



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 4, 2008
Contact: Jami McKenney, Programs Coordinator
Southlake Chamber of Commerce
817-481-8200

CHAMBER ANNOUNCES SOUTHLAKE'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Southlake, Texas –

Southlake's Citizen of the Year was announced at the annual Stars of Southlake awards banquet held on February 29 and hosted by the Southlake Chamber of Commerce awarded.

Local resident and community advocate Laura Hill received the honor. Hill's accomplishments include serving as a City of Southlake Councilman, founding SPARKS (Students and Parents Against Risks to Kids in Southlake), and co-founding the Southlake Angel Society to name a few. In addition, Hill serves on numerous boards and commissions.

Hill, along with her father Wallace Downey, operates Downey Publishing, a Southlake Chamber member business that publishes and distributes phone books to rural parts of Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Hill and Downey founded ART for Education, to give back to these communities, and to date, over \$80,000 has been given to schools and students.

Rick Kolster of Peak Performance Development, and a friend of Hill's, said, "There are many people who donate their time to an effort they believe in. There are others that prefer to just 'write a check.' Rarely do you find someone who will write the check, and then roll up her sleeves and dive in to help. This is the kind of person Laura Hill is."

Other awards presented include:

Small Business of the Year: Brian Zvonecek, Texas Insurance Exchange

Corporate Business of the Year: Central Market

Ambassador of the Year: Felicia Cyphers, First National Bank Town Square

Volunteer of the Year: Gary Blagg, Blagg Tire & Service

Director of the Year: Jill Clifton, Edward Jones

Chairman's Award: Carita Weaver and Michael Burns, i5 web works

President's Award: Jason Lind, Mike Mills Wealth Management

Youth of the Year: Cassandra Shankman

For additional event photos, please visit www.southlakechamber.com.

###