



PRESS RELEASE

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Mary's Pizza Shack

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MARY'S PIZZA SHACK WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

California Restaurant Association recognizes Dine-n-Donate Program


Sonoma, CA – October 15, 2007 – Mary's Pizza Shack, the 16-unit Italian restaurant, has won the prestigious National Restaurant Neighbor Award from the California Restaurant Association. The program recognizes and honors restaurants outstanding community programs. Mary's Pizza Shack, founded by Mary Fazio in 1959 and owned and operated today by the 2nd and 3rd generations has, on a state level, won this very prestigious award. The fact that Mary's Pizza Shack was chosen as a state winner speaks to their tremendous dedication to community outreach.

Mary's Pizza Shack formed the Dine and Donate Fundraising program over 5 years ago to benefit area schools and non-profit organizations. The Dine and Donate Fundraisers take place in all of the 17 restaurant locations. Mary's Pizza Shack donates 20 percent of sales generated at these fundraisers back to the organization. 2006 donations were over \$66,000 and thus far in 2007, Mary's Pizza Shack has donated over \$133,000 back to the communities via the dine-n-donate program.

Although the award was given to Mary's Pizza Shack specifically for their dine-n-donate fundraising program, Mary's Pizza Shack gives back to the community on many other levels as well, giving away over \$300,000 per year to area elementary school children in the form of *Bambino Certificates*. Mary's Pizza Shack hand delivered 43,000 Scholastic Achievement Bookmarks that are good for a Bambino Pizza at any location. These bookmarks are designed to reward children for achievements in all areas and encourage continued educational growth.

Bambino Pizza certificates (approximately 300 per school), are hand-delivered to elementary schools within a 3-mile radius of all Mary's Pizza Shack locations (for students 13 years old or under). Mary's Pizza Shack donates 300-600 certificates to over 100 Elementary schools in September every year. A total of 43,000 certificates are given out annually to reward students in all Mary's Pizza Shack locations.

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Mary's Pizza Shack has a long track record of community relations. Mary's has been giving tours to both students and teachers for several years, providing both fun and educational experiences. *The Guided Tour Program* gives students and adults a close-up view of a working restaurant, including food preparation, safety, sanitation - and of course pizza eating!

Another program that Mary's Pizza Shack supports is "*Project Grad*", which provides a safe environment for graduating seniors. Mary's Pizza Shack donates 10 pizzas per high school for all schools within a 3-mile radius of each location.

Along with their *Bambino Certificates*, *The Guided Tour Program*, and *Project Grad* programs, Mary's Pizza Shack also donates significant cash and food trade to local schools and non-profit organizations in their communities, totaling over \$370,000.

Mary Fazio's generosity has been handed down through the generations and now her children and grandchildren continue this legacy on many levels. Besides community relations and their great food and service, Mary's Pizza Shack maintains a fun, family atmosphere where everything is made from scratch using the original recipes from the original shack, which opened for business 48 years ago in Sonoma.

About Mary's Pizza Shack

Mary's Pizza Shack, founded in 1959 by Mary Fazio, is famous for its homemade Italian food at reasonable prices served in a caring, passionate, casual and fun atmosphere. From the first single "shack" opened forty-eight years ago, Mary's Pizza Shack has grown to 17 full-service casual Italian restaurants in Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Solano and Contra Costa Counties. Today, everything is still made from scratch using the original recipes from the original shack. Mary's Pizza Shack serves the same homemade pasta sauces, pizza, soups, salad dressings, and meatballs and carries on the same quality food, passion and traditions just like it was 1959. Mary's Pizza Shack is a family owned business operated by the second and third generation of Mary Fazio based in Sonoma, California.

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