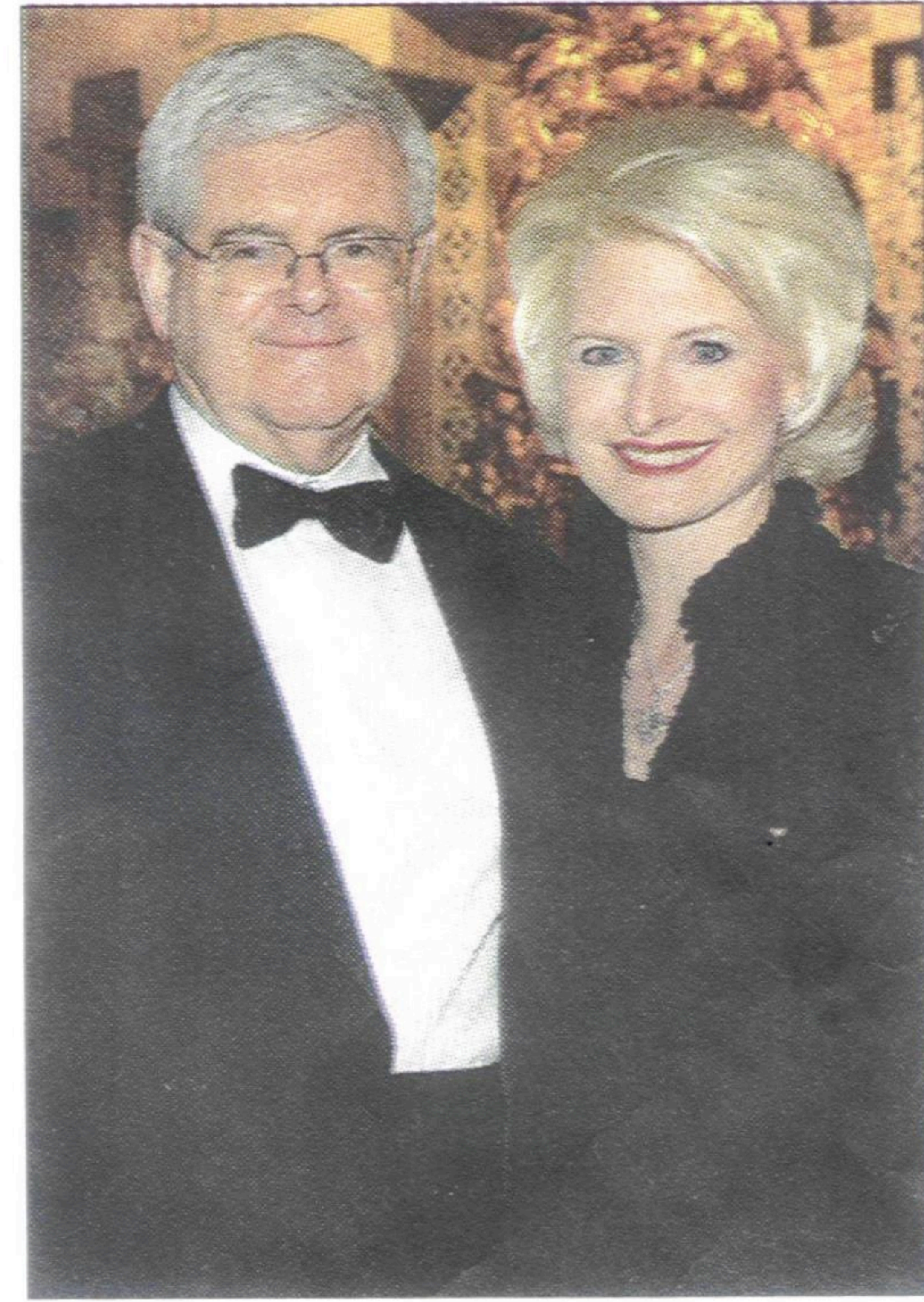


Frances Scaife, Tom McCarter and Frances Hayward



Newt and Callista Gingrich

WILD KINGDOM

Cocktails help warm chilly night at dinner dance

Say "wildlife" in Palm Beach and the subject is usually feral cats, wayward parrots or Royal Poinciana Way on Saturday night.

But once a year, it's about the residents of the Palm Beach Zoo.

The zoo's fifth annual Palm Beach dinner dance took place Jan. 23 at The Mar-a-Lago Club.

Our Magnificent Animal Kingdom began poolside with hors d'oeuvres and plenty of cocktails to ward off the slight chill.

Thank heavens for the clever soul who coined the phrase "for medicinal purposes."

After cocktails, guests moved to the grand ballroom — decorated by **Bruce Sutka** with

THE SCENE

Zoo projects aim to aid worldwide conservation efforts

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life-size animal figures and towering centerpieces — for dinner and dancing to the Bob Hardwick Orchestra.

Tom Quick and **Diana Ecclestone** were chairman and chairwoman of the event, with **Mark** and **Mary Freitas** serving as vice chairman and vice chairwoman.

Charlene Nederlander and **Mia Matthews** were co-chairwoman.

Longtime zoo supporter **Frances Scaife** was honorary chairwoman.

More than 400 people attended the event.

The Palm Beach Zoo is an outdoor classroom fostering awareness, appreciation and respect for the natural

world. The zoo's mission is to be an educational asset in the community and to responsibly demonstrate its commitment to excellence in conservation through rescue, rehabilitation and propagation.

The zoo participates in more than 15 species survival plans and more than 35 population management plans as part of its worldwide conservation efforts.

Luis Fernandez is chairman of the zoo's board. **Kane Baker** is vice chairman, with **James Meany** serving as treasurer. **Patricia Lebow** is secretary and **Daniel Comerford** is member-at-large.

— sdonnelly@pbdailynews.com