PHILANTHROPY

By Kim Haman

Let’s Go to the Zoo

Tom Newmeyer, founding partner, Newmeyer and Dillon LLP, with his wife, Debbie

On Aug. 25, the Friends of Santa Ana Zoo hosted its annual black-tie Zoofari event, themed “Mayan Jungle.” The gala, which took place under the stars on the zoo grounds, raised more than $100,000. It was sponsored in part by US Bank, Disneyland Resort, Southwest Airlines, JetBlue and Signature Rentals.

At the start of the evening, guests were greeted by various zoo animals, including a ball python, spectacled owl and a French rooster, with their docent handlers. They were then invited to stroll through the grounds and ride the Conservation Carousel and the newly opened Filly Monkey Ferris Wheel, as well as visit the 50 monkeys for which the zoo is famous.

US Bank staff members were honored for financial and volunteer support. The team, spearheaded by Leanne Miller, project manager (retired), and John Kearney, vice president and district manager, South Orange County, was instrumental in financing and completing the Fifty Monkey Ferris Wheel.

The funds raised will support and improve the zoo, including the continued development and construction of its newest endeavors, the Giant River Otter habitat and the Primate Trails Experience.

Bits & Pieces

On July 27, The Child Creativity Lab and interns at Pacific Investment Management Co. partnered with Think Together to provide 20 underprivileged elementary students with the opportunity to build robots with donated Legos, prescription drug vials and other upcycled materials. As part of an annual month-long summer program known as CreateSpace, 14th Street Elementary...