

Montecito Miscellany

An Adderley Delightful Night



Kim and Michael Hayes, Dr. Homer Boyd, Dr. Velma Williams and her daughter Janet Adderley, with hostess Kelly Pillow (Photo by Priscilla)



Janet Adderley and Debra Martin Chase (Photo by Priscilla)

by Richard Mineards

British actor **James Corden**, 44, who just retired as host of *The Late Late Show* on CBS after eight years, winged back to the U.S. especially to host The Adderley School's 30th anniversary gala at the Lobero, which featured his son **Max**, 12, as the emcee singing "Willkommen" from the show *Cabaret*.

Earlier, former Ralph Lauren head honcho **Terry** and **Kelly Pillow**, whose son **Sam**, 17, also appeared in a scene from *Cabaret* singing "Money", hosted

a pre-show reception at Intermezzo, just a tiara's toss away. The reception was attended by Corden and his wife **Julia**, and local rocker **Kenny Loggins**, 75, currently on his farewell U.S. tour.

Later joining bubbly founder **Janet Adderley's** talented company – drawn from her outposts in Pacific Palisades; Santa Barbara; Austin, Texas; New Orleans; and Darien, Connecticut – Loggins sang, and danced along to, his hit *Footloose* from the 1984 **Kevin Bacon** movie.

Other Broadway productions represented in the hugely entertaining three-hour show, which wrapped with a boffo bash on the Lovelace Esplanade, included

Oliver!, *Pippin*, *Into the Woods*, *Grease*, *The Music Man*, *Chicago*, *Legally Blonde*, *West Side Story*, *A' My Name Is Alice*, and *Les Misérables*.

"We're celebrating three decades of empowering kids and spreading joy," enthused Janet, a former performer on the Great White Way herself, who started her career attending the prestigious Kinder High School for the Performing Arts in Houston, Texas, before moving to Los Angeles and founding the Adderley School, nurturing young talent, in 1993.

At the gala evening, Yale graduate Janet, whose 94-year-old mother **Velma**, a mathematics professor, was also in attendance, launched the Adderley School Foundation.

"This probably follows the longest

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Adderley Gala Emcee James Corden (Photo by Priscilla)

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Over 25 Years as a Neurosurgeon



◀ **Miscellany (Continued from 10)**

gestation period on record,” says Janet. “It has been 20 years in the making, now finally a reality! Our mission to expand Adderley’s outreach to under-resourced children is my most fervent focus in the months and years to come.

“Providing world class performance and training opportunities for students on state-of-the-art stages with live musicians, professional sets, and exceptional guest Broadway directors and choreographers is an essential component of what Adderley has to offer children, and can only be achieved through the work of our foundation.”

Stephen Sherrill, former chairman of the Second Stage Theatre in New York, is matching donations up to \$100,000 in honor of the three-decade anniversary.

Honorary hosts of the boffo bash included Tony, Grammy and Emmy winner **Ben Platt**, Tony winner **Debra Martin Chase**, and **Jack Dylan Grazer**, nephew of top Hollywood producer **Brian Grazer**, whose Imagine Entertainment partnership with actor **Ron Howard**, has grossed more than \$15 billion in movie box office. Jack has starred in the films *It* and *Shazam!*

Philanthropist **Anne Towbes**, who was attending the show with her grandchildren, spoke of the Adderley School’s impact on the community, and there were also videotaped congratulatory messages from Goleta record producer **Alan Parsons**, Emmy nominated filmmaker **John Alexander**, and **Bryan Blatt**, who co-starred with Janet in the **Andrew Lloyd-Webber** musical *Starlight Express* in 1987.

I saw the show, about an old steam

train competing with more contemporary counterparts, around the same time at London’s Apollo Victoria Theatre.

All in all, an adderley delightful evening with Janet, pretty in pink, and her daughter/co-artistic director **Alana** joining the performers on stage for the energized finale of “You Can’t Stop the Beat” from *Hairspray*.

Reining In the Support

It was a very in-tents occasion when Santa Barbara’s Polo Training Center hosted its sixth annual dinner for 120 guests at the Carpinteria venue, raising around \$100,000.

Each year, the 11-year-old organization makes \$10,000 grants to UCSB and Westmont polo team members to cover expenses at the Santa Barbara Polo Club’s polo academy. In addition to funding costs, the PTC runs four youth polo tournaments each summer.

