LIFEnotes

A Season of Thanks– a LIFE of Giving





November 5, 2026

Dear Friends:

It's hard to believe November is already here. It is my favorite time of year because it brings both Veterans Day and Thanksgiving.

You know how important honoring Veterans is to me and all of us at LIFE, especially our nation's more than four million living disabled Veterans. The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial, our country's only permanent public tribute to disabled Veterans, would not exist in our nation's capital if not for the more than two-decade-long quest we undertook to build it.

Some may have said we were "tilting at windmills," to borrow a phrase from Miguel de Cervantes' Don Quixote. But we knew it had to be done. It was our collective responsibility to ensure that our disabled veterans' sacrifices and heroism would always be remembered and never marginalized.

What you may not know is that Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday for four reasons. The first three, I'm sure, are obvious to all of you: family, food, and the opportunity to give back. But for me, the most extraordinary reason is that my daughter Maria was born on Thanksgiving Day. I won't reveal the year, but you can imagine that no Thanksgiving could have been more special.



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For most of us, of course, the feast takes center stage. Just thinking about the aroma of turkey roasting alongside sweet potatoes, stuffing, and vegetables is enough to make my mouth water with anticipation.

Then there is family. Seeing my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren always fills me with pride and love. We may occasionally disagree—or cheer for rival teams during college and professional football games—but, as Louisa May Alcott wrote in Little Women, "I do think that families are the most beautiful things in all the world!" On that, I bet we can all agree.

Purchase your tickets and tables before the Lady in Red Gala sells out!
Call 561-582-8083 or visit life-edu.org.

I am also thankful for all that we have achieved together at LIFE, and for your dedication, which has made our annual Lady in Red Gala a highlight of Palm Beach's social and philanthropic calendar. The 33rd Annual Lady in Red will take place on Sunday, March 14, 2027, at The Breakers, headlined by comedy icon Jay Leno and the extraordinary comedienne Rita Rudner.

Their performances will surely have us laughing, but the Gala's deeper purpose reflects the true spirit of Thanksgiving. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving, calling on Americans to recognize their blessings. Today, the words "thanks" and "giving" immediately bring your generosity to mind.

I am profoundly grateful for your support of the Lady in Red and for everything you make possible through LIFE. Because of you, our beneficiary organizations can continue transforming lives.

One of these organizations especially embodies LIFE's mission and puts the spirit of Thanksgiving into practice: Tri-County Animal Rescue, home to the veterinary clinic I was proud to endow about six years ago. Through the Lady in Red, your generosity continues to sustain its vital work. And it is, for sure, vital.





In fact, I believe the Lois Pope Pet Clinic may be unique in the United States. It provides a full range of veterinary services—at low or little cost—to pets from low-income families. Its care extends beyond dogs and cats to rabbits and other companion animals.

Each month, the Clinic treats more than 1,200 animals, more than half at low cost and the rest at very little charge. Its compassionate, expert care includes:

- Spaying and neutering
- Annual physical examinations
- Laboratory tests
- X-rays for bone and joint conditions
- Major surgery and other essential treatment

It comes as no surprise that these pets' families are always "giving thanks" to Tri-County and the Pope Clinic for helping their furry companions live healthy, happy lives. And the importance of this work is being recognized far beyond our region.

Just a few months ago, our dear friend Suzi Goldsmith, founder and chair of Tri-County, told me that the organization had received a a generous grant from PetSmart Charities through its Accelerator program to expand access to the veterinary care provided by the Clinic.

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Tri-County was selected as one of only 10 organizations across the country to receive this grant, making the recognition especially significant. It has already put the funding to good use, expanding the Clinic's medical capabilities by adding another surgeon and increasing access to procedures that might previously have required referrals to significantly more expensive specialty hospitals.

The next phase will help strengthen the Clinic for years to come through improvements to technology and medical infrastructure, expansion of the veterinary team, increased outreach, and new ways to make its services more accessible.

Every morning, when I see my menagerie of dogs and cats, I "give thanks" that I have the means to care for them. In return, they "give thanks" to me with their unconditional love.





I'm confident that all of you with dogs, cats, and other pets know that distinctive, heartwarming feeling. So, just as I am always "giving thanks" for your continued generosity, I am hoping—and asking—that you will once again support the 33rd Annual Lady in Red Gala by becoming a sponsor or purchasing tables and tickets. It's as easy as calling my office at 561-582-8083.

I look forward to speaking with you. In the meantime, I wish you all a fulfilling Thanksgiving, surrounded by family and friends, filled with festivity, and, of course...

Love Always,

Lois

PS: Purchase your tickets and tables before the event sells out!

Call 561-582-8083 or visit life-edu.org.



LOIS POPE AND THE BOARD OF LIFE
INVITE YOU TO A

MASQUERADE

AT LIFE'S 33RD ANNUAL

LADY IN RED GALA

SUNDAY,
MARCH 14, 2027
6PM
THE BREAKERS PALM BEACH

ENJOY AN EVENING OF COMEDY

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 of the Danny Beck Band!

Reserve your tables and sponsorships early for one of the most anticipated philanthropic and social events of the Palm Beach season!

life@life-edu.org · 561.582.8083 · life-edu.org