

# KATY'S

# Movers & Shakers

These local power couples share their secrets to a happy marriage and a thriving community

*Written by Natalie Cook Clark  
Select Photography by Jason Lehecka*

Ann and Bob try to find balance between community involvement and time with family

**Ann & Bob HODGE**

**K**aty is full of amazing, caring, and active couples, who work together to make the community the best that it can be. Though so many families stand out for their service and spirit of goodwill, these seven Katy power couples go the extra mile and set the bar high for their fellow Katyites, all while keeping their marriages strong.



Married 30 years

## Bob & Ann Hodge

What started as a strong friendship, blossomed into love and more than 30 years of marriage for Bob and Ann Hodge. Both take active roles in the community, with Ann serving as president of the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce and Bob serving as chairman of the Katy Rice Harvest Festival. "We both believe one of the key components for a great community is the commitment of its citizens to give back," says Ann. "We all lead hectic lives, and it is easy to assume it is someone else's responsibility to volunteer and give back. Frankly, some of the busiest people I know give the most to the community."

### Making Time Together

With so much going on in their lives, finding time to spend together can sometimes be tough. Bob and Ann make sure to put their family and marriage first, though. "We have some things that we like to do that give us a date night from time to time," explains Bob. They cherish their son Richard, daughter-in-law Jessica, and five grandchildren. "I'm in the public quite a bit, and it's nice to find time to spend with Bob and our family," says Ann.

### Celebrating Katy

They feel blessed to be part of the Katy community. "The residents of Katy have the most incredible spirit and heart, and we are blessed to work with them," Bob shares. Ann agrees. "It is truly rewarding to see Katy celebrate our community successes and work together to make the entire community a wonderful place to live, raise a family, and grow your business," she shares.

**"When you love the community and the people in it, you want it to be the best place for everyone to live and work."**

*-Jamie Wolman*



## Ray & Jamie Wolman

With many recent accolades, including having an elementary school named in their honor, Ray and Jamie Wolman definitely stand out for their service to the Katy community. They first met while students at Katy High School and have enjoyed calling it home and raising a family here.

