

Notables

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A passion for fashion... and philanthropy!

They came, they saw...
they shopped!

If there's one thing women will rally for—*hands down, shoes on*—it's fashion.

Three stand-out events set the stage for a fund-raising trifecta: ladies, lunch, and luxury goods.

These winning events each have their own focus, giving some variation to the theme: bags (Old Bags Luncheon), fabulous footwear (Women, Wine and Shoes) and ready-to-wear (POSH).

Last Thursday, more than 550 women swarmed The Breakers in Palm Beach to place their bid on highly-coveted “it” bags at the 17th Annual Old Bags Luncheon. This event, chaired by Janet Levy and Debbie Porreco, is so wildly popular, that it was sold out even before the invitations were sent! Dame Joan Collins was this year's honorary speaker and shared personal stories of the hardships and triumphs in her life, including experiencing and overcoming emotional and physical abuse, often drawing parallel lines between the “real Joan” and her legendary role as the mastermind and femme fatale, “Alexis,” in the iconic 1980s prime-time soap opera—*Dynasty*.

From Balenciaga to Hermès and Valentino, women shared their passion for fashion—and philanthropy—to benefit The Center for Family Services, raising more than \$500,000 for the organization. Exclusive Worth Avenue-based diamond jeweler to the



Lizzi Bickford Sned
Notables Editor

“in-the-know crowd,” Diamante atelier, donated a one-of-a-kind diamond ring worth \$18,000. Diamante atelier owner Jose Aman drew the ticket to announce the winner – a *very* lucky lady. Neiman Marcus served as the event's Platinum Corporate Fashion Benefactor and donated one prize that included six pairs of Manolo Blahnik shoes, valued at \$6,500 – a win that would make any real-life Carrie Bradshaw weak in the knees.

Although this next event focused on saving the lives of dogs, the catwalk was the main attraction at the Women, Wine and Shoes luncheon to benefit Big Dog Ranch Rescue, hosted at Mar-a-Lago last Sunday.

Big Dog Ranch Rescue—the largest no-kill animal shelter in the Southeast—takes in thousands of homeless, unwanted and abused dogs and finds them “forever homes.” Their motto: “*Big and small, we save them all!*”

rang true as pint-sized pups and mature Fidos took center stage to strut their stuff.

The luncheon's attendees raised money for animal welfare by participating in a live and silent auction and by purchasing items from the pop-up Jimmy Choo boutique. Other vendors and sponsors included Allegra Fanjul, Bafitis Plastic Surgery, Saks Fifth Avenue and many more!

At the end of the event, I had the privilege of announcing the winner of “Best in Shoe” (an award given to the “best dressed feet”). Winner, Letty Biggins, looked glamorous in her sky-high black-and-gold Giuseppe Zanotti stilettos. Public relations guru Emily Pentelides expertly emceed the afternoon, creating energy and excitement among all of the event's guests.

The Lighthouse Guild will host their POSH Worth Avenue Luncheon at Eau Palm Beach Resort and Spa on Friday, March 20, starting at 11 a.m.

Join co-chairs Carla Mann, Gail Worth and Sherry Frankel, along with junior chair Christine DiRocco to support the blind and visually impaired. More than 25 Palm Beach stores will participate in this must-attend event and stylist Katherine Lande will treat guests to an informal fashion presentation

Tickets start at \$250. To purchase, call (561) 828-1522 or email rogoffb@lighthouseguild.org.

See you there!