

Dear Editor of The Pulse:

I have said it often and I'll say it again – Door County is the most caring, giving community I've ever known. There are thousands of examples every year of people who give. They give of their time, they give of their money or they give of their passion for an organization or event or cause that they believe in.

It is important to me that I use, as an example of giving, a group of women in Door County who worked, without pay and without glory, to create a first-ever event in order to raise money for United Way of Door County. I know that without the efforts of Shaun Tauber and Carrie Hauser and their dedicated committee members, there would be less assistance for our neighbors next year. I know that there were sleepless nights for them while they worried about all the necessary details that go into a huge project like theirs. I know there were times when they wondered if it was worth the effort – whether it would be a success. They didn't need to worry, it was a success.

Can you imagine how much work went into finding Princess Diana's Personal Chef, securing him for a specific date, making sure his travel arrangements were made, working with The Orchards' staff to prepare Royal recipes perfectly, coordinating the talents of Sturgeon Bay Florists' decorators who transformed the clubhouse into a magical wonderland using more than 600 red roses, picking up and delivering hundreds of china pieces and arranging each place setting, securing sponsors, and selling tickets?

Because of these efforts the Royal Dish Luncheon and The Royal Dish Dinner were huge successes. Those two inaugural events raised thousands of dollars. 99% of that money will stay in Door County and will help fund nearly 40 human service programs. More than 9,000 area residents can thank that group of women for making a difference in their lives when they need assistance with child care, or health care, or when our community's youth need a safe, positive outlet for their energy.

Shaun and Carrie couldn't have done this alone and they were fortunate to have found a large number of other women to help them out. Each one of them deserves our gratitude and appreciation. They know how to LIVE UNITED.

Christine Salmon
United Way of Door County