President **Rhys Williams** emceed the sunset soirée held in a giant marquee next to the historic clubhouse with food from the nearby Fieldside restaurant and volunteers from Westmont College and UCSB polo teams.

Matt Walker – son of former club president, banker **Daniel Walker** – conducted the auction which included a three-day Santa Ynez private ranch getaway, a private box for four to watch rockers Tears for Fears at the Hollywood Bowl, a pair of Luchese riding boots, a golf tournament foursome at the Montecito Club, and a **Ben Soleimani** performance rug.

Supporters turning out for the horsey hoedown included **Chris** and **Mindy**



Kevin Mokarow, Amza Bossom, Grant Palmer, and Andrew Bossom (Photo by Priscilla)

Denson, Jeff Scheraga, Gretchen Loeff, Thomasine Richards, Claudia Uretz, Dan and Linda Walker, Wes Ru and Victoria Firestone, Jeep Holden, Xorin Balbes and Truman Davies, Paige Marshall, Andrew and Anza Bossom, Justin Klentner, and David Sigman.

Long may they rein...

Onstage Finale

The venerable Granada hosted its third and final Onstage at the G, sponsored by uber philanthropists **Roger and Sarah Chrisman**, with the string picking duo of former Westmont student **Phil Claypool**, guitarist, and Paraguayan **Carlos Reyes** on violin.

More than 80 guests caught the intimate show. Theater executive **Tracy**

Dunn described it “a great success.”

“People are used to seeing the stage from the orchestra, but being on it is a whole new experience, particularly with delightful canapés and good libations.”

Among the music fans turning out were **Dan Burnham, Greg Gorga, Caren Rager, Gary and Susan Gulbransen, Palmer and Susan Jackson, Peter and Kathryn Martin, Brendon Twigden, Joann Younger, and Chuck and Missy Sheldon.**

Empowering the Dream

Petal power reigned supreme when the Dream Foundation hosted its 12th annual Flower Empower lunch at the

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Wes Ru and Victoria Firestone, Rhys Williams, UCSB Polo Captain Marci Winter, Mindy Denson, Matthew Walker, and Linda and Daniel Walker (Photo by Priscilla)



Carlos Reyes and Philip Claypool (photo by Baron Spafford)

Ben and Gimena Soleimani, Claire Kennedy, Maren Cukor, and David Sigman (Photo by Baron Spafford)



Adderley Conservatory Ensemble Members (Photo by Priscilla)



Karen Knight, Joann Younger, and Sharon Morrow (photo by Baron Spafford)



Mark and Alixe Mattingly, Matt and Karen Yonally, with Palmer Jackson, Jr. (photo by Baron Spafford)



Event Sponsor Kate Coppola (photo by Kiel Rucker, Head & Heart Photography)



Volunteers of the Year: Kathy Henry, Betty Dominguez, and Sidonia Slaff (photo by Kiel Rucker, Head & Heart Photography)

Henry, Betty Dominguez, and Sidonia Slaff – with 60 years of help between them – were named Volunteers of the Year.

A new trophy, the Legacy Award of Excellence, went to the late **Ann Smithcors**, a retired nurse who started volunteering in 1996 and spent an unprecedented 6,000 hours making and delivering bouquets.

Former KEYT-TV weatherman **Alan Rose**, now with KOAA in Denver, Colorado, flew in to emcee the floral bash for the second consecutive year with **Kira Duffy**, a past youth volunteer winner, with **Greta Krieger** and **Sheri Smith** speaking of their experiences as volunteers.

The ubiquitous **Andrew Firestone** conducted the auction with the help of his daughter, **Anja**. Lots included a stay at the Four Seasons in Maui, a ten day

cruise from Quebec to New York, and a Hollywood Icons package including a stay at the historic California Club (a favorite hostelry of mine), tickets to a private box at the Hollywood Bowl, and tea for four at the Rose Garden at the Huntington Library in Pasadena.

Among the supporters were CEO **Kisa Heyer**, **Penny Bianchi**, **Janet Garufis**, **Ella Brittingham**, **Kate Coppola**, **Jeff and Sharon Jordan**, **Kenny and Elizabeth Slaughter**, **David Selberg**, and **Kimi J. Matar**.

A blooming good fundraiser...

