

"It was a delightful afternoon" at the Piano Concert to benefit CARES and AIN...

Mary Jane Tashiro
Composer/Pianist



..."I thoroughly enjoyed" the August 18th concert to benefit the patients at the LAC+USC Medical Center, said **Toby Horn**, member of CARES Board of Directors. "Free-will" donations made at the door have already been put to use by CARES and Angel Interfaith Network (AIN) to assist patients in crisis.

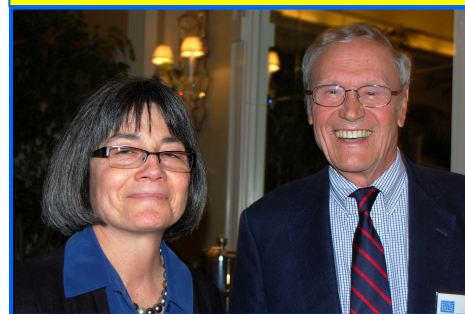
Cynthia Berne, CARES Vice President of Fund Raising, greeted all who

attended in support of the Patient Crises Fund. The concert began with original pieces composed by Mrs. Tashiro. Songs such as "Soaring Seagulls" and "Kaze no Ashiato (Wind Chimes)" inspired **Joanie Martinez** (wife of Johnny, a nurse in the Medical Center) to write "It was relaxing for me to be 'transported' along with the soaring gulls and gently tinkling chimes. It was also interesting for me to see how an artist composer can express so many ordinary human feelings through music. What poets and other writers do with words, she does...with music."

The second half of the program was devoted to arrangements of popular songs that describe the work that the volunteers do to support the patients. **Karen Bading**, AIN Board member, wrote "I so enjoyed the program. The original pieces were lovely and we were so touched by the way the other selections in the program were tied to the missions of the organizations (CARES and AIN). Impossible to believe that Mrs. Tashiro is 80 something, but it goes to show that when you are doing something you love, it's timeless."

A live recording of this concert may be ordered on CD from the CARES office (323) 226-6941, or downloaded from the AIN website, angelinterfaith.net, with a free-will donation. Your gift will benefit patients at the LAC+USC Medical Center.

2012 CARES Woman in Medicine



Dr. James Halls presented the Woman of the Year in Medicine Award to **Linda Vachon, M.D.**, Division Chief, Pediatric Radiology. CARES has annually honored the Woman in Medicine since 1976.

Los Angeles County/USC
Medical Center Auxiliary



1200 N. State St., #1900
Los Angeles, CA 90033



Newsletter



President's Message



Dear Members and Friends of CARES, While CARES mourns the loss of two women who made history

with their service to others, we celebrate the continuation of programs made possible by all their hard work: the vital childcare centers and shops--these services have always been the focus of CARES, yet even so, CARES has been busy trying to meet more and more special requests from medical staff--those needs of patients that are not medical, but important to the morale and sometimes to the patients' basic survival. There are many other services that CARES continues to provide even though the resources for these special needs are often difficult to come by: purchasing beds for patients ready to be released from the hospital but who have no beds in their homes; strollers so families with small children can get to appointments; clothing for patients once released; and even recently, clothing for a homeless family who has a hospitalized parent. Funds are needed for the bare necessities of life--food, utilities, and shelter. Often families whose primary wage earner is hospitalized have nowhere to turn. CARES Patient Crises Fund has been depleted to an all time low because it has been used for so many direct patient needs. The Betty Phillips Tribute Fund has been helpful in meeting recent requests, but additional donations are needed. What better holiday gift can you give yourself than giving to others?

Thank you to all CARES PATRONS for their continued support. We invite you to become active in CARES. There are so many opportunities—Pediatric Reading Program and helping in the gift and thrift shops, just to name a few of our pressing needs. Send in your membership envelope to indicate your interest, call the CARES office, (323)226-6941, or email mdolinski48@gmail.com if you have some time.

