



## NEWS FLASH (CIRCA. 1928)

### FLAPPERS AND GANGSTERS RUNNING SPEAKEASY IN LA JOLLA

#### ROARING 20'S PARTY ON AUGUST 29 BRINGS FUN... & FUNDS TO BENEFIT THE HOMELESS IN SAN DIEGO

August 26, 2009 (San Diego, CA) -- Flappers, Great Gatsby-types, absinthe, and boas galore - all descend on La Jolla at seven o'clock in the evening, August 29, for a summer-ending 20s era **Speakeasy Casino & Soiree** to raise money for The Girls Think Tank ("GTT"), a local go-to nonprofit focused on homelessness and other socially-conscious local projects.

The Speakeasy, with a prohibition-era theme, features 1920's music, heavy appetizers, an open bar with Prohibition Punch and Pink Think Lady drinks, and unlimited absinthe (newly legal, honestly) for donors over \$250. In addition to a poker tournament with grand prize getaways, The Speakeasy offers craps, blackjack, and silent and live auctions with trips to the Cordon Bleu culinary school in Paris, Montana, an autographed U2 guitar and many other great items. Prizes will be given for best 20s costume. Candy cigarette girls will roam the place, and entrance is by invitation only, passwords required. Radio host Jon Elliott MC's the event, and host committee include event chairs are City Council member Marti Emerald, Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach, and Julia Yoo.

"Like the late 1920's and 30's, many Americans are facing increased insecurity, joblessness, and homelessness. It's time for Girls Think Tank to jumpstart its work combating homelessness. We plan to use proceeds from The Speakeasy to transition from all-volunteers to a paid executive director." It's a fun event with a serious purpose.," said Rachel Jensen of GTT.

A recent report from First Focus estimates nearly 2 million children will be directly impacted by the mortgage crisis as their families lose their homes due to foreclosures. Here in San Diego, we have reports of families whose homes have been foreclosed now sleeping in their cars downtown. It was recently reported that there are 1,000 more people on our downtown city streets than one year ago.

Girls Think Tank is also starting a Homeless Action Group to bring together stakeholders - judges, attorneys, homeless people, business owners, citizens, advocates, and others - to find common ground and solutions. Previously, GTT provided Winter Survival Backpacks to San Diego's homeless. GTT's newest project, AVOW (Take A VOW to end violence against women) addresses the increased occurrence of rape in San Diego.

For more information about GTT, contact  
[girlsthinktank@gmail.com](mailto:girlsthinktank@gmail.com) or visit us online at [www.girlsthinktank.org](http://www.girlsthinktank.org).

PRESS CONTACTS: Rachel Jensen, [rachelj@csgrr.com](mailto:rachelj@csgrr.com), (619)228-1686 OR Jennifer Douglas,  
[jennifercdouglas@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifercdouglas@yahoo.com), (858) 344-5490.

P.O. BOX 620633 \* San Diego, California 92162 \* (877) 365-3566 \* [www.girlsthinktank.org](http://www.girlsthinktank.org)



### About GTT's Homeless Outreach Project

For nearly three years, GTT has distributed hundreds of Winter Survival Backpacks on the streets of San Diego during the winter months and other supplies year round. We are gearing up to do it again this winter, along with "Baby Bags" for expecting and new mothers who are on the streets. Both items will provide much-needed warm clothes and supplies for our homeless neighbors this winter. "In spending time on the streets of San Diego during the last three winters, we have witnessed the heartbreaking reality that pregnant women and newborn infants are not spared from the harsh conditions of living on the streets," commented Rachel Jensen, President and co-founder of the Girls Think Tank, "we've created GTT baby bags to do our own small part in helping these young women and children."

### About the Girls Tank

Girls Think Tank is a grassroots collective of mothers, lawyers, teachers, organizers, artists, planners, and doers of different races and ethnicities, ages, and points of view. The purpose of GTT is to foster a culture of empowerment amongst members and in the community by providing a vehicle for change on local issues that confront us in our daily lives. GTT members put our heads, hearts, and hands together to provide a public service for the community and create a sense of pride that we are doing something about the issues that matter most to us.

For these efforts, GTT was honored by Channel 10 with a 2008 Leadership Award for outreach and advocacy on behalf of San Diego's homeless. Building on the momentum of our success, GTT has taken on other socially-conscious projects, including AVOW (take a VOW to end violence against women), homeless voter registration, street survival packs for new mothers with infants, a leadership academy for high school students, and anti-trafficking work.

For more information about the GTT, contact [girlsthinktank@gmail.com](mailto:girlsthinktank@gmail.com) or visit us online at [www.girlsthinktank.org](http://www.girlsthinktank.org).

CONTACTS: Rachel Jensen, [rachelj@csgrr.com](mailto:rachelj@csgrr.com), (619)228-1686 OR Jennifer Douglas, [jennifercdouglas@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifercdouglas@yahoo.com), (858) 344-5490.

###

**KEEP IT ON THE HUSH-HUSH, BUT WORD HAS IT --**  
MASTERMIND: THE NOTORIOUS *GIRLS THINK TANK*  
MC: RADIO HOST JON ELLIOTT  
HOST COMMITTEE: CITY COUNCIL MEMBER MARTI EMERALD