

FRIENDS OF THE POWERHOUSE TO HOLD SUMMER FUNDRAISER FOR NEW BEACH SAFETY CENTER

May 27, 2008. The Friends of the Powerhouse and Del Mar Lifeguards are holding a summer fundraising event, "Power to the Tower," on Wednesday, July 30 at En Fuego to raise money for construction of the new Beach Safety Center at 17th Street in Del Mar. The announcement was made by Jill Coughlin, Chair of the event and Piper Parry, Co-Chair.

"Thanks to the brilliant leadership of new City Manager Karen Brust, Community Services Director Pat Vergne, the Finance Committee and local resident Howard Gad, construction of the Beach Safety Center is expected to begin in the next twelve months. The Friends of the Powerhouse is pleased to be part of making this much-needed project a reality in the near-term," said Coughlin. "And with the summer upon us, we're reminded of the fabulous job that is done on a daily basis by our Del Mar Lifeguards, and the need to support them in maintaining their clean safety record."

A range of vacation packages and other unique offerings will be auctioned by master of ceremonies Richard Houk including: "Viva Las Vegas" with 5 nights at a hotel on the strip and roundtrip transportation on a private plane; a week's stay at a vacation hideaway on the coast of Oregon; and a Tiki Torch party at the beach hosted by the Del Mar Lifeguards.

The Del Mar beach attracts more than 2 million visitors annually.

"We're expecting a record turn-out at our beach this summer and a correlating increase in emergency and first-aid services, underscoring the need for a new Beach Safety Center and Lifeguard Headquarters. We are very appreciative of the outpouring of community support which has served as a catalyst for making this facility a reality," said Pat Vergne, Director of Community Services.

Cocktails will start at 5:30pm, followed by a Mexican and seafood buffet dinner and a live auction. En Fuego, a popular local restaurant and bar, is located at 1342 Camino del Mar. Public parking is available at City Hall on Camino Del Mar between 10 th and 11 th Street and valet parking is available in front of Bully's.

Tickets are available for the July event by contacting Friends of the Powerhouse at (858) 755-5220. Tickets are limited and are \$50 for one person or \$90 for two people. They are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

The Friends of the Powerhouse was formed more than ten years ago to work with the City of Del Mar to renovate and preserve the Powerhouse building on Coast Boulevard. After several years of fundraising, the building was upgraded and transformed into the Powerhouse Community Center that today is an integral part of the Del Mar community.

Following the renovation of the Powerhouse, the Friends raised money for and worked with the City of Del Mar to rebuild and upgrade the Tot Lot, located at the southern tip of Powerhouse Park. The Friends of the Powerhouse has also raised money for and funded other beach-related projects including a lifeguard rescue boat and beach-ready wheelchairs, among others.