



# Paella for Pups and Patriots

**M**embers of the Palm Beach community had an opportunity to meet and hear first-hand the life-transforming stories of veterans who found their saviors in the form of four legs and a wagging tail at a special *Paella Luncheon* held in their honor at the **American Humane Sanctuary**.

This heartwarming *Luncheon* featured recent *Pups4Patriots* graduate teams Air Force Veteran **Mike** and service dog *Justice*; and Air Force Veteran **D.J.** and *Gabe*. The service dogs, who never stray from their veterans' sides, are provided through American Humane's *Pups4Patriots* initiative which finds dogs in need of forever homes and trains them to be lifesaving service dogs for veterans suffering the invisible wounds of war, post-traumatic stress, and traumatic brain injury, at no cost to the veteran.

"We are so grateful to these brave veterans who have dedicated their lives to protecting our freedoms and are honored to be able to help them in their time

of need," said **Dr. Robin Ganzert**, President and CEO of American Humane. "Thanks to our generous supporters, our *Pups4Patriots* program is able to literally save lives at both ends of the leash."

The *Pups4Patriots* teams mingled with guests and feasted on **Chef Gianni Morandi's** legendary paella while enjoying music provided by the incomparable vocal artist, **Cande Rivers**.

Notable guests spotted at the event included **Lois Pope**, America's leading advocate for our veterans, and Country Music Hall of Fame member and American Humane Board member, **Naomi Judd** and husband **Larry Strickland**. American Humane's Board Chairman **John Payne and Nancy Payne**, and Board members **Amanda Bowman, Sharon Jablin, Marilyn Pelstring**, and **Abigail Trenk** were all also in attendance.

To learn more about this historic organization and its mission to save lives on both ends of the leash visit [www.AmericanHumane.org](http://www.AmericanHumane.org) or call its Palm Beach office at 561.537.5887.

**FIRST ROW:** D.J. Robbins with *Gabe*, Dr. Robin Ganzert and Mike Bundrick with *Justice*; Larry Strickland and Naomi Judd; Nancy and John Payne; **SECOND ROW:** Angela Adams, Nannette Hendel with Ruby and Maxine Boeding; Marilyn Pelstring and Peter Feinman; Sharon Jablin, Amanda Bowman and Abigail Trenk; **THIRD ROW:** Dawn and Thomas Assenzio; **FOURTH ROW:** Tony and Linda Pantano. PHOTOS: CAPEHART