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NEWS

Civic Cup recipient has family legacy of giving

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Lafayette businessman and CEO of the Moody Co., Kevin Moody, has been named the 2014 Civic Cup Award recipient.

The Civic Cup award was started in 1933 by the Young Men's Business Club. For the past 81 years, the award has been given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the community.

Civic Cup committee member Paul Hilliard said Moody and the Moody family have contributed money, time and resources in the community but most of their charitable work has been done under the radar.

"They are great community assets and citizens," Hilliard said. "They do a lot without making a lot of noise about it. They provide a lot of heat without making a lot of smoke."

Moody, 56, grew up in Crowley and has been a resident of Lafayette for the last 32 years. Since 1986, Moody has served as president & CEO of The Moody Co., a privately held holding company with interests in newspapers, restaurants, real estate, oil and gas, and private equity investments.

Hilliard said Moody was one of the very first fundraising chairmen for the Bishop's Charity Ball, which has raised millions for the poor and homeless in the Acadiana area. It is one of many causes that Moody said is near and dear to his heart.

"The Miles Perret Center is close and dear to our hearts because of our relationship with them and the work they do in the community," Moody said. "Several of us are cancer survivors so that one is special."

Moody has also had a passion for supporting education and has given time and resources to the UL Foundation Board, the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration Matching

gift program (named for his father), St. Thomas More High School, Cathedral Carmel, Carencro Catholic, ESA capital campaign and the Ascension Day School capital campaign, to name a few.

Moody, who is one of nine children, said he learned early on about the importance of giving and doing so with little fanfare.

He credits his father, B.I. Moody III, with teaching him those values.

During the oil crash in of the 1980s, many were suffering financially and Moody's father was on the front lines trying to help.

"I noticed he had not been engaged with our company," Moody said. "He was busy trying to solve problems for other people. And I remember calling him, frustrated that he couldn't give us more time. And he said, 'Kevin, if I don't help these people, who will?' So, I learned early on, it's about people and service and helping in ways that we can."

Moody said when he was first told about the award he was uncertain about why he was chosen.

"I was kind of surprised," Moody said, "and very humbled. When they told me, I thought, 'There has to be someone more deserving than me.' But I was very honored, and I appreciate the thought."

Each year, Civic Cup recipients are chosen by a committee of past recipients. Members of the community and the public submit letters recommending someone. For the last 81 years, The Daily Advertiser has been the only media sponsor.

Hilliard said finding those who exemplify the essence of community love is one of the goals of the Civic Cup committee.

"Kevin is not only the recipient of the Civic Cup, but is a representative of the spirit of charity in the community," Hilliard said. "And that's important for people to know that there are people who do that."

Moody graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, then University of Southwestern Louisiana, in 1980 with an accounting degree and received his master's in business administration from Vanderbilt University in 1982.

Moody is a founding member of Moody, Moreno & Rucks, a privately held investment company.

Moody serves as a member on the board of directors for The Moody Company, Financial Corporation of Louisiana, America's Pizza Company, The Community Foundation of Acadiana, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Foundation, Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center and Crossroads Catholic Bookstore.

He is actively involved with The Moody Co. Foundation which was started by the family in the 1990s to support and organize the family's charitable giving.

He is married to the former Tracy Chappuis of Rayne. Together, they have six children and seven grandchildren.

Just some of the causes supported by The Moody Company and family through the years include:

Acadian Oaks Catholic Retreat Center

Acadiana Baptist Center

Acadiana Outreach Center, Inc.

Acadiana Symphony Orchestra

Acadiana Youth, Inc.

Alexandre Mouton House

Ascension Day School Capital Campaign

ASSIST Agency

Bayou Girl Scout Council

Bishop's Charity Ball

Boys and Girls Clubs of Acadiana

Bridge Ministry of Acadiana

Camp Bon Coeur

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Chorale Acadienne

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Crowley Art Museum

Crowley Christian Care Center

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Desire Street Ministries

Evangeline Area Boy Scouts

Faith House

Family Missions Company

Hearts of Hope

Junior Achievement

Junior League of Lafayette

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Lafayette Ballet Theatre

Lafayette Catholic Service Center

Lafayette Community Health Care Clinic

Louisiana Council on Child Abuse

Lourdes Foundation (St. Bernadettes Clinic)

Make-A-Wish Foundation

National Down Syndrome Society

New Life Center

PASA

