



*Allan and Louise Pasbcow, Susan Lucci and Helmut Huber with Sandy and Nelson DeMille*



*Crystal Ball presenting sponsors and DRI board members Bruce and Roberta Waller*



*Sue Gillin, The Gillin Family Humanitarian Award recipient Allan L. Pasbcow, Art Gillin and NE Region Board of Directors co-chair Bruce A. Siegel*

## Annual Crystal Ball - a fun-filled gala

The Crystal Ball, which attracts Long Island's most generous business and philanthropic leaders, shined its spotlight this year on two prominent businessmen and a local family whose legacy has helped propel the organization it supports to the forefront of its field - the Diabetes Research Institute. Among the crowd were daytime television royalty Susan Lucci and world-renowned author Nelson DeMille, who celebrated this black-tie affair with more than 300 additional guests at the Garden City Hotel and raised a record-breaking \$737,000 for diabetes research.

Formerly referred to as the Crystal Ball Honoree, this year's award was renamed the Rowland and Sylvia Schaefer Award, in honor and memory of a couple who made several million-dollar gifts to the DRI in an effort to find a cure for their granddaughter, Dara Melnick. Dara's parents, Roberta and Bruce Waller of Upper Brookville served as the Crystal Ball presenting sponsor and have held fast to the Schaefer's vision and continue to support the organization they believe will end type 1 diabetes for the millions living with it. The inaugural recipient of the award is the scientist leading the charge to find the cure, Dr. Camillo Ricordi, director of the Diabetes Research Institute.

*By Denis Sheaban Jr.*



*John and Lindsey Hughes, Bonnie Inserra, Doug and Sheri Donaldson, John Doscas and Dr. Giacomo Lanzoni*



*DRIF national and executive committee board member Charlie Rizzo, Distinguished Service Award recipient Frank Pusinelli, RA, DRIF board member Doug Donaldson and Bruce A. Siegel*

