

# FIGHTING CHANCE

JULY 2015

## SPECIAL ISSUE: SALUTING OUR BENEFACTORS

### FIGHTING CHANCE RECEIVES GIFT OF \$250,000 FROM VICE-CHAIRMAN

Acts of selflessness and generosity can inspire us all. You will find good examples, in this special issue of our newsletter, which is dedicated to individuals who look after the financial well-being of Fighting Chance. Some of them have made remarkable charitable gifts and others have worked tirelessly to host events at which scores of our supporters make donations.

We count everyone as a benefactor.

We begin with William "Tuck" Hardie, III. He has been a director since 2008 and has served as Vice-Chairman of the Board. Now concluding his 4th two-year term, Tuck has stepped down from the Board, but not before making a \$250,000 cash gift to Fighting Chance. It is the largest donation since we started in 2002.

Tuck's gift is earmarked for our Endowment Fund, which, thanks to his help, now tops \$1,000,000. Having a sizeable endowment is a central part of our Board's commitment to building a charity that is truly sustainable and will be a presence on the East End of Long Island until science finds a cure for cancer . . . even if that takes a decade or more.

At Fighting Chance the highest honor we can bestow -- and it has been given to some 13 individuals over a decade, is our Medal of Honor. Tuck has been awarded the medal and his name, along with other medal recipients, is engraved on a solid silver panel in our office. It says that a Medal recipient:

*"Has made an extraordinary commitment to improving the quality of care for cancer patients on the East End of Long Island."*

Tuck Hardie has met and exceeded this test of commitment time and time again and it will inspire all of us at Fighting Chance, for years to come, as we help navigate the cancer journeys of our friends and neighbors.



William "Tuck" Hardie, III

## SUE DAVIES MARKS 9TH YEAR AS CHAIR OF SUMMER GALA RECORD-BREAKING CROWD OF OVER 200

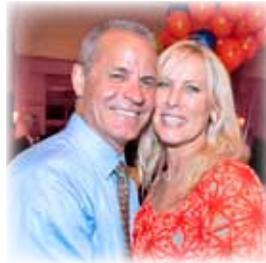
Saturday, May 30th – when the beauty of the East End was on full display, over 200 guests gathered for outdoor cocktails with the ocean on one side, fields of beach grass on the other, a sunset sky as far as the eye could see, and a harvest moon just rising.

A delicious dinner featured a world-class rib roast, with all the fixin's . . . followed by live music that was foot-tapping and earth-moving.

For the 9th time in a decade, Sue Davies, one of our Founding Directors, orchestrated the event. Her co-chair for the Gala was Sheila Mahoney, a new Director of Fighting Chance.



Rick and Sue Davies at Gala 2015



photos: cb grubb



Sheila Mahoney,  
Co-Chair of Gala 2015

*From Our Archives*  
 . . . seen here are Rick and Sue Davies at their home in East Hampton, which served as the venue for our very first Gala in July 2003.

 A small, faded photograph of Rick and Sue Davies standing together outdoors. Rick is on the left, wearing a light-colored shirt, and Sue is on the right, wearing a dark top. They are both smiling.

## 2ND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER IN MANHATTAN HOSTED BY JOHN BRECKER, BOARD MEMBER

John Brecker, who splits his time between the East End and New York City, joined the Fighting Chance Board in 2012 while he was taking some time off from a meteoric Wall Street investment career. He had the idea of getting some of his friends and business associates better acquainted with our charity. He felt the best option was to host an event in Manhattan.

For the 2nd year in a row, John's event attracted some 75 guests. Many of them were drawn to bidding on a chance to play some of this country's greatest golf courses -- which this year include Marion Golf Club, site of four US Opens.

The Event's "Grand Finale," just like last year, was a chance to charter the yacht "America." 100 feet, and a classic motor craft from the 1920s, it is now owned by Ted Conklin, proprietor of the American Hotel in Sag Harbor. The winning bidder? Same gent who won last year, and considers a sunset cruise on *America* to be the highlight of his family's summer.



*John Brecker, seen hosting the NYC Event at Michael's Restaurant in Manhattan*

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## CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT CELEBRATES 8TH ANNIVERSARY



How does a charity golf tournament known as "The Pumpkin Classic" take place during the springtime? The answer is a lot can happen in 8 years, and it was back in 2008 that the event started at Friar's Head Golf Club in Baiting Hollow, today ranked among the top 20 courses in America by almost every expert.

In 2015 the Pumpkin Classic took place in the middle of May and one of the corporate sponsors -- the Houlihan Lokey investment banking firm -- took our breath away with a gift of \$50,000.

*From Our Archives . . .*

*Golfers gather, just before tee time, at the 1st Pumpkin Classic . . . held in October 2008 at Friar's Head GC..*



## FIGHTING CHANCE

Free Cancer Counseling Center Serving the East End . . . since 2002

For Counseling • To Volunteer • To Donate

Or for information, please call our Sag Harbor office at 631 725 4646  
[www.fightingchance.org](http://www.fightingchance.org)



## "CANCER PATIENTS RIDE FREE" . . . THANKS TO THE JITNEY



Thanks to the generosity of Hampton Jitney, our Sag Harbor office handed out 500 free Jitney tickets over the past year . . . They are earmarked for patients who need to go to New York for specialized treatments not readily available on the East End.



Geoff Lynch, CEO of Hampton Jitney

## SUMMER GALA COSTS DEFRAYED BY TOWN & COUNTRY REAL ESTATE FOR 7TH YEAR IN A ROW



When Judi Desiderio (CEO of Town & Country) became a Fighting Chance Director, she suggested that her firm underwrite most of the costs of our annual Summer Gala . . . and they have done so for 7 consecutive years. At this year's Gala, on May 30th, the table with Judi and her guests became enamored of donating for the balloons we offered and, before long, a very sizeable donation materialized. Judi, thanks from all of us at Fighting Chance!



Judi Desiderio and Guests at Summer Gala 2015.

## JULY 11TH IS 8TH CONSECUTIVE "HAMPTONS SWIM AGAINST CANCER"

**Sponsored by Swim Across America with Fighting Chance as Main Beneficiary**

Over the last 8 years, our largest annual gift usually comes from the Nassau/Suffolk Counties Chapter of Swim Across America. The Gift is \$50,000 and sometimes more.

In addition to its donation, SAA has helped us get better at developing "metrics" which measure how many patients we're counseling each year and the number of counseling sessions we provide. Simply put, we have become much more "business-like."



**Fresh Pond Beach, Amagansett**

To register call our office  
631.725.4646

*From Our Archives . . .*

*The summer of 2008 . . . the SAA President (on left) presents Fighting Chance with its first \$50,000 gift. . . there were many more to follow.*