Best wishes, *Mindy Halls*

In Memoriam



Maria (Mrs. Nat King) Cole
1922-2012
Betty (Mrs. Donald) Petit
1919-2012

Maria Cole, Co-Founder of CARES, widow of music legend Nat King Cole, has passed away at age 89 in Florida. "Our mom was in a class all by herself," her three daughters (including Natalie Cole) said in a joint statement. "She epitomized class, elegance, and truly defined what it is to be a real lady."

When **Betty Ann (Mrs. Lester) Hibbard** was approached by the Medical Director of the LAC/USC Medical Center with the request that she start an auxiliary for the Medical Center, Betty Ann elicited the help of **Maria Cole** and together they founded CARES, a nonprofit corporation, in 1969. What followed is a long history of service and support of the patients.

In 1972, the LA Times called Maria "a warm, personable

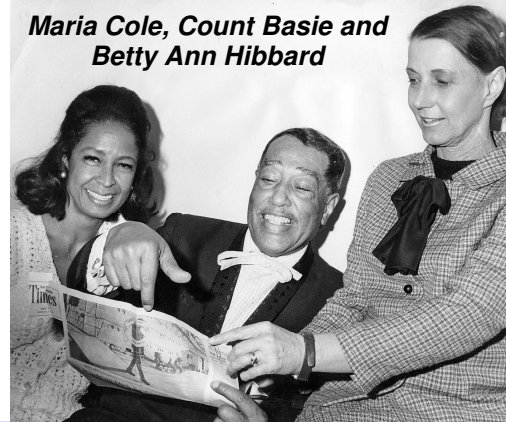
woman with infectious laughter. She is also a crusader. Her crusade is against the nation's number one killer — cancer — the disease which took her husband's life." Nat King Cole was only 44 when he died of lung cancer. She "is a vibrant personality with a serious dedication to a cause." "I'm determined to work until they find a cure for cancer," said Maria when she established the Cole Cancer Foundation and then chaired CARES "Tribute to Nat King Cole" dinner dance, headlined by Count Basie and

his orchestra. (Maria had worked with Count Basie before she sang with the famous Duke Ellington.) (To the left), Maria smiles while holding the check for

\$30,000 raised by the event for LAC+USC Medical Center's first Cancer Center.

Maria attended the CARES Annual Meeting in 2006 to reunite with many of the CARES volunteers that she worked with so many years before. She will be greatly missed.

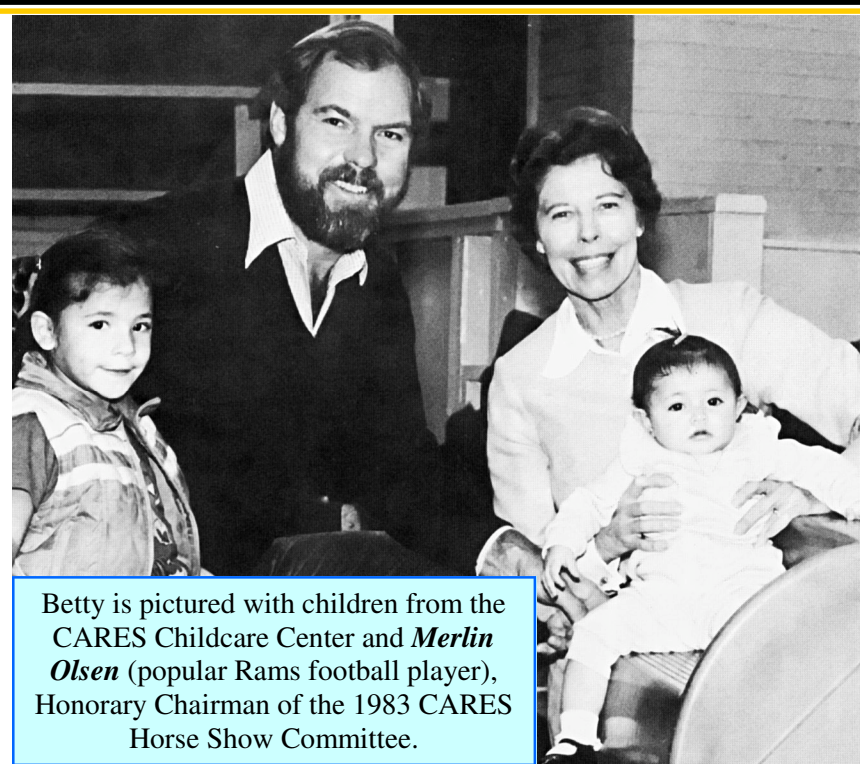
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Maria Cole, Count Basie and Betty Ann Hibbard

