

Desert Scene



Harold Matzner, philanthropist and owner of Spencer's Restaurant, enjoying a cocktail on the patio. TALI SONG ROTH/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

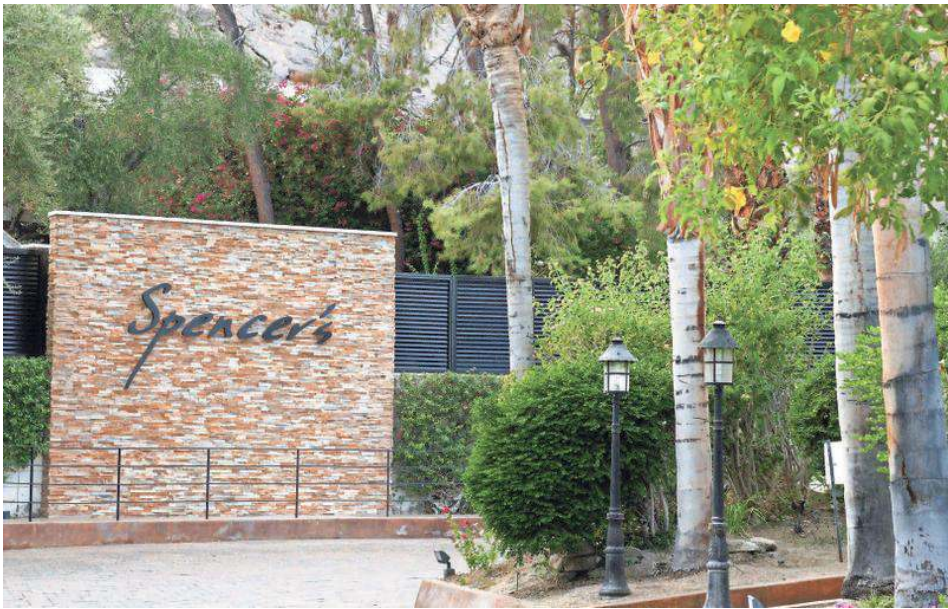
Dining Out for Life Greater Palm Springs 2018 raises \$280,000

Steve Henke
Special to Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

Seventy-five local restaurants and bars participated in Dining Out for Life Coachella Valley on April 26, raising \$280,000 (\$50,000 more than last year) for client services at Desert AIDS Project (D.A.P.) Residents were asked to 'Make Three Meals Matter' at participating locations throughout the day and over 10,000 Coachella Valley residents responded, raising enough funds to place Greater Palm Springs second in overall fundraising in North America. "You couldn't go anywhere without seeing someone wearing a 'badge of honor' – The I Dined stickers given to diners at participating locations," said Darrell Tucci, D.A.P. Chief Development Officer.

Leading the way as top fundraising restaurant this year was **Harold Matzner's Spencer's Restaurant**, which was followed by **Lulu California Bistro** and **Trio** as the top three fundraising restaurants in all of North America. Together, they raised a combined total of \$61,679.

Dining Out for Life is a national campaign held each year on the last Thursday in April throughout the United States and Canada to raise funds for AIDS Service Organizations. Generous participating restaurants in the Coachella Valley committed to contributing 33% or more of their food, beverage, and liquor gross sales to support Desert AIDS Project. "In 2018, there were 45



Spencer's Restaurant. GREGG FELSEN/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

Dining Out For Life events throughout North America. More than 3,000 restaurants participated, and with the support of 4,000 volunteers and 400,000 diners, more than \$4 million was raised to support local HIV services," said David Newcomb, President, Dining Out for Life International Board of Directors

"Only Denver, who had three times more participating restaurants, raised more funds this year" said Tucci who attended the North American Dining Out for Life Conference where results were announced. "To be the smallest market

in population driving the second largest results is absolutely extraordinary and something we should all be proud of. Other markets have more participating restaurants, but no other market can boast the level of commitment shown by restaurants in Greater Palm Springs."

Desert AIDS Project CEO, **David Brinkman** reflected recently on Matzner's history of support for D.A.P. "What **Harold Matzner** does for Desert AIDS Project is truly extraordinary. In addition to Dining Out for Life, Harold is a major sponsor of the Steve Chase Hu-

manitarian Awards, where we've honored him in the past, and has made other lasting contributions to Desert AIDS Project to fund compassionate care for our almost 5,000 patients and clients." He continues, "At Desert AIDS Project, our goal and our specialty is helping people achieve overall health. And, thanks to our history, our team, our status as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and a community in action, we have the ability to help more people who need it with the help of business leaders like Harold Matzner. Our FQHC status has led to a dramatic increase in patients in our care that has severely strained the existing facilities. We recently launched our capital campaign, D.A.P. Vision 2020, which when fully funded, will enable us to double the number of patients and clients we serve. You can read more about Desert AIDS Projects bold vision for the future of healthcare in our Valley at dapvision2020.org

The 2019 Dining Out for Life Event will be held on Thursday, April 25 and will introduce dynamic new branding and a colorful new campaign focused on the experience of a community dining together. Local restaurants that wish to participate next year should contact Darrell Tucci at Desert AIDS Project. Tucci believes this local event is the perfect opportunity to get into action and volunteer. "This event is about making a

See LIFE, Page 6G

Inside Desert Scene

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These pages have lost one of our own

Betty Francis, Trudy Tedder and Al Jones

Special to Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Sunday Desert Scene section of The Desert Sun newspaper is unique in the newspaper industry. It is the only regularly-published newspaper section in the country (now in its 11th season) to be written, photographed, and published entirely by unpaid, volunteer reporters.

