

NEWS ENTERPRISE

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F&M Bank honors local Maulhardt

Farmers & Merchants Bank celebrated 12 Orange County women at the third annual Women of Courage breakfast on Thursday, Oct. 20 at Zov's Bistro Café in Tustin. This exclusive event celebrates women who have displayed courage, tenacity and wisdom to make a lasting difference in both their business and community.

The recipients, who were selected by F&M branch managers throughout Orange County, are women from a broad array of age groups, cultural backgrounds and professions, with each making a significant contribution to their business and community.

"With October being Remarkable Women month, we felt it was the ideal opportunity to recognize and honor the dedicated women that we have seen come through the doors of our Orange County branches," said F&M CEO W. Henry Walker.

F&M's Women of Courage program has grown from the Bank's continued involvement with the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO-OC) Remarkable Women event for the past eight years. F&M Bank is continuing its commitment to recognize outstanding women in the OC communities served by F&M Bank.

Among the Farmers & Merchants

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Honors

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Bank's selections for the 2011 F&M Bank Women of Courage were:

Garden Grove – Gene Widdicombe, owner of five McDonald's restaurants in Garden Grove and the first female to open a McDonald's franchise in the county

Rossmoor – Luciann Maulhardt, executive director of Casa Youth Shelter, an organization that provides temporary shelter and counseling services for young people in crisis

Huntington Beach – Barbara Robinson, owner of Robinson Consultant Services, a business she founded to help disabled individuals

manage their social security

"This year's honorees have displayed exceptional courage in their business, their community and their family," said F&M Chairman of the Board Daniel Walker. "We see these women as part of our extended F&M family and are inspired by their remarkable accomplishments."

F&M Orange County branch managers attended the breakfast, accompanied by their Women of Courage honoree. The event featured a keynote speech from Mari Kurtz, president and CEO of OC Metals Inc./Cal Pac Sheet Metal Inc. and recipient of the NAWBO-OC Innovator Award.