

PHILANTHROPY

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Candlelight Ball Continues Its Successes

The **Scripps Health Foundation** recently hosted the 88th Annual Candlelight Ball at the **Fairmont Grand Del Mar**. The December sold-out event raised \$150,000 for the A. Brent Eastman, M.D., Trauma Area inside the **Barbey Family Emergency and Trauma Center** at **Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla**. In addition to supporting the trauma center, patrons further contributed to the

trauma program by supporting clinical research and graduate medical education to advance trauma medicine. Premier sponsors for the 88th Candlelight Ball were **Union Bank** and **Rudy Vilkutaitis**. Nearly 450 guests enjoyed fine cuisine and entertainment by **William Close and the Earth Harp** and dance music by **The Mighty Untouchables**.

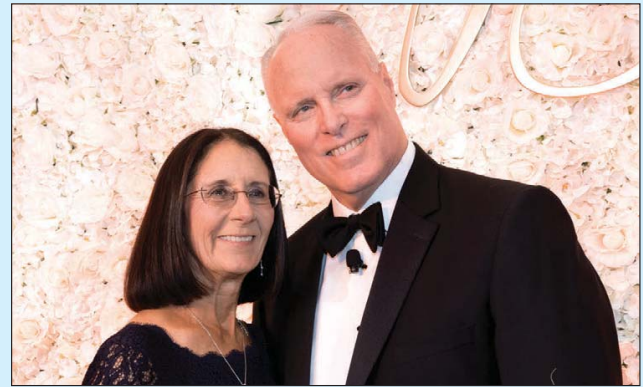


Photo courtesy of Scripps Health Foundation
Scripps Health CEO, Chris Van Gorder, right, and his wife, Rosemary, at the 88th Annual Candlelight Ball to raise funds for the Scripps Health Foundation.



Photo courtesy of National Conflict Resolution Center
Ann Navarra, left, at the National Conflict Resolution Center's inaugural women's changemaker luncheon.

Changemaker Luncheon Looks To Advance Civility, Community

One hundred of San Diego's influential women converged for the **National Conflict Resolution Center's** inaugural women's changemaker luncheon to discuss civility and action plans toward a brighter future for the communities NCRC serves. The luncheon was held at the home of member, **Ann Navarra**. Navarra, the 2018 recipient of the **Convivio** Communitas Award for Leadership for her commitment to education, quality health care and the dedication to excellence which defines her family's entrepreneurial legacy (**Jerome's Furniture**). Convivio is a San Diego nonprofit dedicated to promoting Italian arts, culture and

heritage, through education and research, while embracing an innovative approach to cultural advancement.

NCRC is partnering with schools and law enforcement to transform San Diego's juvenile justice system and avoid the "school to prison pipeline." NCRC's groundbreaking restorative justice model keeps youth in school and out of jail, builds and strengthens communities, and helps heal victims of crime.

NCRC was founded in 1983 by the **University of San Diego Law Center** and the **San Diego County Bar Association**. NCRC is recognized as an international leader in mediation instruction and conflict resolution. Visit ncrconline.com.



Photo courtesy of San Diego Rescue Mission
More than 250 volunteers at the San Diego Rescue Mission served more than 1,000 meals to the homeless for its Christmas Outreach Meal.

Delivering a Meal And So Much More

More than 1,000 of San Diego's homeless men, women and children gathered at the **San Diego Rescue Mission** recently for the Christmas Outreach Meal. This is one of three times in the year when the San Diego Rescue Mission opens its doors to the homeless community to celebrate the holidays. More than 250 volunteers assisted throughout the day and served these

individuals a holiday feast consisting of ham, potatoes, vegetables, salad and dessert. In addition, individuals were offered hygiene kits and knit hats. These individuals and families living on the streets were given information on the Rescue Mission's life-changing programs. San Diego's homeless enjoyed a home-cooked meal, entertainment, and a chance to celebrate holiday festivities. Visit sdrescue.org.

PET Program Taps the Healing Powers of Animals

Helen Woodward Animal Center's Pet Encounter Therapy, or PET, brings the unconditional love and tactile benefits of animals to people in skilled nursing facilities, children's shelters, hospitals, psychiatric units and other institutions. The basis of the important therapy stems from studies showing that interacting with animals provides benefits such as relaxation, lower blood pressure, improved long- and short-term memory and sensory stimuli.

Dan Walker, a 3.5 year old cat, was pulled from the streets of Tijuana missing his two back feet in addition to severe wounds on his back legs. After rehabilitation at the center, his foster — turned permanent "mom" — **Stacey Agan** immediately saw a love for people in Dan and had him tested into the center's PET program where he passed with flying colors. Right now, Dan is one of just two cats in the PET program. In the last 25 years, there have only been six who have met the high standards of the program.



Photo courtesy of Helen Woodward Animal Shelter
Dan Walker, a cat rescued from the streets of Tijuana and Pilot, a golden retriever rest from their duties at skilled nursing centers as part of Helen Woodward Animal Center's Pet Encounter Therapy program.

Explaining the special gift of bringing a cat into one of the center's PET's facilities, **Robin Cohen**, PET manager said: "A cat like Dan Walker is so rare that he can make the wishes of clients come true."

PET is on track to providing 25,000 animal interactions this year.

Not-So-Secret Santas Deliver Joy for Kids at Rady

Red O La Jolla, a Mexican restaurant in La Jolla, hosted a toy drive during the first two weeks of December and donated more than 60 unwrapped gifts to the sick children of **Rady Children's Hospital San Diego**.

Each guest who brought in a new and unwrapped children's toy, received a free appetizer or dessert during their next Red O visit. Some of the sick children of Rady Children's Hospital's are unable to spend their Christmas at home, as many are faced with chronic illnesses and life-threatening diseases.

Rady Children's Hospital is the only hospital in San Diego dedicated exclusively to pediatric health care and is the region's only designated pediatric trauma center. Its facility is a major pediatric clinical research center that works in collaboration with world-renowned institutions, including **UCSD** and **St. Jude**



Photo courtesy of Red O
Michael Martinez, general manager of Red O, on his way into a toy drive held for Rady Children's Hospital.

Children's Research Hospital.

Rady Children's Hospital said in a statement that this was its first year for a toy drive and that "seeing the smiles on these children and families' faces, who may be otherwise in the hospital for Christmas was just amazing. We're very thankful and appreciate to Red O for stepping up to the plate to do this."