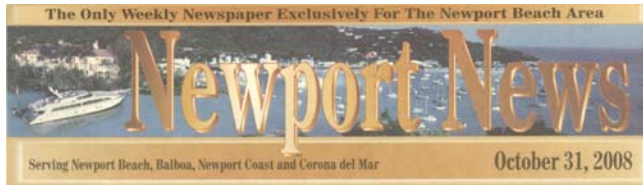


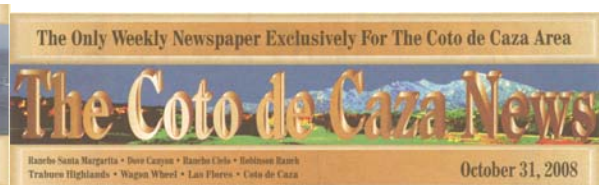
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Society Scene
by
Lana Chandler
Exclusively for the Ladera Ranch News



MIRACLES FOR KIDS RAISES OVER \$425,000

It was truly a "Night of Miracles" at the seventh annual Miracles for Kids gala. The 450 guests generously made donations to help raise over \$425,000 to support programs and research for children at the Children's Hospital of Orange County and the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. The event was held at the St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort & Spa and featured silent and live auctions, a delicious gourmet dinner and live entertainment. The special guest speaker for the evening was Kimberly Cripe, President and Chief Executive Officer of Children's Hospital of Orange County. The "Night of Miracles" annual gala was made possible by the dynamic duo Autumn Strier, Miracles for Kids Executive Director, and Curtis Green, Founder and Chairman of the Board. They spearheaded the auction committee with lots of help from dedicated volunteers Victoria Villaume, Karen Gregor, Angela Tesselaar, Danielle Steakley and Lisa Heil.

Guests indulged in Ketel One martinis at the vodka bar during the cocktail reception and silent auction. Bids were quickly placed on two valuable items. The Leroy Neiman signed lithograph framed art which featured an abstract painting of a large crowd at a boxing match with about 130 recognizable famous faces in the background sold for \$2,730. A lucky winner won a Hawaiian seven-night stay in a three-bedroom luxurious condo at Mauni Lani for \$2,700. After the reception, the guests were escorted into the ballroom and greeted by lively Go Go dancers and Latin soul and salsa tunes by The Boogaloo Assassins band. Then the gala dinner was served which included: smoked salmon with dungeness crab roulade, baby golden beets and goat cheese salad; seared beef filet with Mediterranean faro; and baked barramundi bass with leeks and fennel fondue. Dessert was chocolate orange and crispy praline, and mango-pineapple compote with coconut panna cotta and pistachio macaroon. Wines were donated by Robert Mondavi Winery.

Curtis Green then thanked all the board members who helped to make the event successful. The 2008 board members included: Autumn Strier, executive director Miracles for Kids; Azmin Ghahreman, chef/owner Sapphire Laguna restaurant; David Heil, owner of David August, Inc.; D.J. Burke, vice president/ private client services Hollencrest Financial; Ken Gerdau, owner/founder Pacifica Foods; Michael Meyer, Owner, Champion Paving; Paula Ansara-Wilhelm, chief brand/marketing officer Surterre Properties; and Tom Swanecamp, president/founder Red Rock Cabling. Regarding the event, Green stated, "The Seventh Annual Night of Miracles was a remarkable success for Miracles for Kids. The funds we raised will allow us to reach our goal of growing our programs for children and their families. We are truly grateful to each of our supporters for what they have helped us accomplish."

Almost \$300,000 was raised during the live auction led by Jim Nye. The largest prizes won during the evening included a "Dinner Party of the Century" for 30 guests on a 150-foot yacht with a menu from Chef Azmin Ghahreman of Sapphire Laguna that sold for \$25,000; and a weeklong "Escape to a Romantic Four-Bedroom Mexican Oceanfront Villa in Punta Mita", complete with full-time staff, which sold twice for \$20,000 each.

The funds will help Miracles for Kids in its mission to improve the lives of children with serious illnesses. The organization accomplishes this mission by providing families with the financial support necessary to cope with a child's illness, by providing funds to non-profits and other entities that support or conduct research focused on eradicating childhood diseases, and by serving as an advocate for children and families who are fighting illnesses. For more information, please visit www.MiraclesForKids.org.



Joni Brice and Robin McMonigle



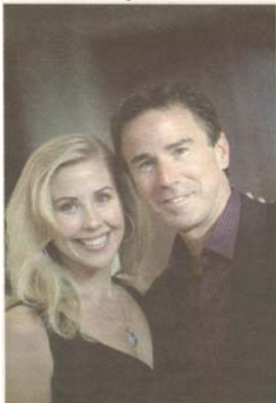
Dr. and Mrs. Ivan Kirov



Nina Potter, Lang and Allison Cottrell



Dan and Lara Horgan



Autumn Strier and Curtis Green



David and Lisa Heil



Len and Dodette Shulman



Paula Wilhelm and Ken Gerdau