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## **Family Charity Honors Child's Memory with Annual Tradition**

### **Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Benefit – November 7, 2009**

*“Kylee’s Giving Tree” has helped over 4,000 children since 2002*

**Sacramento, July 16, 2009** – The requests for help are heartbreaking: “4 year old pediatric terminal cancer patient needs stroller because she can no longer walk” “Mom died and her kindergartner comes to school sad and hungry.” “I only want a real angel for Christmas.” “Homeless family in need of winter coats, shoes and blankets for their children.” “Pediatric ICU patient needs blankets, car seat, and baby clothes to be released from hospital.” “15 year old boy Pediatric Hospice patient would like to take his family to dinner and a movie before he passes away”. These are referrals from local schools and agencies seeking help from the Kylee Lillich Charitable Giving Tree. In its 67th year, the local charity will make wishes come true for nearly 700 grieving, needy and hospitalized children year this year.

**Come support our efforts by enjoying an evening in Westlake in North Natomas for our annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Benefit. Tickets are \$35 per person.** The event includes several varieties of wine to taste, beer, finger food and desserts, silent auction and raffle. Please call (916) 419-8150 for tickets, reserve early for a group of friends to attend. Time 6:30 to 10 pm. **Donations from individuals and businesses are being sought now for Silent Auction and Raffle, please call Traci Lillich if you have an item, service, food, or wine to donate.**

Kylee’s family started the Giving Tree to honor the memory and spirit of their 23-month-old daughter. She was killed in a tragic and unbelievable accident in 2000, leaving her family – including twin brother, Kevin – stunned, grieving and feeling helpless. “Kylee was so loved and so blessed, and this is our way of passing those blessings on to others,” said Traci Lillich, Kylee’s mother and Giving Tree President.

The Kylee Lillich Charitable Giving Tree is a non-profit 501c3, all-volunteer local charity that helps children year-round. Donations go to children who are hospitalized, grieving the loss of a parent, brother or sister, or simply in need of basic items. Referrals have come in from more than 30 schools and local hospitals. Professionals work with parents or guardians to determine the child’s needs and make referrals. Most children ask for new warm clothes, new toys, new blankets and new baby items, and occasionally a bike or special wish is granted. Cash donations are accepted and can be made online via PayPal at [www.KyleesGivingTree.org](http://www.KyleesGivingTree.org). The program began in Woodland at Lee Middle School where Kylee’s aunt Tara Keegan helped organize an informal giving tree for needy Woodland students.

We also need volunteers and businesses to host Giving Trees with wishes attached to be delivered November 17-21, 2009. All collected toys and wishes for the holiday Giving Tree are due on December 11, 2009. Volunteers are needed to assist with collecting and delivering, and with the sorting day, December 12, 2009. To volunteer, host a Giving Tree or donate items, please call Traci Lillich.

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