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## 2012 Americana Citizens of the Year Selected from Eight Cities Served by Cypress College

Citizens of the Year from the eight communities in Cypress College's primary service area will be honored at the Cypress College Foundation's 37th Annual Americana Awards. The Americana Awards, sponsored by Union Bank, N.A., will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 in the Disneyland Hotel's Grand Ballroom.

The 2012 Citizens of the Year are: Paul and Carol Bostwick (Anaheim); Art Brown (Buena Park); Jeanne St. Clair (Cypress); Sandy Thomas (Garden Grove); George and Barbara Mast (La Palma); James and Shirley Bailey (Los Alamitos/Rossmoor); Pastor Donald Shoemaker (Seal Beach); and Andreas Psaras (Stanton). The Citizens of the Year join Bruno Serato, who is being honored as Man of the Year.

### About the Citizens of the Year:

*James and Shirley Bailey, Los Alamitos/Rossmoor* — Residents of Rossmoor for 40+ years, James and Shirley Bailey seem to always find time to make their community a better place. James has been on the Board of Directors of the Los Alamitos Youth Center (he's past president), the Chamber of Commerce, was active in Los Alamitos Little League, and is involved with his church. Over the years he has also donated over 14 gallons of blood, in order "to help pay back what I received recovering from my war wounds."

Shirley is a past President of the Women's Club and has served on the Mayflower pre-school board. In 2003, she was awarded the Laurel High School's "Heroes of the Heart" award for her service to

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Minds. *Motivated.*

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students. She has also been recognized by the Cal State Long Beach Alumni Association for her service as International Alumni Chairperson. When Rush Park was established, she helped plant and care for trees, developing an extremely successful incentive program through which residents could “adopt a tree.”

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*Jeanne St. Clair, Cypress* — “I love to serve the wonderful city that I have been blessed to live in.”

Jeanne St. Clair has lived out this sentiment for the past 35 years in Cypress, with the entire community as beneficiaries. She has been both a director and president of Hotline, as well as having participated on local PTAs and school-site councils, a volunteer in youth sports programs, and on other civic committees. In 2007 she was named “Woman of the Year” by the Cypress Chamber of Commerce.

St. Clair, a realtor, has been just as involved in professional activities. She served as a director for the National Association of Realtors, the California Association of Realtors, and the Pacific West Association of Realtors. She was co-founder and president of the Pacific West Charity Foundation, which raises money to assist first-time home-buyers.

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*Sandy Thomas, Garden Grove* — Sandy Thomas is always on the go. Whether it’s tending to her duties as branch manager of Farmers & Merchants Bank, providing leadership for the Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce as chairman of the board (she’s in her third term), or, as she puts it, “spoiling my grandkids,” you can count on Thomas to bring a full measure of enthusiasm to the effort. Prior to assuming its presidency, she held a number of other leadership positions with the chamber as a whole, and, several within its Women’s Division. Thomas was the first female to serve in a management position at Farmers & Merchants Bank.

She also serves on the Board of Directors for Acacia Adult Day Services and on the Advisory Board for the Garden Grove Assistance League. She has been recognized several times for her many contributions to the community, receiving the “Women Making a Difference” Award from State Senator Lou Correa in 2010, and the Silver Spoon award from Garden Grove Chamber Women’s Division in 2006.

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*Paul and Carol Ann Bostwick, Anaheim* — Paul and Carol Ann Bostwick have been active in Anaheim for a number of years. Paul, an Anaheim business owner for 46 years, has been a Planning Commissioner, a member of the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce, and an Anaheim Memorial Hospital Foundation Director. He is a past president of Kiwanis, a scouting volunteer, and an active participant of a dozen other civic organizations. He is proudest of his service as a founding member of the group that established the Orange County Conservation Corp.

Carol Ann, having retired from the health care field, held leadership roles in a number of professional organizations in that industry over a 20-year period. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Anaheim YMCA, Sister Cities, and, in 2000, was named one of the “Spectacular Women of Anaheim.” Carol grew up in the spirit of helping others, abiding by her father’s philosophy that, “You’re never too poor or too rich to give of your time.”

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*Art Brown, Buena Park* — “I was brought up to help others.” Anyone who knows Art Brown will recognize that this message struck a deep chord, becoming a guiding force in Brown’s life. In fact, it’s hard to find an area in which he has not been active.

Having served in the military and now retired from law enforcement, Brown has a long record of giving to others. For twenty years he served as either mayor, mayor pro tem or a city council member. He has held numerous county and state positions as well, and has been involved in literally scores of other organizations and activities, including the Lions and the Boys & Girls Club.

Brown is also on the board of the “Fraternal Order of Real Bearded Santas.” He has somehow found time to have soloed in fixed wing aircraft, has over 80 hours of dual time in helicopters, and made a half dozen parachute jumps. His simple philosophy of helping others provides a powerful example of the difference one person can make.

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*George and Barbara Mast, La Palma* — The Mast’s involvement in La Palma civic activities is deep

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and long-standing. One observer noted that “no Kiwanis event or meeting takes place without them.” George, a long-time volunteer in scouting and an Eagle Scout himself, has mentored every Eagle Scout from La Palma. He is past President of Kiwanis and a member of the Americana Chemical Society, the American Physics Society and the Society of Sigma Xi.