In Memoriam: *Betty Petit*

Betty Petit, long-time CARES Volunteer and life member, "led a full and happy life which came to a peaceful close on July 13th at home in La Canada, CA. She was a graduate of Scripps College for Women, Claremont, CA (1941) and a nursing school in Boston, where she specialized in pediatric nursing during WWII, a skill she later must have found very valuable as she raised her five children. She will be missed by the large family she leaves behind and her loving husband of 50 years, Dr. Donald W. Petit. Betty Petit will best be remembered by the horse show world as an avid and able equestrienne on board her champion American Saddlebred horses well into her eighth decade." (quoted from the Los Angeles Times) Because of Betty's efforts, and with only two months' preparation, the first CARES National Horse Show was held in February 1983 at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. The show raised over \$33,000 and showed great promise as the big fund raising event CARES had been looking for.



Betty is pictured with children from the CARES Childcare Center and **Merlin Olsen** (popular Rams football player), Honorary Chairman of the 1983 CARES Horse Show Committee.

The CARES National Horse Show continued yearly through 1989 and helped CARES continue its many programs to benefit the patients and their children. As her family said,

"most of all, the happiest role of her long life was that of motherhood. She loved babies and children... She will be greatly missed by all of us that loved her."



Weta Mathies (Current CARES Co-Vice President of Childcare and CARES President from 1979-1981/2004-2010) and **Maria Tomé** (Child Life Specialist)

The Child Life Program today:

CARES partners with the LAC+USC Medical Center Child Life Program and Child Life Specialist **Maria Tomé** to help children understand their illnesses, treatments and procedures through education, support, and therapeutic interventions. Mrs. Tomé uses all her theoretical, practical and

A Bit of CARES' History:

In 1979, CARES established a Child Life Program in Pediatric Pavilion to provide children with educational play to help them cope with hospitalization.

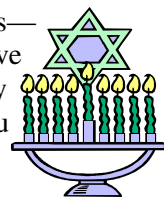
clinical skills in child development, education and child psychology to help enhance the child's ability to cope with hospitalization. She provides opportunities for comforting play both in the Child Life playroom and at the child's bedside. CARES assists the Child Life Program with toys, stickers, games, dress-up costumes, surprise balloons, and anything that can help either distract a child from their anxiety about being in the hospital or that can help ease their fear of the unfamiliar by doing something familiar and fun.

The children also enjoy their time with the Pediatric Reading Program volunteers: **Maryann Kristan** (founder), **Raymond Burkland**, **Olivia Lubensky**, **Linda Millman**, **Barbara Sessler**, and welcome new addition to the team, **Pamela Quon**.

THE HOLIDAYS

are rapidly approaching, so please remember the CARES Shops when you plan your holiday gift giving. Shop early: CARES currently has a wide selection of trendy purses, very nice costume jewelry, including amber, and the Vatican line (some aren't from local merchants so are not commonly found in the LA area). Lots of cute novelty items that help you say a special "thank you."

After November 3rd, merchandise for the "December Holidays" will be available. Shop with CARES for all your gift needs—that way you give twice: when you buy the gift and when you give the gift!



Heartfelt thanks to the following generous supporters who have donated since 7/1/12:

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