



# *gaining* GROUND

Houston Parks Board 2009 Annual Luncheon

Celebrating the Business of Parks

Tuesday, October 20, 2009  
Hermann Square at City Hall

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Jill Jewett

S. Reed Morian

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### Special Thanks

Mayor's Office of  
Special Events  
Craig Minor,  
*Minor Design*  
Johnny Steele and Judy Tate,  
*New Nursery*

### Host Committee

Adams Resources & Energy, Inc.  
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Francita and Jim Ulmer  
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Claudia Williamson  
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David and Mary Wolff  
Lorraine and Ed Wulfe  
Rosie Zamora,  
*Houston Wilderness*  
Steve and Lois Zamora

# Honorees

## ANN HAMILTON

### Individual Impact

The Houston Parks Board is privileged to honor Ann T. Hamilton with our Individual Impact Award in 2009, the year that Ann is retiring from Houston Endowment Inc. after 18 years of service to the Endowment and to the greater Houston community.

Some of the impact of Ann's contributions can be captured in numbers. During her years with Houston Endowment, she was responsible for 1,072 grants totaling \$220,299,199 to nonprofits focused on the arts, education, health, human services, community enhancement, and the environment. We recognize her today for all of her work, and with special gratitude for more than \$84 million in contributions to environmental projects that she oversaw — projects focused on energy efficiency, air and water quality, urban development, wildlife and domestic animals ... and, last but not least, parks.

Not all of Ann's impact can be measured quantitatively, however, because she added such her own unquantifiable wisdom to each grant — making site visits, meeting with countless individuals, reading and evaluating proposals, making thoughtful recommendations, and tracking the progress of each and every group. Extending her impact beyond Houston, she also co-founded the Texas Environmental Grantmakers Group to explore and develop conservation funding opportunities and partnerships across the state of Texas.

Those of us in the nonprofit sector like to believe that some of Ann's great wisdom springs from the fact that she started her Houston career among us — first as the Executive Director of The Park People, and then as the Executive Director of the Houston Parks Board. We know that her "green career" is not yet over, but her experience to date shows us just what a difference one individual can make on the life of an entire city.

## H-E-B AND CHARLES BUTT

### Corporate Impact

The Houston Parks Board is proud to present its 2009 Corporate Impact Award to H-E-B, a company who believes its work to care for the environment not only makes it a better neighbor, but also helps it serve its customers better.

H-E-B has a formal environmental commitment stating that it will conduct business in an environmentally responsible and sustainable manner, and that it is committed to business strategies that continually make better use of natural resources, minimize waste, conserve energy and water, and protect air quality. The company has embraced sustainable practices by emphasizing recycling, by using homegrown fuel, and by operating half its fleet of delivery trucks on liquefied natural gas.

Fortunately for the greater Houston community, H-E-B has also provided extraordinary support to Houston's parks, and it has been an unparalleled partner to the Houston Parks Board and the City of Houston by sponsoring 10 water playgrounds in parks across the city. Contributing \$2.5 million to build and equip these playgrounds, H-E-B has enabled us to build brightly colored facilities that squirt, spray, mist and shoot water in Hidalgo Park, Blueridge Park, Cullen Park, Edgewood Park, Aron-Ledet Park, Montie Beach Park, and Dodson Lake Park. New ones in the works will be located at Hackberry Park and the new Houston Amateur Sports Park. Thousands of children can play from dawn til dusk, and the impact of the water playgrounds during the hot summer months cannot be measured.

H-E-B has also supported our city's parks in other memorable ways, such as the Holiday Lights in Hermann Park. This generous, community-minded support springs directly from the Butt family, which started the store more than 100 years ago with one store in Kerrville, growing it to become an \$11 billion enterprise. As Howard E. Butt, father of the current chairman and CEO Charles Butt, once said, "He profits most who serves best."

# Program

## WELCOME

**Thomas G. Bacon**

President, Houston Parks Board

## LUNCHEON

**A Fare Extraordinaire**

## VIDEO PRESENTATION

**James A. Elkins, III**

Chairman, Houston Parks Board

## HOUSTON PARKS

**The Honorable William White**

Mayor, City of Houston

## HONOREE PRESENTATIONS TO

**Ann Hamilton**

Individual Impact

**H-E-B and Charles Butt**

Corporate Impact

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