Most of our 20-or-so Guest Reporters are professional writers who donate hundreds of hours, time and talent to publicizing our local charities. Despite all the high-pressure work and deadline drama, we love doing it.

But this summer was different – and tragic. For the first time, one of our own, Guest Reporter Marc Byrd died unexpectedly, at the much-too-young age of 64.

Marc’s husband of 26 years, Al Jones was at his side when Marc passed and there was a long list of friends and associates waiting for an opportunity to visit him during his final weeks at Renker, Eisenhower Health Center. Marc’s funeral at St Margaret’s Episcopal Church in Palm Desert was standing room only and included friends, dignitaries, and many of his fellow guest reporters and others from The Desert Sun.

Actually, his job as a volunteer reporter was only the latest of Marc’s numerous careers – all highly diversified and successful. He was best known here in the desert as the award-winning owner of The Village Florist from 1979 to 1985. But for over 30 years he was best known in the Los Angeles area as the “florist to the stars.” During that dynamic era he won dozens of national honors for the floral and décor designs he created for his superstar clients.

Marc’s other successes included being an organist, pianist, singer, actor, teacher, professional speaker and writer, all after earning two of the highest possible ranks of achievement in the Boy Scouts of America.

Marc was also very active in desert charities and served on the boards of the Palm Springs Opera Guild, ACT for MS, (Multiple Sclerosis) and the University of Redlands Alumni.

After retiring, Marc began sending reports to Facebook with entertaining comments on charity events he and husband Al attended. Those lively descriptions caught the eye of philanthropists like Peggy Cravens, who suggested he share them with this Desert Scene Sunday section.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Beginning in January of 2017, Marc became an almost full time reporter but within a few weeks, he had to shed the “almost” part of that statement. He never turned down an assignment, even when it meant changing personal plans he and Al had made. For more information, the August 15, 2918 issue of The Desert Sun carried a more detailed obituary on page 14-A.

Dozens of friends, fans and fellow guest reporters wrote to these pages, expressing their shock and sorrow at Marc’s untimely death. Here are some of them:

Madeline Zuckerman

“I miss Marc dearly because of his fun and upbeat attitude. His creativity was unpatrolled. What a loss.”

Joe Giarrusso

When I think of Marc, I always remember his loving eyes – seeing me walk into a room. He looked deep into my soul and gave me bear hugs that made me feel that I was someone special. Beig 5’2”, I was totally enwrapped in love.

Peggy Cravens

“The consummate gentleman – this is how I will ALWAYS remember Marc. I feel so blessed to have had the pleasure to spend consecutive days with Marc and Al – on our sojourns to many wonderful places. The Lord blessed Marc not only with good looks – but also great taste, talent and a “wicked sense of humor.” Definitely a man for all seasons. I will miss you greatly dear friend.



Al Jones, actor Armie Hammer, Elizabeth Hammer and Marc Byrd at the 2018 International Film Festival Opening Gala. Armie and Elizabeth are close friends of Marc and Al. PHOTOS BY AL JONES/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN



Tracy Waggoner (Al's niece), Gloria Greer, Marc Byrd, Al Jones, Ann Greer and Peggy Cravens at Marc's and Al's wedding in July 2013 at Morningside Country Club.



Front row, from left: John McDonald, Peggy Cravens, Ogniana Masser and Al Jones. Back row, from left: Rob Wright and Marc Byrd at the home of John and Rob in Beaver Creek, Col., in 2016. John and Rob donated the building that houses the LGBTQ Community Center of Palm Springs.

Arlene Rosenthal

Marc was the consummate volunteer, and fabulous designer. He had a heart of gold. Two years ago he decorated a bare artificial Christmas tree Leo Milmet bid on and won, to the amazement of the 2000 people at Christmas at the Convention, benefitting the Well In The Desert. It was sponsored by the City of Palm Springs and the Auen Foundation and it will have even more meaning for us this year.

Susan and Warren Gelman

The last time we saw Marc was when

we had just arrived home from vacationing in Utah and had heard that Marc was not doing well. I called and asked if I could bring dinner and Al and Marc were thrilled.

We brought a dinner on a Monday and Marc seemed in good spirits and we had a lovely time. Al told me that they enjoyed our dinner for 2 nights. Unfortunately Al said that was the last real dinner Marc had.

We will be missing Marc and his many talents for years to come but the memories of a lovely gentleman will always live on.

Good bye friend you are missed by all who knew you. I took that photo the



Marc Robert Byrd's tombstone.

night we brought dinner!
Thank you!

Ann Greer & Norma Greer Fishkind, twin daughters of the late Gloria Greer

Marc Byrd was a friend of Gloria Greer’s whole family since the late 70s; always generous with his time, talent, and smiles. A few highlights: (A) my grandmother’s last dog, Baroness, was born on Marc’s bed - she lived to be 14. B) Marc was the first one to bring a teddy bear to Norma for the birth of her first son (C) Mom introduced me to Marc and Al in Los Angeles and then, when they moved to the desert, she introduced them to EVERYONE.

