

## 100 California Bank Branches Raise \$102K for United Way



**KUDOS/GIVING**

Joyce Glazer

**California Bank & Trust** associates raised \$102,680 through their branch network of 100 offices for the **United Way** statewide fundraising campaign.

"Through our commitment and support of our communities,

CB&T has fostered a culture of giving," said **Tory Nixon**, executive vice president and division manager of the San Diego division for California Bank & Trust

... **MERIT Property Management Inc.** raised \$182,000 during the United Way campaign. All of MERIT's 11 regional offices participated and donated contributions. Pledges were distributed to each region's local United Way chapter ... **Rancho Santa Fe** residents **Walter Green** and **Lola Green** are matching up to \$10,000 to **Free The Children** in Haiti. **Craig Kielburger**, founder of **Free The Children**, said, "FTC has a 10-year history of working in Haiti. To date, we have built nine schools to support local partners, a nutrition center, sanitation

facilities, and helped support teacher salaries and technical training for students." To make a donation, checks may be made payable to **Rancho Santa Fe Foundation**, with a note indicating the FTC fund ... **Ralphs Grocery Co.** donated nearly \$20,000 to **Feeding America San Diego**. The donation will be used to purchase food to help feed some of the people that rely on **Feeding America San Diego**. The **Rancho Santa Fe School** student government and families sponsored a fundraiser through **Sweet Things Yogurt Shop** that raised \$250 for **Feeding America**. This money will help the **BackPack Program**, which provides food to low-income elementary school students ... The **San Diego Downtown Breakfast Rotary Club** presented **Christopher Yanov**, founder of **Reality Changers**, with the 2010 **Peacemaker Award**. The award is given annually to a San Diego community leader who has made a significant difference in promoting tolerance, understanding, conflict resolution and peace in the region. Yanov is recognized for leading **Reality Changers** in helping disadvantaged youth become first-generation

college students ... In honor of **Black History Month** in February and **Women's History Month** in March, **Union Bank N.A.** and **KPBS** are celebrating local heroes who are making a difference to enrich the lives of others. The 2010 honorees include **Randy Jones** and **Ahmed Sahid** as **Black History Month Local Heroes**, and **Shahri Estakhry** and **Irma Cota** as **Women's History Month Local Heroes** ... **Jack White** and **Judy White** were honored at the 13th annual **Heart of San Diego** gala Feb. 27 at the **Four Seasons Aviara**. Proceeds benefit the **UC San Diego Medical Center's Sulpizio Family Cardiovascular Center** ... The **United States Karate Academy** conducted a two-day **Kick-a-Thon** on Feb. 16 and 17 at **Liberty Station**. The \$1,800 raised will benefit the **American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund** ... **Abbott Nutrition** donated \$30,000 to the **Burn Institute** to support its **Camp Beyond the Scars**. **Scott White**, president of **Abbott**, presented the check at the end of its annual sales conference on Feb. 11 at the **Manchester Grand Hyatt** ... **My Girlfriend's Closet** was honored with the **10News Leadership Award** on Feb. 20.

The organization was created in 2005 by a group of sophomore girls at **Point Loma High School** and their moms. They collect and distribute gently used clothing to homeless, foster and economically disadvantaged teen girls in the San Diego area, working with 50 social service agencies ... **Prashant Bhat** received the **Youth of the Year** award from the **Boys & Girls Clubs of Carlsbad**. **Gerald Ball** and **Jason Salinas** were both finalists. Recognition was given to all three at the **Super Star Dinner** on Jan. 27 at the **Village Branch**. Bhat received a \$1,000 educational scholarship and Ball and Salinas received \$500 scholarships, all from the **Blackburn Foundation** and **Ted Vallas**. All three were recognized for superior leadership skills, academic achievement and obstacles overcome ... **SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment** was the presenting sponsor for **Walk for Wishes**, which began in **SeaWorld** and continued on a four-mile walk at **Mission Bay** on Feb. 27. More than \$50,000 was raised to benefit the **Make-A-Wish Foundation of San Diego**.

Please send Kudos and Giving items to Joyce Glazer at [jglazer@sdbj.com](mailto:jglazer@sdbj.com).