

COMMUNITY

# Humane society group holds first fundraiser

Mike Ellis

HINSDALE—Over 100 area residents turned out for “Mutts & Margaritas,” the inaugural fundraising event held by the Hinsdale Humane Society (HHS) Ambassadors at CiNe restaurant in downtown Hinsdale on Sept. 24.

Attendees enjoyed an evening of hors d’oeuvres and cocktails, as they conversed inside the restaurant and bid on an assortment of silent-auction items.

Guest bartenders Amity Comiskey of Hinsdale and our own columnist Kristi Gilbert of Clarendon Hills were joined by WMAQ-TV sports reporter Re-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HINSDALE HUMANE SOCIETY  
**The Hinsdale Humane Society Ambassadors held their inaugural fundraising event, “Mutts & Margaritas,” on Sept. 24.**

becca Haarlow behind the counter.

HHS Ambassadors chair Mistie Lucht of Hinsdale

said the goal was to raise \$10,000 for the humane society, plus community awareness of the ambassa-

dors, through Mutts & Margaritas.

“I think it went great,” Lucht said. “We had an

amazing turnout; people were really excited to be here.”

Lucht said HHS board member Christie Cuthbert recently developed the concept of organizing a woman’s board, which evolved into HHS Ambassadors, currently comprised of 22 local women.

“It’s a group of women that are charged with elevating the image of the humane society, throwing events and bringing in local donors and sponsors to raise money for an eventual expansion to the shelter,” she said.

Cuthbert, an ambassador herself, said the group is a welcomed addition to the HHS.

“We are so fortunate to have a strong foundation of volunteers supporting us, and we are thrilled to add the unique skills of the Ambassadors to our family,” she said. “HHS is so much more than just a place to find a new family pet.

“There are outreach programs, obedience classes, youth education opportunities, pet therapy and more.”

Lucht said she and her fellow ambassadors are planning their calendar for next year, which is scheduled to include a “wine night” in January, as well as the “Black Cat Gala,” an adult costume ball for Halloween 2015.