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## Middletown's Buttonwood Tree celebrates 25th anniversary Oct. 25

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

MIDDLETOWN >> Join the Buttonwood Tree staff and supporters for a special evening with music, poetry, improv, a performance by The National Theatre of the Deaf, food and a silent auction – in three locations on Saturday, Oct. 25, 7-11 p.m. The party will honor the Buttonwood Tree's newly retired board president, John Basinger, and present performers who played The Buttonwood Tree in the early days when the center was located on Rapallo Ave, from 1989 – 1995.

This three venue event features Stacy Phillips and Paul Howard, Kitty Katherine, Stan Sullivan, Elizabeth Thomas, Faith Vicinanza, Ben Ross, Brian Wolfe, Matthew Bruns, Bobo & Rose Wolfe as “Pottery”, Dave Downs, Randy Moses and other surprise artists.

Basinger was one of the early directors of North End Arts Rising, Inc./The Buttonwood Tree, and has kept the dream alive through all the years of TBT's highs and lows. This year he celebrates his 80th year as we do our 25th! So we'll celebrate together and raise some much-needed funds to help TBT keep going another 25 years! There will be a special “Meet and Greet” with John Basinger and his dear friend from the NTD, David Hays, on the CHC Rooftop garden.

Along with the Buttonwood Tree, the event will be held at MAC 650 Art Gallery and at the Community Health Center (CHC), both located within a short walking distance from The Buttonwood Tree.

The Community Health Center – Rooftop Garden Meet & Greet with John Basinger and Friends, runs from 7-8 p.m. with special Hors D'oeuvres and select wines and beverages. Reservations are required for this special portion as space is limited and admission is \$15 per person. The

The event sponsor is NorthStar Wealth Partners. Event partners are National Theatre of the Deaf, MAC 650 Gallery, the artists of the Middletown Artists Cooperative.

and Mark Masselli, and the team at the Community Health Center for donating their beautiful space.

Visit [www.buttonwood.org](http://www.buttonwood.org) or calling 860-347-4957 for tickets and information.

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