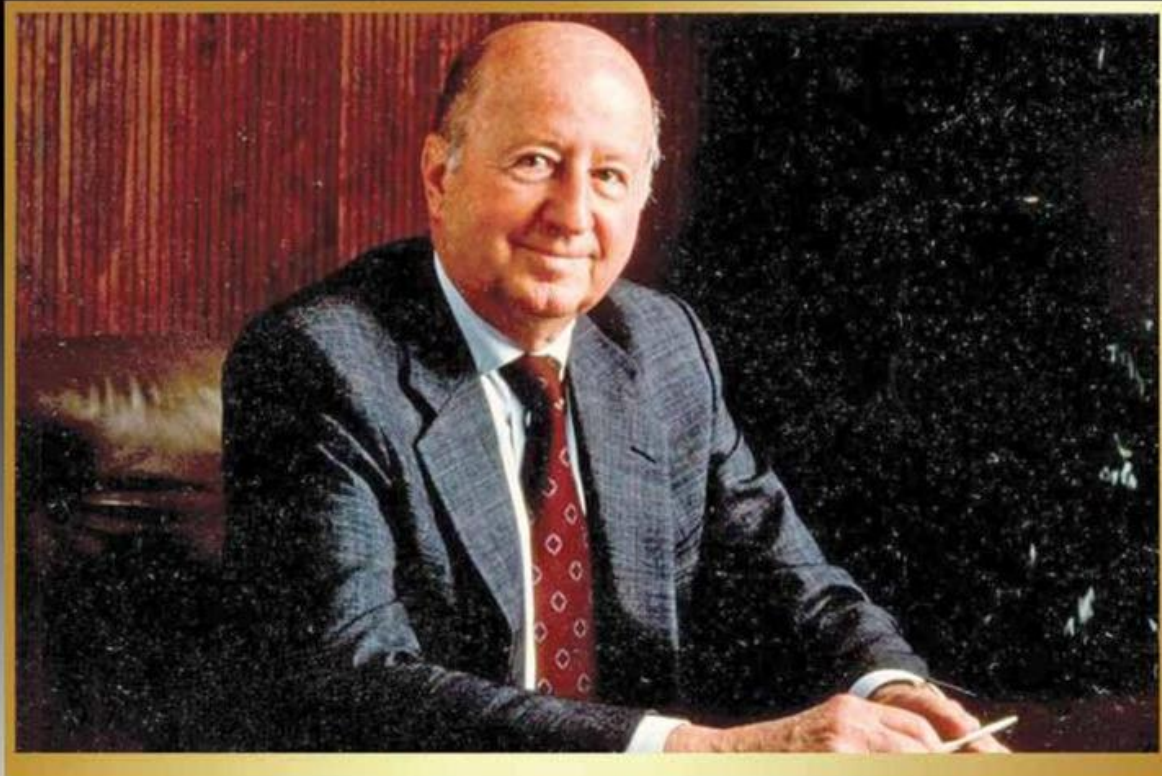


THE WOODLANDS AREA CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE



BUSINESS TODAY

September 2013



*The Woodlands Founder
George P. Mitchell
1919-2013*

*"The voice is silent, but the spirit echoes still."
Anonymous*



A Magic Night Filled with "Happily Ever Afters"!

The 35th Annual Chairman's Ball was held on Saturday, August 17th at The Woodlands Waterway Marriott.

Nearly 600 guests enjoyed a night of fine dining, entertainment and dancing as they honored the outgoing Chairman of the Board, James Stilwell, and welcomed the incoming Chairman, Amy Milstead. A very special thank you to all who attended the Ball and to our sponsors, table top decorators and committee volunteers for making this event such a huge success.



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Vamos Hablar
The Woodlands Idol Team
The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel and
Convention Center
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Financial Group as an approved coverholder, authorizing its TWFG General Agency to enter into contracts of insurance and issue insurance documentation under a Lloyd's registered binding authority. President & CEO Gordy Bunch received official documentation at Lloyd's London headquarters.

PAUL CARROLL IS "TOP MANAGER"

HBJ partnered with National Association of Board Certified Advisory Practices for the third year to name top wealth managers. Paul Carroll, Efficient Wealth Management Principal, is one of the top 61 advisory practices.

Paul said, "Our business has been exceptional! We've enjoyed a double-digit growth and hit \$100 million assets under management."

COOPER TEACHER WINS AWARD

University of St. Thomas recognized The John Cooper School's Susan Mathis with Distinguished Action Research Award. She was among 975 students who researched topics relevant to their interests for a capstone project in Master's of Education program; 14 were recognized with the award to spotlight excellence in educational research.

POLO LACOSTE IS ELECTED

Polo LaCoste, Home Instead Senior Care, was elected a member of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature. One of 116 representatives elected by Texans aged 60+, he will serve for two years.

