

T & E CARE

Townships' initiative c

By Joan A. Bang
Correspondent



T&E Care founder Sandi Gorman (center) thanks Crystal Fitzgerald of Willow Grove and the organization's treasurer, Debbi Weger of Berwyn, for their help with the fundraiser.

Hard to believe that it's been 10 years since Hurricane Katrina entered the lives of those living in two townships on the western end of the Main Line. However that was just what the wind blew in after the Gulf Coast was ravaged during that horrific storm at the end of August 2005. Though it might have gone unnoticed prior to that time, what she left in her wake was an awareness in Tredyffrin and Easttown townships that in addition to helping victims of the hurricane find a place to call home, there were other

Cares for those in need

folks already living in these environs that needed aid as well. That understanding was the beginning of an outreach for the Chester County community titled T&E Care.

In its first decade the organization has been successful not only in raising monies but also by engaging the whole community (including grocers like Whole Foods) to help out locals who are in need. The list is long of those willing to help and the accolades to those who've help T&E Care with all its accomplished, both large and small, is a testament to a band of stalwarts who believe we are our brothers' keepers.

While the annual gala, held at St. David's Country Club attracts a sold out crowd of supporters, T&E Care cares year round about its residents and is ready to help should a need arise. Clients have received help to find housing and goods with which to furnish it or paying a utility bill until new employment is found. In some cases the need involves gifts for the holidays, in others it's reliable transportation. This non-profit is not a one size fits all, but rather a boutique endeavor that is willing to help whenever the need arises.

Another unique aspect of this hometown camaraderie of caring is just how many directions it goes in at the same time. From subsidizing school lunches to rides for doctors' appointments and holiday gifts to securing school supplies, T&E Care has really considered all that goes into living and surviving in this area. There is also an ongoing lookout for computers, preferably laptops, as well as funding for internet access which might otherwise not be affordable.

Next up for the outreach? The gathering of clothes,

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Warren Kampf of Paoli and wife Megan run into Bill Pentz of Radnor.



Cheryl Ferraioli of Devon meets up with Gwen Mascioli of Berwyn.



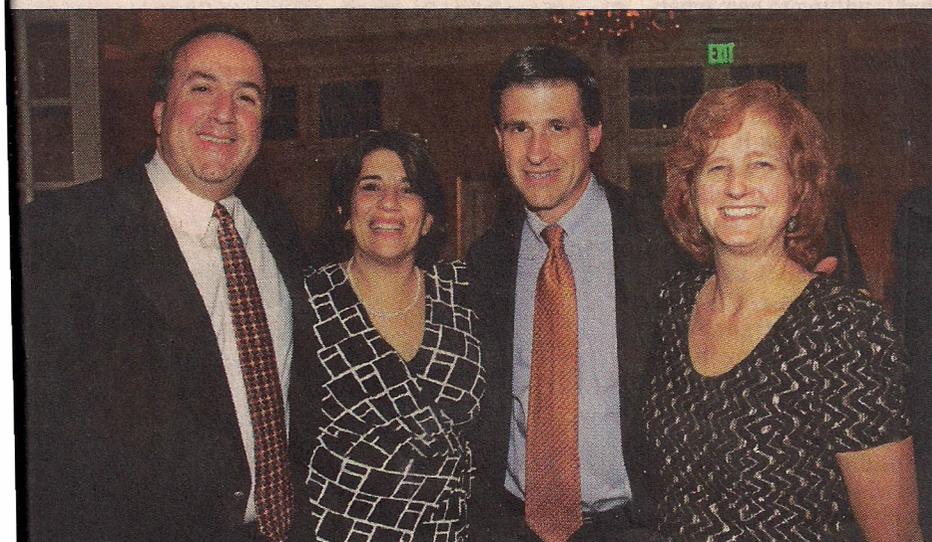
Michelle Creamer of Malvern gets in some girl talk time with Tracy Bird of Wayne.



John and Cindy Gilroy of Berwyn cuddle when their tablemates head to the dance floor.



Homa Tavangar of Berwyn and Maria Secchi offer their congrats for a great dinner to food chairwoman Heather Greenberg of Paoli.



Marrell Blood and Lisa Sardanopoli of Wayne check on their silent auction bids with Michael Santivaschi of Devon and his wife, Teri.



Amy Johnson of Valley Forge updates her bid.