D) Marc helped Ann bury their mom’s ashes next to her father in New York exactly one year ago.

Norma Greer Fishkind also worked for Marc and Beau James when she was in college and commented “Marc was so giving, talented, and over the top at whatever he put his hand to.”

Iris Williams, OBE

I’ll never forget this incident I had with Marc:

Tory and I were invited by Margo to take a nice, calm boat ride at Lake Mirage with Susan Hunt and dear Marc on-board. Margo supplied refreshments and wine of course.

There were several low bridges along the way but with so much food and wine, I paid no attention. Then, suddenly, Marc screamed at me to sit down. I, of course, asked why? Well the reason was soon revealed -- my head was about to be chopped off going under one of these low bridges!!!!

Thanks to Mark for saving my neck and allowing me to continue singing.

Jim Lapidus

I met Marc indirectly through Libe-race years ago. Once, while showing Lee sketches at his home I commented on the amazing Floral Arrangements in the rooms. I asked where were they from and Lee said “ Marc Byrd floral designer to the Stars!” Aren’t they Magnificent!”

Because of Social Media and Facebook , Marc had hundreds of friends and followers. Marc inspired creative people with his daily posts and well as friends and family.

When Al & Marc to a trip because of Social Media and Facebook, you felt like you were sitting on the Lanai with them sipping Mai Tai’s and watching the sunset!

Because of Social Media and Facebook when Al and Marc went to a fabulous dinner party hosted by one of their many close friends, you felt like you had a seat at the table. And when Marc worked on one of his Fabulous Christmas creations for ACT for MS or one of his many other charities, you felt like you were there, helping him decorate. I will continue to Inspire and think of Marc every day!

Miss your posts and I miss you my talented friend!

Bill Davidson

I will never forget the whole day I spent with Marc on Mount San Jacinto. Obviously the scenery was beautiful, but spending time with Marc was what made the day special. That day, we talked about everything under the sun both figuratively and literally. Marc was an excellent conversationalist -- always was very caring and sincere. I think this sincerity made me always feel comfortable with him, even from our very first dinner together on the evening I arrived to Palm Springs.

DESERT SCENE CONTRIBUTORS



BETTY FRANCIS
Director of Desert Scene,
becha1@aol.com
(760) 202-7111



TRUDY TEDDER
Associate Director of Desert Scene,
desertsun@desertscene.com
(760) 861-4231



Barry Dayton



Sandra Gramajo



Steve Henke



Al Jones

Contact us

■ **Have an event you want us to cover?**
Send announcements to Betty Francis at becha1@aol.com and Trudy Tedder at desertsundesertscene@outlook.com.
■ **Want your event listed?**
Please email your event information to RobertHopwood@DesertSun.com.

Online at desertsun.com/desertscene

- See more photos from charitable events.
- Use our searchable database to find mission statements and contact information for local nonprofit organizations.

Life Without Limits Bowl-a-thon filled with fun

Sandra Gramajo
Special to Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

The 28th Annual United Cerebral Palsy of the Inland Empire (UCPIE) Bowl-a-thon held recently at the Palm Springs Lanes was filled with enthusiastic faces, full of fun and cheer.

Every year UCPIE hosts a variety of events to fund their adaptive bike and seven after-school programs for children and adults living with disabilities including down syndrome, autism, epilepsy, cerebral palsy and others.

These two UCPIE programs are funded by community grants and fundraising efforts.

Every day special needs children all the way from Mecca to Desert Hot Springs attend the Skill Builders after-school programs.

The programs develop five vital skill areas: socialization, independence, communication, safety and health, through a small student-to-teacher ratio.

The adaptive bike program is open to special needs individuals of all ages residing in both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Bowl-a-thon is more than your average fundraiser. It's a huge party for the special needs kids attending the program, their parents, UCPIE donors and supporters! Everyone can be seen laughing, sharing stories and making new friends.

This year lane sponsors were: Palm Springs Subaru and Contour Dermatology & Cosmetic Surgery, the Kiwanis Club of Palm Springs, Kate Farms, Palm Springs Motors, Desert Occupational Therapy for Kids, Variety -the Children's Charity of the Desert, Shottenkirk Desert Lexus, Acker Chiropractic, Northgate Community Church, the City of Rancho Mirage, Angel View, Inc., Dr. Jim Cox, Chiropractor, Escape Room Palm Springs, Thousand Palms Chamber of Commerce, Caliber Collision & many more.

All proceeds raised from Bowl-a-thon continue to fund UCPIE's adaptive bike and seven after-school programs. UCPIE's tagline is "Life without Limits for People with Disabilities".

This is the UCPIE family -- a group of people who come together to raise



UCPIE supporters with UCPIE President/CEO Greg Wetmore, chairman of the board Demitrious Sinor and attorney Walter Clark.



Participants in the Desert Hot Springs after-school program. PHOTOS BY SANDRA GRAMAJO/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

much-needed funds and awareness. Together they uplift, inspire and make a positive impact in our local community.

