P COMMUNITY NOTES

March 2004

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends, A healthy life is lived in balance. example, For whether we work in a professional capacity, business, the arts, or some other field, productive work is a

Dr. Robin Joy Berenson

meaningful part of life, but only one part. Time for home, family, and close relationships is also essential as well as time to relax and enjoy hobbies and special pleasures. Most of us derive a joyful sense of accomplishment, too, when we reach out to help others, whether through the donation of our time, talents, or financial resources.

Our Extraordinary Evening with the Arts was designed to offer the chance to indulge ourselves in a lively and fun-filled evening and at the same time make an important difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

Over the years, we have found this to be a winning formula, and our 2004 event promises to be our most successful ever. Each year, its proceeds have increased, making a larger and larger impact on CIP's ability to serve the Marin children, families, and individuals most in need.

We hope you will bring your friends and join us on Sunday, May 2, for a great evening at our tenth annual fund raiser. In the end, you will take away not only the memories of this elegant event — and perhaps a few auction items - but, more importantly, the satisfaction of knowing that your support will have a lasting, positive impact on many lives in our community.

2004 BENEFIT TO FEATURE EXTRAORDINARY EDLOS

Widely known as the "Bad Boys of A Capella," acclaimed vocal ensemble The EDLOS will headline CIP's tenth annual Extraordinary Evening with the Arts on Sunday, May 2. Also appearing will be bestselling author and motivational speaker Francine Ward and ABC7's Spencer Christian as Master of Ceremonies. Delicious food, wine tasting, delightful live and silent auction items, an art exhibit, and more await those attending this year's fund raising benefit, which will be held at a new time, 4:00 to 8:30 p.m..

In recognition of his invaluable role in this year's event, Peter Paul, Paul Financial LLC, has been named Honorary Chair. Peter set the standard for generous support again this year with a \$10,000 sponsorship donation, and has been active in recruiting support for the evening, offering his ideas and enthusiasm to assure a top-quality event.



Nothing quite like the EDLOS has ever happened to CIP's event before, and you won't want to miss it! Four classically trained singers who came together to explore a broad range of music and musical styles, the EDLOS are as famous for their humor and crowd-pleasing antics as for their considerable musical virtuosity.

We are very pleased to welcome Francine Ward, a former practicing lawyer and now a powerfully motivating speaker, author, and coach whose life is a testament to the power of Esteemable Acts. From drug addicted, alcoholic call girl to lawyer, marathon runner, successful businesswoman, loving wife, mentor, and author, her message of walking through fear as the vehicle to building self-esteem is a courageous new path to freedom.

(continued on page 8)

STEFANCIC NOMINATED FOR VOLUNTEER AWARD



Marianne Haissman Stefancic, ATR-BC, MFT

Director of CIP's Couples Therapy Program and a CIP founder, Marianne Haissman Stefancic, MA, MS, MFT, was nominated for Volunteer of the Year of the prestigious 2003 Heart of Marin Awards. Co-sponsored by Tamalpais Bank and the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership of Marin, these annual awards recognize and honor outstanding nonprofits and volunteers in our community.

Accompanying Marianne at the December Awards Ceremony were her husband **Stan Stefancic**, CIP board members **Mary Rezaian** and **Mavis Marney**, Assistant Clinical Director **Eloise Rivera**, and Executive and Clinical Director **Robin Berenson**. "It was a very festive and inspiring event," remarked Dr. Berenson, "It reminds us all of the hard work and dedication of so many incredible Marin residents."

In 1977, Marianne was among the small group of psychotherapists who founded CIP with a mission to increase community access to affordable mental health care, and offer rigorous training for intern-psychotherapists preparing for clinical practice. Today, in addition to directing the Couples Therapy Program, Marianne serves as an individual supervisor and trainer to CIP intern-therapists, last year donating over 200 hours to the agency.

The nomination cited Marianne as "an outstanding clinician who demonstrates her dedication to professional excellence in everything she does.... Her inquiring intellect, her love of learning, and client-centered approach, have earned her the respect and admiration of those who work with her."

On behalf of all of us at CIP, congratulations, Marianne!

WELCOME WENDY L. CARLSON



We are very pleased to welcome Wendy L. Carlson as CIP's Administrative Manager. Wendy has extensive office experience and expertise. In a short time, she has already improved our efficiency.