Barbara is involved with the American Cancer Society Relay for Life (where she is perennially a top fundraiser), the City of Hope, and with local schools (as a high school band booster, among other things).

George puts it simply, “I enjoy helping others,” a sentiment that no doubt reflects both his and Barbara’s lives.

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*Andreas Psaras, Stanton* — In 1990, before buying Harry’s Place Cafe in Stanton, Andreas Psaras worked over 100 hours a week as a dishwasher and a cook. As Psaras, who lived in Greece until he was 23 years old, observes “In Greece, I didn’t have the same opportunities.”

Ten years ago, on Thanksgiving Day, Psaras and his wife, Angela, expressed their own thanks by making a free holiday dinner for anyone who came to the restaurant. That first year 5 turkeys were prepared. The number has grown dramatically, and, this Thanksgiving, 70 turkeys were prepared and served to over 1,000 people! In Psaras’ words, “I want to give something back to my community.”

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*Don Shoemaker, Seal Beach* — Pastor Donald Shoemaker has been involved in the Seal Beach community since 1977, the result of his work at Grace Community Church, where in 1984 he became senior pastor.

Shoemaker’s involvement in Seal Beach reaches far and wide. He serves as senior chaplain of the Seal Beach Police Department, participates in the annual Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day services at Seal Beach Eisenhower Park, serves in ceremonies at the local military installations and the Seal Beach Fire Station, and is involved with the Chamber of Commerce, Interval House, Precious Life Shelter, Project Angel Tree, the Long Beach Rescue Mission, Teen Challenge, Precious Lamb Preschool (for Children of

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Families in Crisis), New Life Beginnings, the VA Medical Center's "Serve the City" program, and Support Our Troops (which was launched at Grace Community Church).

In recognition of these activities, and many others, Shoemaker was Grand Marshall of the 2010 Seal Beach Christmas Parade.

**About the Americana Awards:**

Tickets for the Americana Awards are available from the Cypress College Foundation for \$225 per person with various sponsorship levels also available. Information is available by calling (714) 484-7126 or at <http://www.CypressCollege.edu> or <http://www.Facebook.com/AmericanaAwards>. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with no-host cocktails and a silent auction. Dinner is served at 7 p.m.

Bruno Serato is the 2012 Americana Man of the Year. Serato is a noted philanthropist, and the recipient of a 2011 CNN Hero award, an international honor organized by the Cable News Network. He also was the Americana Awards Citizen of the Year from Anaheim eight years ago.

In July, 2010, Union Bank, N.A., strengthened its partnership with Cypress College, agreeing to serve as the title sponsor of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Americana Awards. At the 2011 awards, Union Bank extended its sponsorship through 2015. Union Bank has a long-standing leadership role at the college with representation on the Cypress College Foundation Board of Directors. Union Bank's five-year commitment to Cypress College totals \$125,000.

For more information about the Americana Awards, please call the Cypress College Foundation office at (714) 484-7126 or visit: <http://www.cypresscollege.edu/about/Foundation/>.

**About Cypress College:**

Cypress College has motivated the minds of students since 1966. For nearly a half-million people — including actors, athletes, doctors, executives, mechanics, nurses and teachers — Cypress College has been a springboard to their dreams. For some, Cypress College is the ticket into their university of choice and for others it provides essential training for a rewarding career. Just one Cypress College class is often all it takes to provide cutting-edge skills that lead to a promotion or a new job.

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Cypress College's 16,500 students and the highly qualified teaching faculty are proud of the many excellent academic and vocational programs. Cypress College offers 58 university-transfer majors, 145 career-certificate programs, and degrees in 55 areas of study. The college's traditional semesters begin in January and August, while short-term courses start throughout the year. A Cypress College education costs just \$36 per unit — \$108 for a typical, full-credit class — California's lowest tuition. Financial aid and scholarships also are available to qualifying students.

Cypress College is one of three campuses in the North Orange County Community College District and a member of the 110-campus California Community College System. The college primarily serves the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Garden Grove, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Seal Beach and Stanton. Michael J. Kasler is the president.

Located at 9200 Valley View Street in Cypress, the college is easily accessible from several Southern California freeways, including the 5, 91, 605, 22 and 405. The campus is just a stone's-throw from Downtown Disney and Knott's Berry Farm.

More information about Cypress College is available by calling (714) 484-7000 or by visiting the campus Web site at <http://www.CypressCollege.edu>.

#### **About UnionBanCal Corporation & Union Bank, N.A.**

Headquartered in San Francisco, UnionBanCal Corporation is a financial holding company with assets of \$84 billion at June 30, 2010. Its primary subsidiary, Union Bank, N.A., is a full-service commercial bank providing an array of financial services to individuals, small businesses, middle-market companies, and major corporations. The bank operated 396 banking offices in California, Oregon, Washington and Texas as well as two international offices, on June 30, 2010. UnionBanCal Corporation is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd., which is a subsidiary of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. Union Bank is a proud member of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG, NYSE:MTU), one of the world's largest financial organizations. Visit [www.unionbank.com](http://www.unionbank.com) for more information.