To learn more about UCPIE's mission and their wonderful resources and programs please visit ucpie.org.



COLLEGE OF THE DESERT
60th Anniversary
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ALL ALUMNI TO RETURN TO CAMPUS ON
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TO CELEBRATE OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY!

- 4-6 p.m. | Football Field | FREE Alumni Homecoming Barbecue**
Reconnect with friends, classmates and professors
- RSVP — HomecomingRSVP@collegeofthedesert.edu**
- 6 p.m. | Football Field | Homecoming Game**
Don't miss the Roadrunners as they take on the Victor Valley Rams

THIS FREE EVENT
IS OPEN TO
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THEIR FAMILIES

— We want to reconnect with you! —

Email CODAlumni@collegeofthedesert.edu for more opportunities to stay in touch.

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Wang’s and Well in the Desert kiss, make up

Arlene Rosenthal
Special to Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

And what a party it was!
On Saturday, September 16, Beverly Sweigar, a desert fundraiser for many worthy organizations, threw a party for the benefit of the Well in the Desert.
People danced the night away to wonderful retro music while celebrating an organization that for 21 years has been the safety net for those homeless and those on the verge, in the west end of the Coachella Valley. The Well serves thousands of people in need with daily hot meals, weekly food distribution, emergency food boxes, home deliveries to the infirm, a summer cooling center with extended hours, showers, clothing and more, and provides a plethora of countless social services and referrals.
But this party was more than just a party. It was the coming together, the making of peace between Wang’s and the Well in the Desert.



The exterior of Wang’s. PHOTOS BY ARLENE ROSENTHAL/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

Well in the Desert and Wang’s have made peace after a previous disagreement.

FUNDRAISERS

Saturday October 27

A Musical Afternoon with award-winning soprano Michelle Fiore and accompanist Kurt Jordan: A Fundraising Event, hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Desert. Michelle and Kurt have played to sold out audiences at Coachella Valley Repertory Theater and other events. Limited seating in this intimate venue requires advance reservations for \$25 tickets. Program starts at 2 p.m. at UUCOD, 72425 Via Vail, Rancho Mirage. Purchase tickets by calling (760) 285-6114.
Artists Council 49th Annual Exhibition Awards Night featuring Awards Ceremony emceed by KESQ TV’s Patrick Evans in Palm Springs Art Museum’s Annenberg Theater at 5:45 PM, followed by reception in Elrod Sculpture Garden. The public is invited. Over 40 juried artworks will be exhibited in the Museum’s Jorgensen Gallery and Marks Graphics Center until December 9. Art is available for sale, with proceeds split between artists and Artists Council. Palm Springs Art Museum, 101 Museum Drive, Palm Springs. Information: www.artistscouncil.com or (760) 322-4800.

Saturday November 3

CancerPartners’ Passions Ball: An Evening of Heart & Soul, with cocktails, dinner, Passion Awards presentation and entertainment/dancing to The Greatest Hitz from Las Vegas. 6 p.m. The Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa, 71-333 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage. Tickets: \$300 per person. Information: (760) 770-5678 or cancerpartners.org.
Encore: A Celebration of American Idols, benefiting AAP—Food Samaritans. Starring American Idol Top Ten Finalist Ada Vox, with special guests Top Finalists David Hernandez and Effie Passerro. 6:30 p.m. Zeldas Nightclub, 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs. \$45 perperson and up. Advance purchase suggested. Information: celebritydoodles.com or (760) 325-8481.

Monday November 5

10th annual Broken Glass Awards Luncheon fundraiser, sponsored by Palm Springs Women in Film & TV, honors extraordinary women who have broken through the glass ceiling, paving the way for others in entertainment, arts and philanthropy. The 2018 BGA Honorees are actress Sharon Stone, entertainer Kaye Ballard, author Sue Cameron,

The discord started with an owner who became upset when the Well moved close to his business. It escalated, got nasty, and was like that for a year, until peace was brokered between both parties, with an apology from the owner and the willingness to work together for the common good into the future.
It was the making of peace that was the heart of this fundraiser. And everyone celebrated with joyous dancing and a heartfelt camaraderie.
Thanks go to all involved, Beverly, Guy, David, Lannie, and all the others who graciously gave of their time and efforts to make this the special night that it was.
For more information and reservations, please visit Wangsinthedesert.com, reservations@wangsinthedesert.com, or call 760-325-9264.
For information on Well in the Desert, please visit wellinthedesert.org or call 760-656-8905

non-profit founder Selby Dunham, and actress Elizabeth McLaughlin. 11 a.m. Agua Caliente Casino Resort & Spa in Rancho Mirage. \$100 or table of 10, and up. Information: (760) 238-0306 or office@pswift.org.

Thursday November 8

Annual Membership Tea, kicking off the new season for The Muses & Patroness Circle of McCallum Theatre, the Annual Membership Tea is a wonderful event for making new friends, kindling long-standing relationships and celebrating the important work of The Muses & Patroness Circle in supporting the programs of McCallum Theatre Education. Join the Muses from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at 8 Avenida Andra, Palm Desert. Contact 760-898-1734 or 760-346-6505 for reservations.