Originally from Cortland, NY, Wendy lives in Petaluma with her husband Jason, daughter Ciarra (13), and sons Alex (8) and Eli (1). Wendy's special interests include documentary photography, travel, and studying human rights issues. REDWOOD WIND QUARTET

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DIRECTOR OF COUPLES THERAPY PROGRAM Marianna H. Stafancia, ATP BC, MET

Marianne H. Stefancic, ATR-BC, MFT

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COORDINATOR, CIP SEMINARS FOR PROFESSIONALS Eloise Rivera, MFT

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(continued on page 3)

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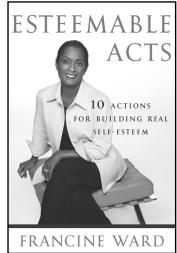
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ABOUT FRANCINE WARD'S EXTEEMABLE ACTS

Some people believe self-esteem comes from simply being a child of God. Some believe you get it from parents who love you and consistently tell you how fabulous you are. Others believe you get it by surrounding yourself with people and things that make you feel good about you. And still other people believe you get self-esteem by repeating mantras and affirmations in the mirror. The concept of Esteemable Acts invites you to consider a totally different and radical view. It suggests that while any one of those things may work in the short term, what really works over time is a conscious, consistent, daily practice of action, which almost without exception requires that we walk through our fear and take responsibility for the choices we make.



ARTIST KATHY MASON-LERNER

This year's art exhibit will feature the paintings of Kathy Mason-Lerner, who works with oils on linen and canvas. She is the recipient of numerous grants and honoraria, most recently a 2003 Fellowship to Vermont Studio Center for the Arts, and received a 2003 nomination to the National Academy of Design. In 2002, Kathy's work was shown in two solo exhibitions, "Without Boundaries" at the Museum of Los Gatos, and at ZYT Gallery.



Kathy Mason-Lerner with one of her paintings. (Photo by Jude Mooney.)

Of her paintings, Lerner writes, "The light pastel hues I use have a healing effect on the mind and the core of the self; in the process of layering colors, I create a radiance for myself and the viewer. Flower petals, gemstones, rainbows and pigments are the only true colors the eye perceives.

"I work on my paintings over a long period of time until they resonate. When everything works in a painting there is a special moment. This is an awakening or a transcendental sort of consciousness. The reason I keep on painting is to experience these moments of extraordinary reality."

We know you'll be inspired by these vibrant and moving works.



Mill Valley Community Center, 180 Camino Alto, Mill Valley



The "Bad Boys of A Capella"

Spencer Christian

ABC7 Weatherman



Francine Ward Author, Esteemable Acts

Wine Tasting 4:30 - 6:00 PM Frias Family Vineyard Grove Street Winery Phelan Vineyard Sawkar Family Vineyards Starry Night Winery	C Mortgage, Marin Acura, SBC ors unity Foundation; Autodesk, Inc.; ek; Mel & Angela Dagovitz; er LLP CPAs; J.H.S. Properties; ciates; Seagate Properties; ciates; Seagate Properties; ; Westamerica Bank i; Westamerica Bank ntial Real Estate; CTC Associates; tional Title Insurance Co.; ene Building Co., Inc.; Edward Jones; tovato Ford; Pacific Union Real Estate Group; Gym; Young's Market Company envelope no later than April 12, 2004.	Date:
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Artist Kathy Mason-Lerner Kathy Mason-Lerner Musicians The EDLOS Redwood Wind Quartet Beverages Grove Street Winery Robert Green Cellars The Wine Warehouse	Avalar Aritst Republic C Frank Howard Allen Realtors Fu Avalar Network, Inc.; Ba First Capital Group, Inc.; Frie RBC Dain Rauscher; Alla Union Bank of Cal Union Bank of Cal Farmers Insurance/Brys Frist Federal Savings & Loan Assoc Luther Burbank Savings; Marin Mazda/Suba Taddei, Ludwig, & Associates; For reservations, please complete an Make reservations early; tickets o	NameNumber of Tickets (@ \$6 PhoneNumber of Tickets (@ \$6 Wine Tasting (@ \$20 eac Total Amount Enclose Total Amount Enclose Tickets will b

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(9/1/03-1/25/04)

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Allan M. Schuman & Associates, Attorneys at Law are special friends to CIP and proud to sponsor the EDLOS

at the forthcoming Extraordinary Evening of the Arts fundraiser on May 2, 2004.

SBC: SPECIAL BUSINESS CONNECTION

When Shiva Pakdel, SBC's Regional Marketing Manager, joined the Sponsor Steering Committee for CIP's *Extraordinary Evening with the Arts*, she was confident she could generate corporate support for a cause she believes in: affordable mental health services. She didn't need to go far. Shiva worked with CIP's Fund Development Director Susan Kirsch to tell the CIP story to SBC's Area Manager for External Affairs, Connie Williams.

The rest, as they say, is history. Connie joined the January committee meeting and presented a check for \$2,500 to Committee Chair **Susan Lachtman** and CIP Executive and Clinical Director **Robin Berenson**. Connie says, "SBC is happy to support CIP and all the work and services it provides in the Marin community."

