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Tustin organizations ‘strut their stuff’

The 1st Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, sponsored by the Tustin Community Foundation last Thursday, attracted over 170 attendees including volunteers from 49 non-profit Tustin area organizations and schools. The event, held in the gardens of the historic Wilcox Manor in Old Town, was held to recognize and create awareness of the legions of volunteers who donate countless hours to enhance the greater Tustin community.

The guest emcee was Miss Mary Ann (King) of 1960’s “Romper Room” fame, who shared some funny memories of the show and explained why it is important for people to volunteer in their community.

Organization memberships were encouraged to select their Volunteers of the Year who exceeded their expectations and serviced the greater Tustin area in extraordinary ways. Each recipient received a special gift bags:

Jerry Henberger, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County; **Barbara Alvarado, Danielle King, Jaimie Haver and Lindsey Soapes**, Blind Children's Learning Center; **Mark Thomas**, Boy Scout Troop 33; **Priscilla Deters**, Community SeniorServ; **George Smyth**, Council on Aging; **Leslie MacMillian**, Dollars for Scholars; **Wendy Myers**, Helen Estock Elementary School PTA; **Sherry Shatz**, Joyful Foundation; **Kathi Saage**, St. Joseph's Ballet; **Mary Kauffman**, TACFA; **Kim Adams**, THS Dance Team; **Charles Johnson**, Tustin American Legion Post 227; **Gwen Ferguson**, Tustin High School; **Margo Gant and Carole Blanscet**, Tustin Public Library; **Mike Collins**, Tustin PONY Baseball; and **Liz Allen**, Tustin Senior Center.

“Volunteers are the backbone of any non-profit organization and we’re happy that our luncheon provided an opportunity to publicly recognize their good work,” said Erin Nielsen, Executive Director of the Tustin Community Foundation.