Tuesday November 27

Well in the Desert’s Desert Jam Session VI, featuring more than 20 of the valley’s top entertainers and the Jackson Garrett Band, plus cocktails, dinner buffet and Jammie Award presentation. 7 p.m. Spa Resort Casino, 401 E. Amado Road, Palm Springs. Tickets: \$95 per person. Information: (760) 323-8353 or wellinthedesert.org.

Monday December 10

Masquerade In Black & White, Desert Hot Springs Women’s Club’s annual Black & White Scholarship Fundraiser, which raises money for graduating Seniors from Desert Hot Springs High School. Featuring Dinner, veggie/meat/fish options, cash bar, door prizes, raffles, and silent auction, and entertainment by Fleet Easton. 6 p.m. Miracle Springs Resort & Spa. \$40 person tables of 8. Information and tickets, contact Shirley Bales at (760) 329-0877 or shirley.bales@gmail.com.

Thursday January 24

Literary Society of the Desert Author Lunch with Hannah Pittard, the author of the novel “Visible Empire,” an epic novel—based on true events—of love, grief, race, and wealth, charting a single sweltering summer in Atlanta that left no one unchanged. The Literary Society of the Desert promotes literacy and love of reading through presentations by leading authors as well as promoting literacy in the community. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon at the Thunderbird Country Club, 70737 Country Club Drive, Rancho Mirage. Contact 760-289-0173 or visit literarysocietyofthedesert.org.

Monday January 28

Casino Royale – A Supreme Happening, the annual fund-raiser for The Muses & Patroness Circle of McCallum Theatre will be an unforgettable evening of martinis and the magical music of Motown. You will be transported to the days when James Bond ruled the big screen and The Supremes topped the pop charts! Proceeds benefit McCallum Theatre Education. The excitement begins at 6:30 pm at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort and Spa, 71333 Dinah Shore Drive, Rancho Mirage. Tickets: \$375. Contact 760-776-6193 for reservations.

Saturday February 9

49th Annual Author Luncheon with Danielle Teller, benefiting Friends of the COD Library. Teller is the author of author of “All the Ever Afters.” 11:30 a.m. Renaissance Indian Wells Resort & Spa, 44400 Indian Wells Lane, Indian Wells. \$75 Members; \$90 non-members. Information: www.friendsofcodlibrary.org or (760) 333-0733.

Tuesday February 19

Literary Society of the Desert Author Lunch with Christina Lynch, novelist, television writer and professor. Her debut novel, “The Italian Party,” is set in Italy in 1956, when newly married Scottie and Michael are seduced by Tuscan’s famous beauty. The Literary Society of the Desert promotes literacy and love of reading through presentations by leading authors as well as promoting literacy in the community. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon at Indian Wells Country Club, 46000 Club Drive, Indian Wells. Contact 760-289-0173 or visit literarysocietyofthedesert.org.

Thursday March 7

CancerPartners’ Old Bags Luncheon, featuring a silent auction of 200 new, gently used and vintage designer handbags. 11 a.m., with VIP advance viewing at 10:30 a.m. Thunderbird Country Club, 70-737 Country Club Drive, Rancho Mirage. Tickets: \$150 per person, \$1350 table of 10. Information: (760) 770-5678 or cancerpartners.org.

Wednesday March 20

Literary Society of the Desert Author Lunch with Michelle Dean, an American journalist, critic and author of “Sharp: The Women Who Made an Art of Having an Opinion.” The book explores the significant contribution to the cultural

and intellectual history of America by ten women. The Literary Society of the Desert promotes literacy and love of reading through presentations by leading authors as well as promoting literacy in the community. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon at the Toscana Country Club, 76009 Via Club Villa, Indian Wells. Contact 760-289-0173 or visit literarysocietyofthedesert.org.

Wednesday April 17

Literary Society of the Desert Author Lunch with Whitney Scharer, the author of “The Age of Light,” a sweeping debut novel set in Paris in the 1930s about the love story between *Vogue* model turned photographer Lee Miller and artist Man Ray. The Literary Society of the Desert promotes literacy and love of reading through presentations by leading authors as well as promoting literacy in the community. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon at the La Quinta Country Club, 77750 Avenue 50, La Quinta. Contact 760-289-0173 or visit literarysocietyofthedesert.org.

Friday April 26

Annual On-Stage Birthday Lunch, hosted by Muses & Patroness Circle of McCallum Theatre, with proceeds supporting McCallum Theatre Education which brings life-changing arts education experiences to over 40,000 students and educators each year. Enjoy entertainment and a sumptuous luncheon on the McCallum stage with a beautifully lit Theatre as a dramatic and dynamic backdrop. Celebration begins at 11:00 am at the McCallum Theatre, 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert. Tickets: \$125, contact 760-776-6193 or mccallumtheatre.com/muses.

Thursday May 9

Literary Society of the Desert Author Lunch with Keith O’Brien, an award-winning journalist and a critically acclaimed author of books about dreams, Americana, and where the two meet. “Fly Girls” is the untold story of five women who competed in the national air races of the 1920s and 1930s. The Literary Society of the Desert promotes literacy and love of reading through presentations by leading authors as well as promoting literacy in the community. Doors open at 11:30, lunch at noon at The Vintage Club, 75001 Vintage Drive, Indian Wells. Contact 760-289-0173 or visit literarysocietyofthedesert.org.