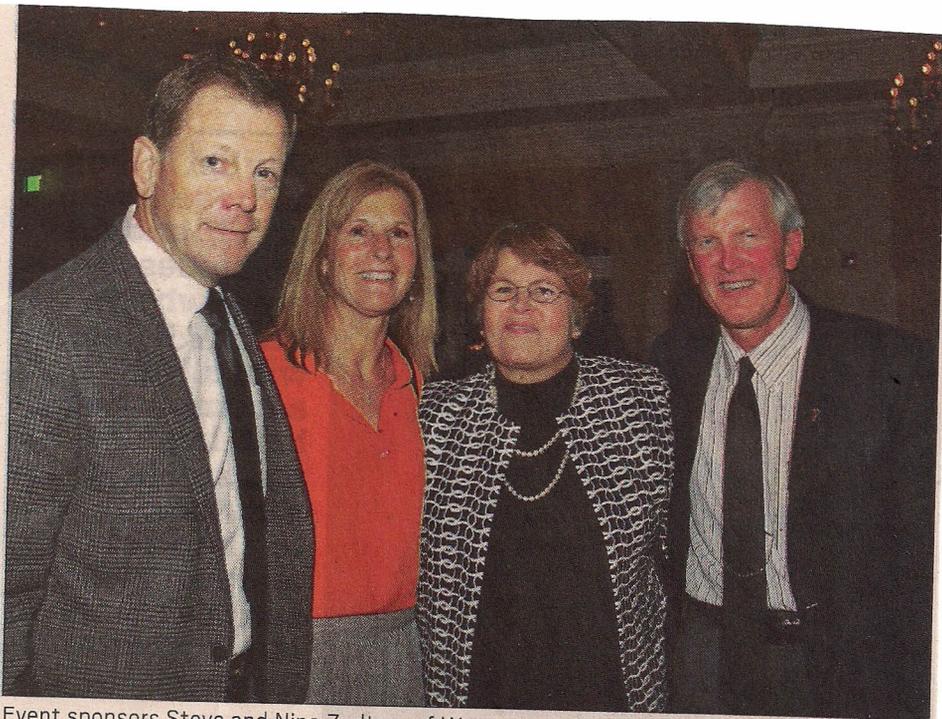
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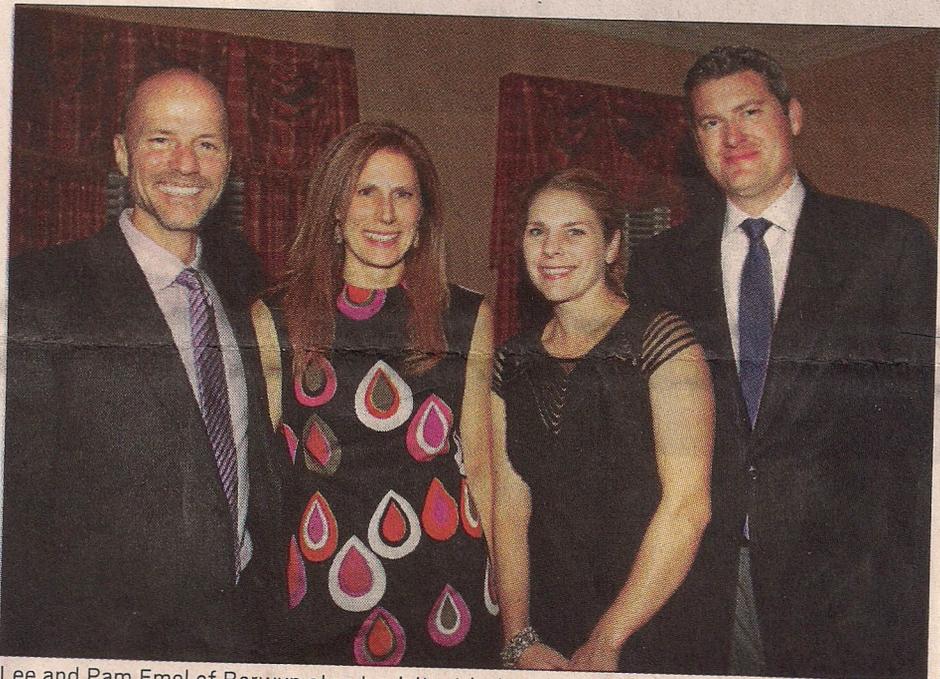
The gathering of clothes, shoes and accessories for children taking place between March 5-13. Contact the organization at clothes@tecare.org for drop off locations.

The annual Grab Bag Sale then takes place on Fri. March 20th from 2 P.M. - 7 P.M. with a Teen Girls Pop Up Shop during the last three hours. The fun continues on Sat, the 21st from 9 A.M. until noon, at St. Matthew's Methodist Church of Valley Forge on Walker Rd. in Wayne.

Learn how to be of assistance with any of the programs by visiting the website at www.tecares.org.



Event sponsors Steve and Nina Zodtner of Wayne run into Cindy and John Dautrich of Paoli.



Lee and Pam Emel of Berwyn stop to visit with their neighbors Lianne and Todd Lofgren.