

STILL LIFE

WESTBANK PHILANTHROPY

Gala at the Hyatt Regency raises \$200K

Mission Capital holds Party for Good, recognizes community leaders.

By Holly Jackson
Contributing Writer

Mission Capital recently held its third annual Party for Good at the Hyatt Regency Austin, recognizing leaders who drive social change for the community.

Seven hundred people in attendance included nonprofits, foundations, social enterprises and government organizations united with businesses, investors and social venture partners. The event included a cocktail reception, a seated dinner and the announcement of the \$2,000 prize winners. A select committee chose an awardee out of three finalists in four categories.

Excellence in Collaboration recognized a mission-driven group working collectively to achieve systemwide change. The Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin catalyzes at least 30 nonprofits to reconnect children to nature.

Excellence in Impact was given to a high-performing nonprofit setting program standards with measurable outcomes. Foundation Communities creates affordable housing with on-site services to empower residents.

Excellence in Inno-

vation was presented to a pioneering nonprofit using entrepreneurial thinking, alongside calculated risks disrupting traditional operations. The Sustainable Food Center improves access to affordable and nutritious food.

The Nonprofit Executive of the Year was awarded to an achiever making significant progress on a critical community issue. Karen LaShelle, of Creative Action, cultivated youth development in future artists and leaders.

Past recipient and Westbanker Earl Maxwell introduced the awardees of the Libby Malone Community Leader of the Year. Philanthropists Jeff and Deanna Serra were highlighted for their leadership on chronic homelessness.

Jeff has been a Habitat for Humanity board member, and Deanna is co-director of Art House, where the homeless can create and sell their wares.

Mission Capital CEO Matt Kouri talked about the Travis County Foster Youth Collaborative for 2,000 kids. Averaging six foster parent moves before securing a permanent home, 30 percent of the homeless and 25 percent of the prison population were once foster children.

Proceeds totaled \$200,000. For information: missioncapital.org.

For more events, visit HollysHotHappenings.com.



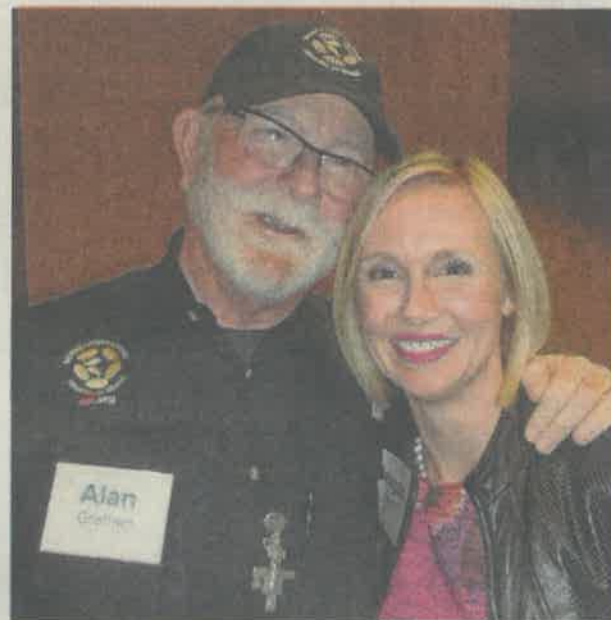
Pat Patterson (left) with Westbanker Bill McLellan PHOTOS BY HOLLY JACKSON FOR WESTLAKE PICAYUNE



Westbankers and sponsors Anita and Earl Maxwell, committee member and former awardee of the Libby Malone Community Leader of the Year



Westbanker, board member and sponsor Josh Galatzan (left) with emcee, board secretary and sponsor Cole Harmonson



Mobile Loaves & Fishes sponsor and Westbanker Alan Graham with Meagan McCoy Jones

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Excellence in Innovation awardee and executive director Ronda Rutledge of the Sustainable Food Center (from left to right) with Westbankers James and Zeynep Young



Westbanker and board member Suzi Sosa with Matthew Dowd



Westbanker, board member and Google title sponsor Ketan Patel with wife Peggi Patel



Liz Stewart of Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin awardee and past chair Hayden Brooks and wife Lynn Brooks



Event co-chair, board chair-elect and sponsor Jennifer Vickers with board chair, committee member and sponsor Dennis Cagner