PS Pride shows progress toward LGBT rights

Barry Dayton

Special to Palm Springs Desert Sun
USA TODAY NETWORK

Waiting for the 2018 Greater Palm Springs Pride Honors to begin on September 26 at Hilton Palm Springs, I flipped through the impressive 144-page magazine printed by *Palm Springs Life* for Greater Palm Springs Pride (GPS Pride) Week on November 1-4.

Page after page of ads for national brands were doing more than helping to defray the costs of the incredible work that **Ron deHarte** and the GPS (Gay Pride Saturday) Pride volunteers do all year long. These ads are testimony to the influence and purchasing power of today's LGBT community. How far things have come since the first Coachella Valley Pride event was held in 1986!

In 2016, GPS Pride events were attended by 140,000 people and in 2017 had an economic impact of \$24 million.



Lisa Middleton

Named "One of the 11 best Gay Pride Festival trips on the planet" by *Jetsetter* magazine and among "14 must-visit Pride Festivals worldwide!" by Holiday Lettings, a trip advisor company, GPS Pride highlights the LGBT civil rights movement, while being free and fun for tourists and locals alike.



Sherry Fulton

Among the LGBT and LGBT-friendly leaders were **Mike and Carol Balasa, Jimmy Boegle, David Brinkman, Paul Clowers, Ginny Foat, Brad Fuhr, Frank Goldstin, Jeff Hocker, Christy Holstege, Geoff Kors, Andy Linsky, Jeffrey Norman, Alexis Ortega, JR Roberts, Nicholas Snow, Mike Thompson, Darrell Tucci, and Brian Wanzek**. They know that the struggle for equal rights and a place at the tables of political power is never a sure thing and that the fight must continue until no group of people is left behind.

GPS Pride works year-round to help not only today's LGBT youth but those allies who support them in their fight to live their most authentic lives.

The 2018 GPS Pride magazine's lead article "Fighting the Good Fight" by **Daniel Vaillancourt** points out that, come Nov. 6, millions of 18-year-olds will be eligible to make a difference at the ballot box. The article also features five young, local activists who "put their energy where their heart is."

The youngest of the quintet is **Solange Signoret**, 13, of Palm Springs who made her first public speech at the age of seven against Prop 8's elimination of the right of same sex couples to marry in California. Since then, she's worked with groups including Equality California, For the Children, and Boo to Bullying, saying "Although I'm straight, I truly believe we're all equal and that we all have to treat each other the same."

The other admirable activists featured in the article – **Enrique Campos** from Yucca Valley, **Hannah Gillbank** of Coachella, **Carly Jacobs** in Joshua Tree, and **Hector Jimenez** of Indio – are endeavoring to effect change locally. In fact, there are so many like them that the Coachella Valley has been named collectively as Grand Marshals of the 2018 GPS Pride Parade.

Seeing such examples of youthful leadership must be truly gratifying to **Doug Hairgrove** and his husband **Warren "Woody" Wood** who received the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award is presented to individuals whose lifetime bodies of work have left a lasting impact on the LGBT community. The couple has devoted their lives to teaching and mentoring youth, as well as tirelessly helping many others for more than four decades. Falling in love during their senior year at the University of Redlands, Doug and Woody were married in California "after a 47-year engagement" in 2008.

Recognized as 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Advocate of the Year, **Lisa Middleton** became the first transgender person ever elected to any non-judicial office in California when she joined the Palm Springs City Council in November 2017. Advocating for equality and freedom from discrimination, as well as the rights to marriage and family, she is an active community leader working tirelessly to build bridges and relations throughout the desert.

Sherry Fulton, 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Volunteer of the Year, says she is perhaps most proud of her work with the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project. After one life as a Girl Scout and mother supporting many causes, she found the courage to begin a new life.

She came out by carrying the Minnesota state flag in the Pride Parade. Her busy volunteer life in Palm Springs includes working events for Old Lesbians Organizing for Change alongside wife **Ruth Debra**.

Denise Goolsby, who won the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Community Service Award, is well-known for her 13+ years



Lena Ingram won the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Emerging Leader Award.

STUART LOCKLEAR/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN



Lynn Hammond was honored with the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Friend of Pride Award.

DAVID A. LEE/
SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

at *The Desert Sun* as a reporter and columnist. She received the Publisher's Award in 2010 for her work interviewing more than 400 local World War II veterans. For more than two decades, she's been an active member of the community, including serving on the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission where she helped draft a Domestic Partnership Ordinance which passed the Palm Springs City Council unanimously in 2000.

After a successful career in catering, **Lynn Hammond** came to Palm Springs 19 years ago. She was honored with the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Friend of Pride Award. Although not personally identifying as LGBT, the socially-minded entrepreneur has long supported that community and others with her time, talent, and financial resources. Involved with the Human Rights Campaign for 12 years, including co-chairing its annual Palm Springs Garden Party, she was recently elected to HRC's National Board of Governors. Recognized as an Everyday Hero in December 2017 by Desert AIDS Project, Hammond is behind the scenes at a variety of events for the dozens of nonprofits she supports year after year.