For nine years, Polo and Sharon LaCoste have owned the franchise serving Montgomery County, including Conroe, The Woodlands, Magnolia and Montgomery.

BUSH SPEAKING AT CONFERENCE

Alan Bush, Bush Law Firm, will speak again about non-competes at the 200-attendee Employment Law Conference produced by South Texas College of Law and HR Houston.

Super Lawyers twice named Bush a "Rising Star" for defending management in employment disputes. Only 2.5% of Texas attorneys receive this honor.

MEMORIAL HERMANN NAMED

Memorial Hermann was recognized again as one of the nation's Most Wired hospitals, according to Hospitals & Health

Networks.

Memorial Hermann's early adoption and aggressive utilization of IT tools to promote improved patient care/safety, operational efficiency, data collection, and reduce healthcare costs, is the primary reason it was recognized nine consecutive years.

PHOTO BOOTH PROVIDES FUN!

Market Street Photo Booth provided entertainment and custom branded photo strips at the Ambassadors Family Fun Day for Texas Children's Hospital. Elegant equipment and sanitized props were made available for all to enjoy. The Ambassadors are the first-ever philanthropic support group that spans the entire mission of Texas Children's.



O'CONNOR ELECTED TO BOARD

Kiernan O'Connor, CRPC, was elected to the board of the Planned Giving Council of Houston, serving as director of Donor Motivation Program of Houston.



Kiernan O'Connor

A partner with Ellis & Ellis and co-founder/director of the Program, he is a prominent expert in issues of wealth and legacy planning.

DRY WHEN DONE CELEBRATES

Charles Wersky, owner of Dry When Done Carpet Cleaning, is celebrating 28 years of industry experience. He carries certification pertaining to his trade.

The company is announcing the addition of ceramic, stone, tile and grout cleaning to their commercial/residential services. Their equipment is portable/no hoses or use of your water/100% biodegradable.

BULLARD JOINS BETTER BOOKKEEPERS

Melanie Bush, entrepreneur/president of Better Bookkeepers announces Heidi Bullard has joined them as a Bookkeeper.



Heidi Bullard

Heidi has 20 years of experience in bookkeeping and accounting. She worked on special projects including integrated payrolls, documented Sarbanes Oxley compliance and procedures and audited self-paid sales tax for sizeable refund at R&M Energy.

WBA ELECTS OFFICERS

The Woodlands Bar Association elected its new Officers: President - Angela Speight; Treasurer - Eric Thiergood; Secretary - Amanda Johnston; VP/Scholarship - Melissa Proctor; VP/Social - Kirby Hopkins; VP/Membership - Karla LaFitte; VP/Website - Perry McConnell; VP/Community Affairs - Matthew Mussalli; Co-VP/Continuing Legal Education - Jerry Porter; and Co-VP/Continuing Legal Education - Jennifer Wherry.



Presenting a check to Montgomery County Food Bank are (L-R) Rotarians Jerry Hantman, Dave McCleary, Angela Shimmels, Sherry Smith, Sean-Michael Hazuda, and Terry Allemand.

MCABW FEATURES CONGRESSMAN BRADY

Congressman Kevin Brady gave the keynote speech at Montgomery County Association of Business Women's eighth anniversary celebration.

"We are thrilled to have Kevin Brady attend this milestone event," Carol Gooch, MCABW founder and executive director, said. "His presence says a lot about the growth and importance of our organization."

MONTGOMERY'S BOOK EXPLORES AREA

Dr. Robin Montgomery's Cradle of Texas Road, cultural history exploring regions around Conroe, includes the story of Tamina, with details that include descendant Rita Wiltz.

Wiltz created Children's Books on Wheels to serve area children. She continues her great-great grandmother's legacy of helping others as she passes on the opportunity of literacy.



Rita Wiltz & Dr. Robin Montgomery

LNO WAS "OUT OF THIS WORLD"

Montgomery County Youth Services' 15th Annual Ladies Night Out was "Out of this World", grossing the highest auction total in the event's history. Over 400 attendees gathered to enjoy music by the Space Rockers and participate in the auction.

The event raised \$61,000; the auction contributed \$25,000 to the net revenue.



Interfaith displays awards received during Association of Directory Publishers Convention.

L-R are Cindy Corey, Lyndie Patchell, Royce Brooks, Lisa Laurendine, Glenda Wendt, Ann Ryder, Bonni Horan, Shirley Santangelo, and Pamela Mann.

WOODFOREST FOUNDATION DONATES

Ten charities dedicated to assisting families in crisis received donations from Woodforest Charitable Foundation. The donations were presented by David Gottlieb, Charlie Marling, Kim Marling, Vicki Richmond, and Shelly Lynch.

New Danville, master planned community for adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities and low-income seniors, also received a donation recently from Woodforest.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Send your information to kay.hohman@woodlandschamber.org