

MODERN LUXURY

RIVIERA

SAN DIEGO

Wow- Worthy

Distinctive
Gifts for Your
Discerning List

SUPERMODEL
CITIZEN

*Petra
Nemcova*

ON OVERCOMING
TRAGEDY AND
GIVING BACK

THE *Philanthropy* ISSUE

THE PLAYERS,
GALAS & CAUSES
YOU NEED TO KNOW
THIS SEASON!

Hot to Trot: The Show Ponies
Return to Del Mar!

Switchfoot Rocks the Charitable World

Foodies Flock to Ocean Beach

And the Soiree Scene Sizzles

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Weekend Warrior

Let's face it: Southern California loves its plastic surgery. As a cosmetic surgeon with his own La Jolla practice,

Dr. Michael Brucker (drbrucker.com) is already a busy guy. Still, he'll put in a little extra time for his favorite charity, whether he's sporting scrubs or a tux.

"I don't work on the weekends unless it's for Fresh Start," says Brucker.

In fact, as a volunteer for 11 of the 23 years that **Fresh Start Surgical Gifts** (freshstart.org) has

been operating, Brucker has racked up more than 400 volunteer hours in the operating room, helping countless children with physical deformities through life-altering surgeries, doing everything from treating cleft palates to ear reconstructions.

Now one of the organization's most senior members and its medical program director, Brucker has helped grow the Carlsbad-based charity into a nationally recognized institution with two must-attend events (October's Butterfly Ball and Charity Golf Tournament) and its own clinic at Rady Children's Hospital. When home in Carmel Valley, the self-described "retro nerd" loves to build custom turntables in his woodshop, but gets really excited when discussing the process of surgically building a new smile for a child.

"An ideal situation is something that utilizes your skills and also helps the world. So for me, this is perfect."



FRESH PRINCE
Michael Brucker is a plastic surgeon who donates his time to Fresh Start Surgical Gifts, based in Carlsbad.

By the Numbers

THE MOST JAW-DROPPINGLY GENEROUS GIFTS OF 2014 SET A GOLD STANDARD. NEW GUARD: DO THE MATH.

\$35 Million

For good reason, mega-donor **Conrad Prebys** has his

name emblazoned on more theaters and music halls than just about anyone else in town. And that's not going to change anytime soon. The philanthropist just donated \$15 million to the La Jolla Music Society (ljms.org) for its Performing Arts Center and gave \$20 million to the recently completed SDSU (sdsu.edu) Student Union Center. Both will be named after him. Get that stonemason on standby.

As if giving \$60 million (in 2006) to your namesake hospital weren't enough, **Ernest Rady** and his wife, **Evelyn**, just wrote another \$120 million check to Rady Children's Hospital (rchsd.org) to establish the Rady Pediatric Genomics and Systems Medicine Institute. That's one healthy donation.

\$120 Million

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RIVIERA NOVEMBER 2014

Fab Five

FOR THE PHILANTHROPIST GENTS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS ACCORDINGLY.

1

John Elway, Ray Romano and Emmitt Smith are just a few of the names that come to play the three-day **Celebrity Championship** (entry to play starts at \$3,500, celebritychampionship.com) golf tournament at La Costa Resort, hosted by NFL legend (and former SDSU Aztec) Marshall Faulk.

2

Rub elbows with congressmen and NFL Hall of Famers at August's **Forte for Children Gala and Golf Tournament** (tickets from \$375, forteforchildren.org), benefiting music programs for disadvantaged youths.

3

Surf with pros or hit up the Polynesian-themed VIP party at the 22nd annual **Luau and Legend of Surfing Invitational** (tickets from \$175, luauandlegendsofsurfing.org), with funds going directly to UCSD Moores Cancer Center.

4

MCASD's annual **Monte Carlo** gala (tickets from \$300, mcasd.org) is decidedly co-ed, but it recently added a cigar and scotch lounge to the after-party gambling tables that are always cluttered with fellas bluffing for a good cause.

5

The **Voices for Children Ultimate Man Cave** (tickets from \$200, speakupnow.org), which takes place Nov. 14 at the La Jolla Country Club, certainly lives up to its name. Hand-rolled cigars, classic cocktails and casino games galore benefit advocacy for foster children.



MAN UP
The annual Ultimate Man Cave is set to take place this month.