Lena Ingram won the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Emerging Leader Award for aspiring to further the rights and medical care of transgender people worldwide. She serves on the Palm Springs Police Department LGBT Outreach Committee and the National HIV Testing Day Committee.

Ingram is facilitator of "Trans Talk" on Trans Tuesdays at The LGBT Community Center of the Desert and has served on the Equality March for Unity & Pride committee.

Her work has also helped to streamline the approval process for gender reassignment surgery.

The day of honor ended with recognizing **The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** as the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Organization of the Year. Their 10 years of fundraising has resulted in over \$100,000 being donated to Desert AIDS Project, AAP-Desert Samaritans, Palm Springs Animal Shelter, Transgender Community Coalition, local GSAs, and other nonprofits.

As part of a worldwide charitable organization, local chapter members say they have a mission of who manifest as Sister, Brother, or Guard have a mission of "universal joy and the expiation of stigmatic guilt."

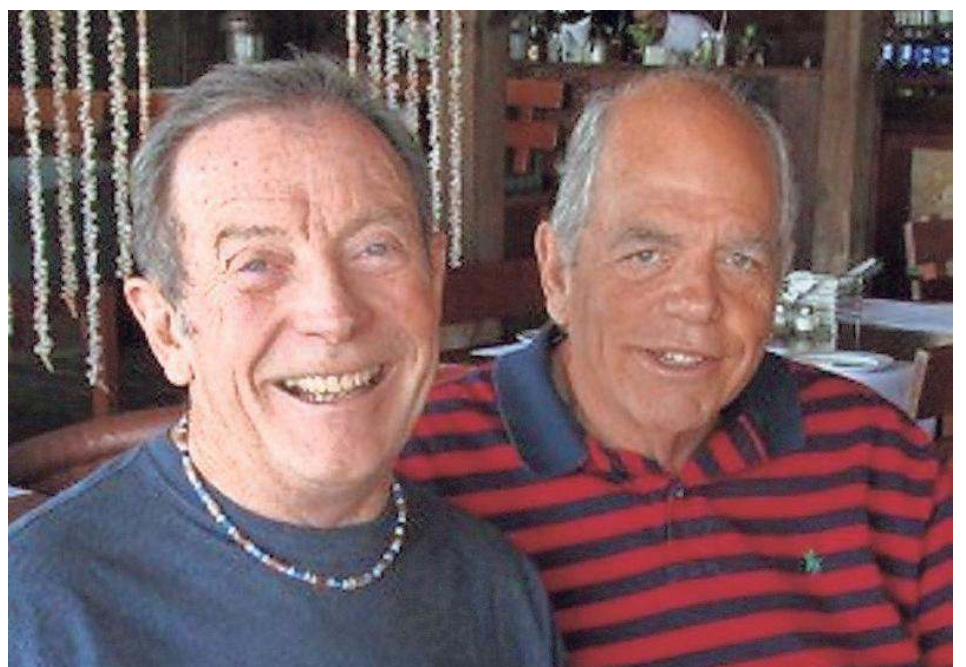
Isn't that truly what GPS Pride is also doing – seeking genuine inclusion through unquestioned human rights for all?

Next event: Halloween Palm Springs, Oct. 31 from 5:00-10:00pm on Arenas Road between Indian Canyon Drive and Calle Encilia. halloweenpalm.com

For more information, please visit pspride.org or call 760-416-871



Denise Goolsby won the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Community Service Award.



Doug Hairgrove and his husband Warren "Woody" Wood received the 2018 Spirit of Stonewall Lifetime Achievement Award.

The H.N. and Frances C. Berger Foundation and City of Palm Desert Present

Seventh Annual Family Fun Day

Erth's Prehistoric Aquarium Adventure

Sun, October 21

The TEN Tenors

Tue & Wed, November 20 & 21

Fri-Sun, November 23-25

Presented through the generosity of Nov. 20 - Ronald & Sylvia Gregoire

Nov. 23 - Dan & Brooke Koehler

Nov. 25 - Robert & Karen Rishwain

Classic Albums Live

Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon

Sat, October 27, 8pm

Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox

Sat, December 8, 8pm

Travis Tritt

100% Solo Acoustic

Sat, November 3, 8pm

Jackie Evancho

Fri, January 11, 8pm

Chris Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience

Sun, November 4, 2pm & 7pm

Presented through the generosity of Rebecca Benaroya

Jersey Boys

Tue-Sun, January 15-20

Presented through the generosity of Jan. 15 - Jerry & Sarah Mathews

Celtic Thunder X

Fri, November 16, 8pm

Presented through the generosity of Jackie Autry

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE! Exploring Mars

Kobie Boykins

Mon, January 21, 7pm

Order tickets by phone: **760-340-2787**

Order online: **mccallumtheatre.com**

73000 FRED WARING DRIVE, PALM DESERT • BOX OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9:00am-5:00pm

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Life

Continued from Page 1G

connection and an impact over the dinner table. Residents who don't own a restaurant can get involved by signing up to volunteer as an ambassador at one of the participating locations."