Help in the Kitchen

Montecito chef **Dario Furlati**, who owns the Ca'Dario chain of Italian eateries, has been helping out with the Ensemble Theatre Company's latest production *Seared*, directed by departing artistic director **Jonathan Fox**.

"The play takes place in a small restaurant kitchen that suddenly gets acclaim in *New York Magazine* and is absolutely overwhelmed with customers," says Jonathan. "Matters get more hectic when a consultant comes on the scene.

"Dario has been invaluable in giving us an insight into the chef's culture and kitchen geography; how to look professional on-stage cooking salmon, short ribs, lamb, gnocchi and scallops; and, more importantly, how to prepare onions without chopping off your fingers!"

Having been an editor on *New York Magazine* in the 80s I know all too well what a positive review from the late **Gael Greene** could do for a Manhattan eatery's business prospects....

Security Concerns

Prince **Harry** has suffered a major defeat in the British courts and now faces

a hefty \$620,000 legal bill.

The Riven Rock resident sought a judicial review over a Home Office decision that he should not be allowed to pay U.K. police for his personal protection.

The Duke of Sussex, 38, was stripped of police protection when he and his former actress wife **Meghan Markle** stepped down as working royals and moved to the U.S. in 2020.

Now a top judge has declared the Home Office acted rationally when it rejected the offer from King **Charles III's** youngest son to pay for his own security.

Justice **Martin Chamberlain** rejected Harry's second challenge to the government ruling, saying "a limited number" of highly trained officers "should not be made available for payment, particularly as bodyguards for VIPs."

It came after Metropolitan Police chiefs told the court their officers were not "guards for hire" by the rich and famous, claiming allowing Harry to pay for protection officers, particularly armed ones, would set an "unacceptable precedent."

This comes a week after the alleged 70 miles per hour paparazzi chase in Manhattan, which the prince's PR people described as "near catastrophic," which was completely debunked in a NYPD report of the incident.

Scholarly Support

The 61-year-old Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara has awarded a total of \$148 million in grants to students, with nearly \$7.2 million this year to 1,864 recipients, retiring board chairman **Matt Rowe** told 200 guests at the annual dinner at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum.

The scheme started humbly six decades



Chef Dario Furlati giving advice to the actors in the new ETC show *Seared* (photo by Jonathan Fox)



Flower Empower Luncheon Committee with Dream Foundation Staff (photo by Kiel Rucker, Head & Heart Photography)



Christie Glanville and Kathy O'Leary (photo by Isaac Hernandez)



Greg Bartholomew, Kelly Knight, and George Leis (photo by Isaac Hernandez)



Maddie Benson, Andy Nguyen, and Chloe Stanley (photo by Isaac Hernandez)

ago with the awarding of nine \$100 book awards and is now the biggest provider of college scholarships in the U.S. with more than 60,000 students receiving awards since 1962.

Interim president and CEO **Mary Dwyer** welcomed her new board chair **Danna McGrew**, with three students **Maddie Benson**, a graduate of UCLA, **Andy Nguyen** and **Chloe Stanley**, both attending UCSB, recounting their experiences with the organization.

Among the supporters were **Roger and Sarah Chrisman**, **Nancy Ransohoff**, **John Glanville**, **Peter and Kathryn Martin**, **George and Laurie Leis**, **Teresa McWilliams**, **Geoff Green**, and **Carole Halsted**.

Leaving the Show?

The rumor mill is churning that Santa Barbara warbler **Katy Perry** is planning to quit her \$25 million a year judgeship on the hit ABC TV show *American Idol*, where she has appeared for the past six years alongside **Lionel Richie** and **Luke Bryan**.

According to London's *Daily Mail*, the former Dos Pueblos High student, 38, has faced a slew of controversy and scandal this season, and has grown tired of dealing with the backlash from reviewers. The breaking point came when she was booed for dishing out criticism to contestants.

Although Katy has faced criticism in the past, this season has been particularly tough on her following remarks that erupted into a mom-shaming scandal that prompted some contestants to quit.

"Katy feels like the producers threw her under the bus," according to one source.

"She feels like her comments could have been removed.

"Getting booed recently really upset her. She was trying to stay in her lane, do her job, and go home. She went into it thinking she was going to foster young talent. For her good intentions to be misconstrued is not what she wanted."

Senate Considerations?

