



PHILANTHROPY

By Kim Haman

Beautiful Way to Support

► **Pat McAuley**, board member, **Laura's House**; **Margaret Bayston**, executive director, **Laura's House**; **Wende Zomnir**, founder, chief creative officer, **Urban Decay**; **Andrea McCallister**, director, development and communications, **Laura's House**

Newport Beach-based cosmetics company **Urban Decay** donated \$50,000 to **Laura's House** to help fund the nonprofit group's community programs, emergency shelter, and legal advocacy services for domestic violence survivors in Orange County and elsewhere.

The donation was in recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. **Urban Decay** founder and Chief Creative Officer **Wende Zomnir**, along with employees, also participated in the **Laura's House** social media challenge, #StrandAgainstDV. The team colored strands of their hair purple, the national color of domestic violence awareness, in solidarity of the fight against such violence.



It's in the Cards

► **Georgia Jacobson**, owner, **Georgia Jacobson Group**; **Car Young**, vice president corporate strategy, **Vista Real Estate**

In support of **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County's** "High School Bigs" mentoring program, **Angelitos de Oro**, a Newport Beach-based volunteer women's sustainability group, raised \$310,000 for the nonprofit organization during its 14th annual **Angelitos de Oro** and **Fashion and Dinner** from Oct. 7 through 13 at **South Coast Plaza** in Costa Mesa.

The **Angelitos de Oro** program, presented by **Angelitos de Oro** and program partner **South Coast Plaza**, consisted of 115 boutiques and restaurants at the mall that offered 20% savings when the **Angelitos Card** was presented. The card was sold for \$60, and all proceeds benefited the nonprofit's **High School Bigs** program, which matches a volunteer high school "Big" with an elementary school "Little."

A Preview Day event was held Oct. 6 in **South Coast Plaza** and trends were presented by participating luxury boutiques, **diptyque**, **DIKONY**, **Anne Fontaine**, **Intermix**, **J.Crew**, **Danna Karan** New York, **St. John Knits** and **Oscar de la Renta**. **Preview Day** donated 10% of sales proceeds that day to **County**.



Talk About Raising the Bar

► **Mervy Khoursh**, founder, president, **Khoursh Co.**, with **Layla Miles**, founder, **Layla Miles Hair**

Orange County business leaders, philanthropists, and poker pros gathered on Nov. 7 at the **St. Regis Monarch Beach** to support the ninth annual **Autism Up For Autism** casino and golf event, raising more than \$500,000 for **Talk About Raising Autism**, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to educating, empowering and supporting families affected by autism.

The casino-themed event included dinner, live and silent auctions, and a poker tournament.

"Funds raised with this event will help us assist families in speeding up the cycle time from autism diagnosis to effective treatments in recovery," said organization founder **Lisa Ackerman**. "because recovery from autism is possible."

Bits & Pieces

► **vine-bios of Piyo Piyo USA** is partnering with **Orpheus** matching dollars raised on line through its checkout back **Advisors LLC's** Newport Beach-based **Institutional G-N-Out Burger** lunches to **Goodwill of Orange County** Oct. 5, serving 400 people.

Kim Haman is a



Stars Align

► **Mike Carlson**, general manager, president, **Genie Pacific**; **Jacqueline Gifford**, president, **Assured In-Home Care**; **Anna Stevens-Sobieraj**, **Frank Sobieraj Jr.**, president, CEO, **Goodwill of Orange County**

Goodwill of Orange County held its second annual gala on Nov. 7 at the **Laguna Cliffs Marriott** in Dana Point, raising more than \$450,000 to further its mission to help people with barriers find employment and secure purpose-filling jobs.

Orange County philanthropist **Tom Torrey**, chief executive of **Winitech International** and his wife, **Elizabeth**, were recognized with the **Face of Independence Award** for their ongoing support. It's the highest award **Goodwill** bestows on any person or organization.

Event sponsors included **Newmark**, **GrubHub**, **Knight Frank**, **Wells Fargo Bank**, **Easton Pacific POMS & Associates** and **Libre Spirits**.

The event, in addition to the more than 550 guests who attended the sold-out gala, was packed with special guests, including actor and OC native **John Stamos** and the **Beach Boys** band. **Stamos**, cast mates from "Grandfathered" and "Fuller House" also attended.

Funds raised will benefit three programs: the **Goodwill Torrey Center for Veterans Services**, which provides veterans and their families with housing, employment training and job placement, educational advancement, and wellness programs; the **Goodwill Fitness Center**, **Orange County's** sole fitness center designed for people living with physical disability or chronic illness; and **Goodwill's Assistive Technology Exchange Center**, which helps children and adults living with disabilities reach maximum potential via specialized services and equipment.

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