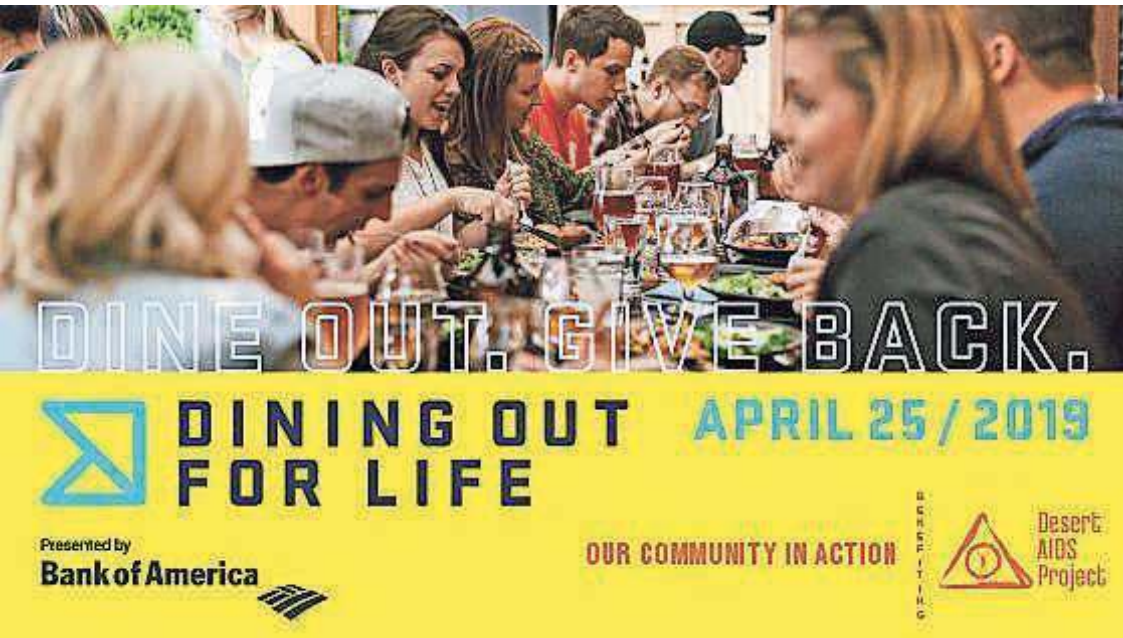
Sponsors of Dining Out for Life Greater Palm Springs included: **Bank of America, Sysco Riverside, City of Palm Springs, The Desert Sun, Hop Valley Brewing Co.**

2018 Dining Out For Life Participating Local Restaurants:

Donated 100%: Townie - Bagels Bakery Cafe , The Barn Kitchen at Sparrows Lodge ,Holiday House, Ristretto For Coffee Lovers, Rooster and the Pig
Donated 75%: Earnest Coffee. Spencer's Restaurant, Zin American Bistro
Donated 60%: Blackbook, Chill Bar, Tool Shed, Trio Restaurant
Donated 50%: 533 Viet Fusion, Acqua California Bistro, Evzin Mediterranean Cuisine, Jake's, LULU California Bistro, The Kitchen @ Hard Rock Hotel Palm Springs, Over The Rainbow Cupcakes , RetroRoom Lounge, Revel Public House, Rio Azul Mexican Bar & Grill, Sunshine Cafe, Vinny's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard

Donated 33%: AC3 Restaurant and Bar, Alebrije Bistro Mexico, Aspen Mills Bakery & Cafe, Bernie's Lounge and Supper Club , Blaze Pizza , Bonta Restaurant & Bar, Catalan Mediterranean Restaurant, Carousel Bakery. Chef Tanya's Kitchen, Chicken Ranch, Copa Palm Springs, Copley's On Palm Canyon, Cuistot, Dead or Alive Bar, Eight4Nine Restaurant & Lounge, Elmer's, El Mirasol at Los Arboles, El Mirasol Cocina Mexicana, Escena Lounge & Grill, FARM, Guacamoles, Haus of Poke,The Hood Bar & Pizza, Ice Cream & Shoppe, Juniper Table, Kaiser Grille, King's Highway at the Ace Hotel and Swim Club, Le Donne Cucina Italiana, Maracas Cantina & Grill, Michael Holme's Purple Room, Native Foods, Oscar's Cafe & Bar, Peaks Restaurant, Pinocchio in the Desert, Reservoir, Sherman's Deli & Bakery, SO PA at L'Horizon Resort and Spa, Stacy's @ Palm Springs , Tipper's Gourmet Marketplace, Three Sixty North, The Tropicale, Trunks, Venezia,Wang's in the Desert, Watercress Vietnamese Bistro

Mark your calendars! The next Dining Out for Live will be April 25, 2019. For



Diners enjoy exceptional food and excellent service at **Spencer's**. GREGG FELSEN/ SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

Mark your calendars! STEVE HENKE/ SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN

more information, please contact the Desert Aids project at (760) 323-2118 or visit desertaidsproject.org



Lulu's California Bistro. STEVE HENKE/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN



The "Badge of Honor." TALI SONG ROTH/SPECIAL TO THE DESERT SUN



One of the many delicious Starters served at TRIO Restaurant. COURTESY OF TRIO RESTAURANT

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