Could former TV talk show titan **Oprah Winfrey** be having political aspirations?

The longtime resident of our rarefied enclave is being touted as a possible replacement for longtime senator **Dianne Feinstein** in the event the 89-year-old lawmaker retires before the end of her term next year.

Feinstein, who has just returned to Washington after a ten-week bout of shingles, has pledged to retire at the end of her current term.

The Associated Press reports that several names have been thrown into the mix should the California Democrat step aside early. One of them is reportedly Oprah, 69.

Stay tuned...

Gifts That Keep on Giving

Montecito actress **Gwyneth Paltrow** has some controversial recommendations for Father's Day presents.

The 50-year-old Oscar winner not only suggests a \$64,000 per person trip to the Arctic Circle as a possible gift, but also a male sex toy!

The *Iron Man* star first launched her lifestyle brand Goop in 2008, with

suggestions becoming more extroverted over the years.

A \$219 hands-free prostate stimulator from the brand Hugo that delivers "satisfactory vibrations to the perineum" is one of the more unusual gifts, with more mundane items including a \$790 wine carrier by Metier and a \$17 jar of cocktail cherries.

Gwynnie is leaving us shaken and stirred...

The Grief Period

Actress **Julia Louis-Dreyfus** has revealed how she dealt with the "grief period" that overcame the Montecito resident after the end of her iconic sitcom *Seinfeld*.

Julia, 62, who now stars in the new movie comedy *You Hurt My Feelings*, is featured on the latest cover of *People* magazine and recounts the difficulties she had saying goodbye to *Seinfeld* after its controversial season finale.

"The ending of that show was so sad because we all loved each other so much," she admits. "There was definitely a grief period when the show ended that was both real and felt."

Julia, who went on to equally successful roles in *Veep* and *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, adds: "I do remember wanting and thinking that I need to keep working. I wanted to keep working. I wanted to keep doing this thing called acting, which I've been able to do, which is great."

A delightful lady...

Bridges Back to Health

Montecito actor **Jeff Bridges** says his health is "mostly back" after his cancerous tumor shrank to "the size of a marble."

The 73-year-old Oscar winner, in an interview with *AARP: The Magazine*, reveals the mass in his stomach when he was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in March 2020 originally measured a whopping nine by 12 inches.

After utilizing multiple types of therapy, as well as working with a trainer to film the second season of his FX show *The Old Man* and walking his daughter down the aisle at her 2021 wedding, the tumor has almost disappeared.

Bridges says meditation and positive thinking have been "absolutely essential" in keeping him alive and getting up to face every day.

Good news indeed....

Tina Turner Remembered

On a personal note, I remember the Queen of Rock n' Roll **Tina Turner**, who has died at her home in Switzerland at the age of 83.

We first met by chance in London when I was attending a performance of *Phantom of the Opera* at Her Majesty's

Theatre with the original cast of **Michael Crawford** and **Sarah Brightman** in 1986. It was the hottest ticket in town, so I was surprised to be sitting next to an empty seat.

As the lights dimmed for the show to start Turner whisked into the row to sit by my side. A charming encounter.

I last saw her perform at New York's Radio City Music Hall with the support act of singer **Chris Isaak** in 1993 during her *What's Love?* tour giving an energized performance in vertiginous heels, a barely there dress, and a trademark wig.

An amazing half century of highs and lows. From a troubled violent marriage with Ike Turner to the peak of the rock stratosphere in 1984 with the release of her album *Private Dancer*, which sold five million copies and garnered her three Grammy awards.

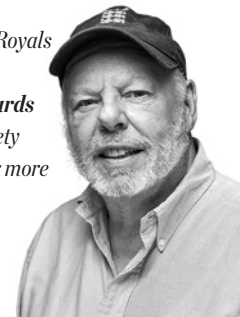
From adversity to mega stardom as a worldwide phenomenon selling an astounding 180 million albums. An extraordinary trajectory, an extraordinary woman.

Sightings

Jim Cramer of CNBC's *Squawk Box* at the Ritz-Carlton Bacara... TV host **Jane Lynch** noshing at Tre Lune... **Oprah Winfrey** at the Louis Vuitton cruise show in Italy.

Pip! Pip!

From musings on the Royals to celebrity real estate deals, **Richard Mineards** is our man on the society scene and has been for more than 15 years



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