

Restaurant Neighbor Award

Recognizing outstanding community service among our nation's restaurants



MOTHER'S BISTRO & BAR/MAMA MIA TRATTORIA

Portland, Ore.
As a domestic violence survivor, Mother's Bistro owner Lisa Schroeder swore if she ever "made it,"

she would help other women like her. Today, Schroeder and her restaurant are committed supporters of the Bradley-Angle House, an organization that helps domestic violence survivors. Mother's Bistro has hosted two gospel branches on New Year's Day, raising more than \$5,000 one year. This year's Taste of the Sweet Life tea on Mother's Day raised nearly \$30,000. As a founding member of the Bridges of Hope campaign for the Bradley-Angle House, Schroeder hosts monthly breakfasts for potential donors and supports Basic Rights Oregon as an ambassador of its annual Bites for Rights event.

PENNSYLVANIA

C.R. LAPP FAMILY RESTAURANT

Quarryville, Pa.
After the death of brother Wilmer Lapp, the C.R. Lapp family and its restaurant established the Wilmer S. Lapp Memorial Golf Tournament. The event supports the Schreiber Pediatric Rehab Center. Over the past 10 years, the restaurant's event has contributed about \$330,000 to the Schreiber Pediatric Rehab Center. The center serves thousands of children with disabilities, helping them achieve their dreams and become more independent, regardless of their family's ability to pay for programs.



KEYSTONE APPLE INC., dba APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL & BAR

Mechanicsburg, Pa.
See National Winners, page 3.

RIVERSTONE CAFÉ/ WINNER'S CIRCLE SPORTS GRILLE

Exton, Pa.
Cornerstone Humanitarian Nominee: Nick Cacchiore
Riverstone Café owner Nick



Cacchiore envisioned the idea for "Hearts for Megan" when one of the restaurant's servers died in a car accident involving a drunk driver. Deeply affected by the tragedy, Cacchiore and his staff wanted to find a way to honor Megan. They organized a Tapas Tasting in early 2008, donating 100 percent of the proceeds to Mommy's Light, a local nonprofit selected by Megan's family. Cacchiore and his team created a Web site, HeartsforMegan.com, to provide information, sell tickets and solicit donations and sponsorships. Staff hung paper hearts throughout the building, which they sold. By the time the fundraiser took place, more than 2,000 hearts covered the walls. Hearts for Megan raised more than \$18,000, more than triple the goal Cacchiore and his staff had set. Cacchiore's other passion is youth sports; he recently began an endeavor to help fund new youth baseball fields in his community. He aims to raise \$250,000 to \$500,000 for the project.

PUERTO RICO



ENCANTO RESTAURANTS
Guaynabo, P.R.

Encanto Restaurants offers a special chance to put a smile on people's faces. Through a partnership with the Alimento Para el Pueblo (Food for the People) program, a team of Encanto volunteers signs up for a quarterly Alimento activity. Activities range from helping adults with special needs to working with abused children and pitching in during a crisis or special holiday. Volunteers proudly wear their

Alimento Para el Pueblo t-shirts while supplying food and plates, feeding people, providing entertainment and cleaning up. Over the past four years, Encanto Restaurants have helped nearly 1,000 people through 18 visits as part of the Alimento Para el Pueblo program.

RHODE ISLAND

CHOW FUN FOOD GROUP

Providence, R.I.
Cornerstone Humanitarian Nominee: John Elkhay

When Chow Fun Food Group founder John Elkhay's son Ross died at age 12 from cystic fibrosis complications, John and his wife began pouring their energy into raising money for CF. In 2000, the Elkhays enlisted close friends to launch Chefs for CF, which paired local chefs with volunteers who hosted fundraising dinners in their homes. Chefs and waitstaff donate their time to the event, and participating restaurants provide the food. Hosts and guests provide donations to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The Chefs for CF event has so far raised more than \$250,000 for the foundation's research efforts. The Elkhays also founded the Ross Elkhay Foundation to support children and their families who live with life-altering or terminal illnesses. A major donation included a \$190,000 grant for the City of Warwick to build and support a full accessible fishing pier and boardwalk in honor of Ross's passion for fishing.



EVELYN'S NANAQUAKET DRIVE-IN

Tiverton, R.I.
After taking a class on self-expression and leadership, Evelyn's Nanaquaket Drive-In owner Jane Bitto was inspired to start a major grassroots event in her

community. Bitto launched Singing Out Against Hunger five years ago, a September weekend of free music, food drives and fundraising to educate the community about local needs. All canned goods and money raised during the annual event stay in Rhode Island's East Bay community. The proceeds support local people and families in need. More than 60 musicians and 250 local businesses donate music, time, money and raffle/auction items. Evelyn's crew of clam bakers, fry cooks, dishwashers and servers plan and execute the entire process. The event has raised nearly \$46,000 in the past five years and served about 12,000 needy people in the community.

89% of restaurants surveyed indicated they contribute financially to charities.