Honorary chair Peter Paul of Paul Financial, LLC, and Marin County Supervisor Hal Brown joined in the check presentation, along with Robin, Connie, Susan, and Shiva (l-r).



Photo by Susan Kirsch

CARTELLIGENT: A NEW KIND OF SPONSOR

Cartelligent zooms onto the CIP scene as a brand new sponsor for *An Extraordinary Evening with the Arts*. Founder and president **David Shapiro** says, "I was impressed from the first time I heard CIP Board member **Susan Lachtman** talk about CIP's mission to provide low-cost mental health services. As a lifetime Marin resident, I'm pleased to support a local agency that is making a difference."

Cartelligent is making a difference in how people shop for cars. With a broad network of contacts and a commitment to save time, money, and hassle, Cartelligent promises to find the right car at the best price available. David's brother **Michael Shapiro** says, "One of the greatest benefits of Cartelligent is that it's a complete car buying service. With just one phone call, we'll handle everything!"

Cartelligent will join more than 35 other



David & Michael Shapiro

businesses in supporting the Community Institute for Psychotherapy's annual fundraising event. Shapiro says, "We look forward to enjoying the evening with others who share our commitment to service and to a healthy community."

CIP ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBER

CIP is pleased to announce the recent election of lawyer **Perry Litchfield** to its Board of Directors.

Litchfield, a lifetime resident of Marin, adds his connections and people skills.

"I have admired the work of the organization from a distance," says Litchfield, "and appreciate the opportunity to become more involved."



Perry D. Litchfield

2004 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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WHO WE ARE

Community Institute for Psychotherapy (CIP) is a nonprofit, tax exempt center founded in 1977 to provide high-quality, low-cost counseling and psychological services to individuals and families who don't have the resources to pay full fees for professional help. CIP offers a full range of services designed to meet a variety of needs.

We at CIP believe that through psychotherapy, training, education, and prevention, we have a vital role to play in personal and global change. We believe the healing of the individual and the healing of the planet are inseparable.

Our work is accomplished in cooperation and coordination with a wide variety of public and private agencies and individuals throughout Marin County.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.COUNSELINGCIP.ORG

2004 EXTRAORDINARY EVENING WITH THE ARTS (continued from page 1)

Our Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be CIP Board member, wine enthusiast and television personality **Spencer Christian**. Best known for his week-night weather forecasts on ABC7, Spencer devotes a good deal of his time to charitable and community service organizations.

Music lovers will not want to miss the **Redwood Wind Quartet**, a seasoned ensemble featuring four saxophones that performs throughout the Bay Area. A very special exhibit of oil paintings by Marin artist **Kathy Mason-Lerner** will be on display, and Kathy herself will be on hand to talk about her work and answer any questions you might have. For more information about Kathy, see page 3 of this newsletter.

Dave Harmon, founder of wine.com and Carneros della Notte Wine, took the lead to secure wines for the 2004 Wine Tasting. "The family vineyards in the Sonoma/Napa valley produce some of the world's best wines," says Dave. The Phelan Vineyard is donating a 2000 Cabernet, which sells for \$75 a bottle. The Frias Family Vineyard is donating both a 1999 and 2000 Cabernet Sauvignon. To further delight winetasters, the Sawkar Family Vineyard will be pouring a 2002 Syrah and 2002 Sauvingon Blanc. Grove Street Winery will please the palate with a 2001 Sonoma County Chardonnay, 2001 Russian River Pinot Noir, and a 2000 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvingon.

CIP Board member **Skip Granger**, founder of **Starry Night Winery**, will be pouring a 2003 Russian River Valley Chardonay, a 2001 Lodi Syrah, and a 2001 Russian River Old Vine Zinfandel, which the world's top wine critic, Robert Parker, called "elegant and spicy." "Wine lovers will want to take advantage of this great collection of wines," says Harmon. Tickets for the Wine Tasting are \$20.

Bring your appetites! Following an array of hors d'oeuvres, and wine and other beverages, you'll enjoy a fine dinner prepared by four of Marin's best-loved restaurants and caterers: Left Bank, Marin Joe's, Saluté, and Stacy Scott Fine Catering. Coffee and dessert will round out the menu.

Going once, going twice...gone! Join the excitement as auctioneer Umberto Gibin calls for bids on the fabulous items selected for the Live Auction. And don't forget the Silent Auction and Raffle. You'll find an amazing assortment of gifts and getaways, outings and more at incredible values. Here is just a sampling:

- 7-day Holland America Cruise for two to Alaska, the Caribbean, Mexico, or Canada/New England.
- One week stay at a vacation home on Kauai
- Personalized tour for four of Napa Valley Wine Country in a 1966 Olds Convertible, complete with lunch and an exclusive private home cellar tasting.