

Success Becomes Her Welcomes Marissa Hermer

The Business Woman Behind The Draycott Will Share Her Story at the January 29 Event

By SARAH SHMERLING
Editor-in-Chief

Women of Pacific Palisades, get ready: Success Becomes Her, with Palisadian entrepreneurs Jordan Catapano and Dana Goldstein at the helm, is hosting its first gathering of 2019 on Tuesday, January 29.

Riviera resident Marissa Hermer will be on hand to talk about her journey as a business woman, entrepreneur, reality TV star, author, wife, mother and owner of The Draycott in Palisades Village.

Success Becomes Her is a networking group designed for “like-minded female entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs” to share “advice, experience and inspiration”—no matter what step of the journey they are at.

The group, which previously met at Palisades Branch Library, has now moved locations to incorporate other local businesses. The last meeting took place at happy LA boutique, and on January 29, the group will gather at Pacific Palisades Woman’s Club.

Goldstein, who owns Serendipity Event and Floral Design, and Catapano, who founded This Girl Walks Into A Bar with her sister, both shared that they are encouraged to keep hosting Success Becomes Her because of the response they have received.

“It’s the emails we get back in response, the mood at the event,” Goldstein explained. “It reignites the fire inside of people, reinspires a lot of people and allows them to connect and feel like they’re moving forward—that they’re able to do these things.

“They feel empowered hearing other people’s stories.”

This will be the seventh session of Success Becomes Her.



Marissa Hermer at The Draycott Rich Schmitt/Staff Photographer

“Connections are being made right in front of our eyes,” Catapano shared.

Previous speakers have been Ellen Ballon Dante of Deity Animal Rescue, Tuki Maxon of Plated by Tuki and the *Post*’s own Nilanti Narain.

Admission, which is open to all genders, for the event will be \$25, and includes wine, hors d’oeuvres and a swag bag, which

will feature items from female-run businesses, including coupons, vouchers and little gifts, Goldstein explained. Attendees are encouraged to bring business cards if they have them.

The event will take place at PPWC, located at 901 Haverford Avenue, from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

For more information, email successbecomesher@gmail.com.

OBITUARIES

John Edwin Danley

May 14, 1914 – Dec. 25, 2018



John Edwin Danley passed away peacefully at home on Christmas Day, 2018.

For 72 years, he was the loving husband of Shirley Brann Danley. He was also a happy younger brother, a kindly older brother, a dedicated father, a story-telling grandfather, a charming great-grandfather, a steadfast uncle, an accomplished businessman and a great companion to hundreds of friends.

John was born in Santa Monica to parents Matilda Elizabeth Kayzer and Willis Wilson Danley. He had an older brother, Arthur, and a younger sister, Winifred.

He was educated at all Santa Monica schools, graduating from Santa Monica High School. He attended Santa Monica College for two years.

After one year at UCLA and five years of night school at USC, during which he worked for the

Southern California Gas Co., he graduated with two degrees: banking and finance and business administration.

While attending college, he met the love of his life, Shirley Brann. They were married on July 12, 1941.

Shortly thereafter, the bombing of Pearl Harbor occurred and John enlisted in the Army. He served as a lieutenant in the Army for three years at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland.

Upon his discharge from the army, he returned to Santa Monica. He and his wife began building a family.

In 1945, his son, John Edwin Danley, Jr. (Jay), was born. In 1947, his daughter, Deborah Danley, was born. In 1951, his son Gregory Holmes Danley was born.

During the post-war years, John began his working career with Merle Norman Cosmetics as

director of sales and, later, vice president of the company. It was a satisfying and creative relationship that would span over 65 years.

In addition, he was the director of Merle Norman Cosmetics’ annual convention and was the master of ceremonies at each of these events. As a result of these duties, he was a long-standing member of Meeting Planners of America.

John was also very invested in community service. Starting in the early 1950s, he was a member and president of the Santa Monica Junior Chamber and organized the largest square dance in America to celebrate Santa Monica’s 75th birthday.

He was a member and president of the Santa Monica Optimist Club, and a member and past president of the Santa Monica College Associates. He was active in his children’s school parent clubs.

John also was a member of the Board of Trustees for Santa Monica Hospital for over 20 years, and chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1988-1989. John and his wife were devoted members of the Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church.

John was the beloved father of Jay Danley; daughter, Deborah Danley Engelen and her husband, Mark; and son Gregory Holmes Danley, and his wife Linda; five grandchildren: Allison Engelen McGugan and husband Chris, Tracy Engelen, Kevin John Engelen and wife Roslynn, Gage Dixon Danley, and Bridget Danley; great-grandchildren: Edwin Daniel McGugan, Mason Gregory McGugan and Aylie Sophia McGugan. He was the uncle to many wonderful nieces and nephews.

A memorial celebration of life will be held Saturday, January 26, at 2 p.m., with a reception following at 3 p.m. at the Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church, located at 15521 Sunset Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church.

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Sunday, February 10, 2019

10:00am-12:00pm (1st and 2nd Grades)

1:00pm-4:00pm (3rd, 4th and 5th Grades)

Palisades Charter High School

Gilbert Hall

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