



Garden Court Residents and Friends: (back) **Dick Dorn, Paul Cook, Pancho Ortega, and Marjorie Shore.** (front) **Fran Krauskopf, Lupe Ortega, Phyllis Kubilus, and Elizabeth Wright**

Garden Court Celebrates Their Own

By **Jeanette Casillas** / CASA

THE RESIDENTS ARE THE HEART OF GARDEN COURT ON DE LA VINA and in honor of the residents, Garden Court hosted an Endowment Fundraiser themed, *Homegrown & Santa Barbara's Own*, at the Canary Hotel last week.

"The 'homegrown' theme has two facets," shared Detlev Peikert, Garden Court Endowment Board President. "First, we wanted to celebrate the local community by serving a 'farm-to-table' style meal using locally grown and organic foods. Second, we wanted to honor our own, because helping with the needs of our low income seniors is what Garden Court is all about!"

Through the Endowment's individual scholarship grants, The Garden Court Endowment has supported more than 150 low-income seniors in critical areas of health and well-being that Garden Court residents could not otherwise afford. In 2010, dental care was the top health assistance need funded.

"This event helps raise money for the Garden Court Endowment," shared Peikert. "There are certain services that low income seniors can't afford or that insurances don't always cover. That is where the endowment money steps in and provides assistance."

The mission of Garden Court is to provide affordable rental housing with services to low-income seniors, and

to secure the needed funding and capital equipment. The success of Garden Court requires a long-term community commitment to funding the services that are essential for the successful independent living of its residents.

Last year marked Garden Court's ten year anniversary. "Ten years is very significant," shared Peikert who was also an architect involved in the design and development of Garden Court on De la Vina. "Getting the building up and running was a momentous event because there was nothing like this in Santa Barbara. Garden Court is a place that has been in operation since 2000 and gives seniors a sense of community and helps them overcome isolation."

The evening began with hors d'oeuvres and wine as the 150 guests mingled and perused the silent auction tables. Michael McGuire served as Master of Ceremonies and KEYT's John Palminteri led a lively auction that included a lakeside Idaho resort vacation stay, local islands three-day deluxe sailing tour, tri-tip barbecue party for 25, and a front-row Fiesta Bowl package.

"Tonight we welcome past and new supporters of the Garden Court Endowment," shared Peikert. "Hopefully this event helps raise awareness and support from the community."

This year's event was the highest grossing event, grossing about \$70,000.

For more information call 884-0095 or visit www.gardencourt.org.



Alyce Parsons, event co-chair; **Detlev Peikert**, Garden Court Board President; and **Barbara Allen**, event co-chair



Tamara Erickson, Garden Court Executive Director and **Michael McGuire**, Master of Ceremonies



Felicia Sutherland; and **Dave Hall** from SBB&T, event sponsors



Grant House, City of SB Councilmember; **Joe Tumbler**; **George Leis**, SBB&T; **Robert G. Pearson**, Exec. Dir at Housing Authority of the City of SB



Laurel Sykes and **Clyde Freeman** from Montecito Bank & Trust, event sponsors