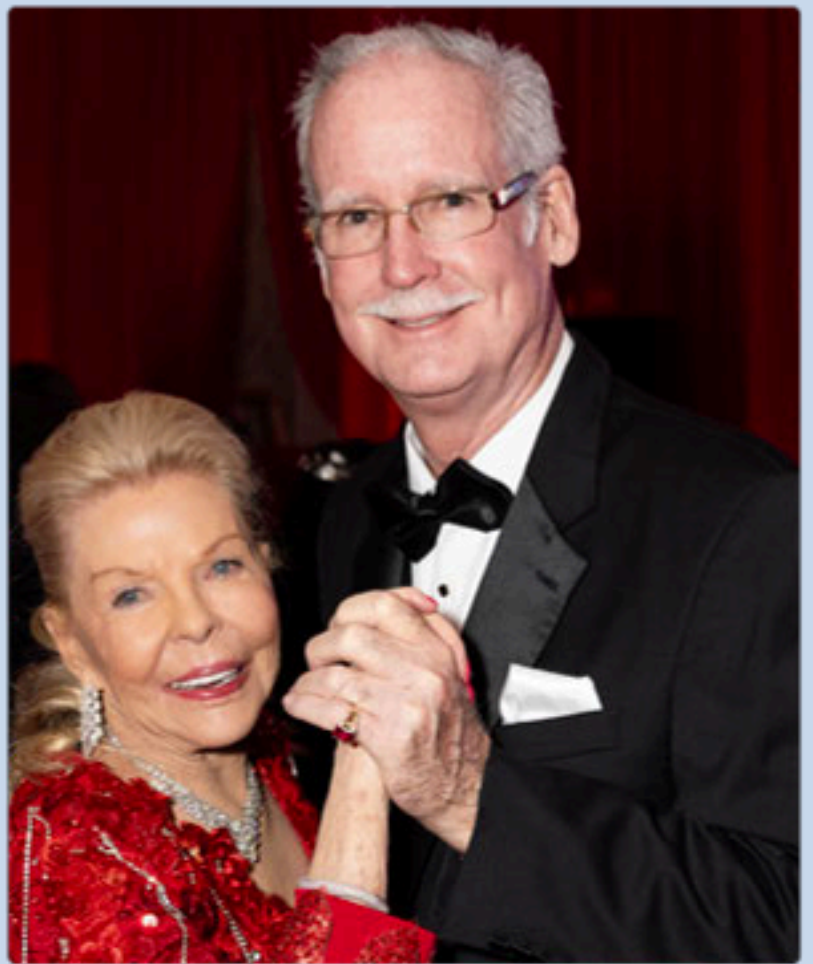














COME TO THE

# MASQUERADE

AT LIFE'S 33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL

## LADY IN RED GALA

SUNDAY

MARCH 14, 2027

6PM

THE BREAKERS PALM BEACH

Starring

COMEDY ICON

# JAY LENO

AND COMEDIENNE EXTRAORDINAIRE

# RITA RUDNER

Guests will also enjoy the Palm Beach Symphony performing Broadway hits during cocktails, a gourmet dinner, and dancing to music by the Danny Beck Band!

Reserve your tables and sponsorships early for what is always THE social philanthropic event of the entire Palm Beach season!

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