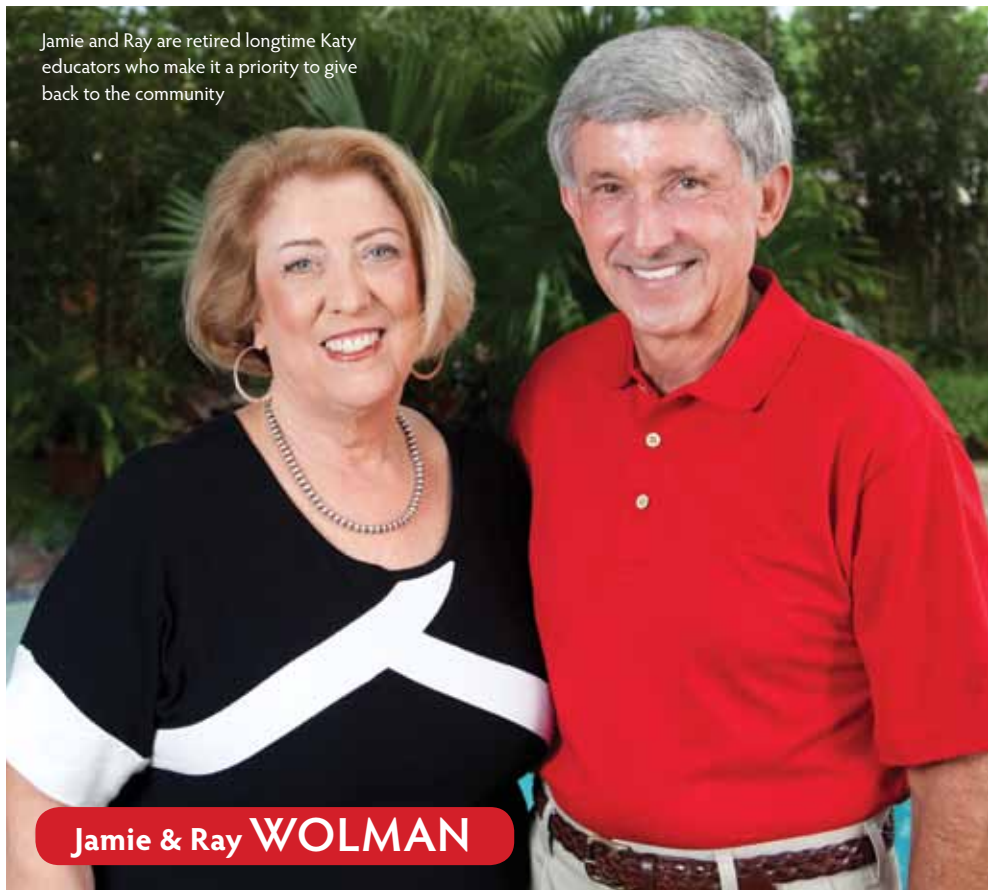
### Growing with Katy

"When you love the community and the people in it, you want it to be the best place for everyone to live and work," Jamie shares. "Ray and I have been blessed to have been in this community for the past 40 years and to see the growth and the remarkable people that we have gotten to know so well."

### Making an Educational Impact

Ray began his career as the only science teacher in Katy ISD and grew Katy's Outdoor Learning Center to the hands-on instructional resource it is today. Jamie worked in special education and now works with the City of Katy Parks and Recreation Department. Together, they have 77 years of education experience and take satisfaction in the fact that they volunteer for each other's events.

This past March, the Katy ISD school board voted to name one of its three new elementary campuses Wolman Elementary School in honor of their contributions. Ray and Jamie love to think back on how far Katy has come. "We remember when Fry Rd. was a dirt road," says Ray.



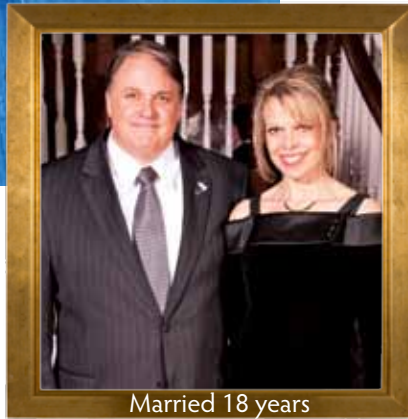
Michelle & Lance **LACOUR**



Michelle and Lance moved to Katy after Hurricane Katrina and have two daughters

**“Volunteerism is the backbone of the economic development business, so we know firsthand how important it is.”**

*—Lance LaCour*



Married 18 years

**Lance & Michelle LaCour**

As the president and CEO of the Katy Area Economic Development Council, Lance LaCour looks to his wife Michelle for support and encouragement. She is also very involved in the community, giving back in a variety of ways. “Volunteerism is the backbone of the economic development business, so we know firsthand how important it is,” says Lance.

**Prioritizing Family**

With Lance’s leading role in the community and Michelle’s active involvement in the school PTA, they often must schedule in family time in advance.

“Lance schedules things electronically, and I use a wall calendar to ensure that we all spend time together,” explains Michelle.

**A Welcoming Community**

The LaCours have enjoyed more than 18 years of marriage and are the proud parents of Alexandra and Emory. They were quick to feel at home in Katy, with its welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere. “We moved here right after Hurricane Katrina, so we witnessed the Katy spirit of helping hurricane refugees,” Michelle shares. “It was very impressive.”



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## Kavin & Downy VICKERY



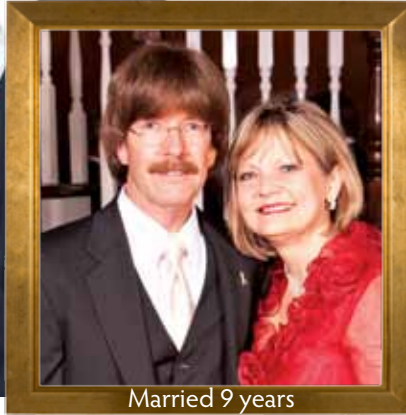
Kavin and Downy share a love of giving back to the community and are inspired by their faith to serve others

## Downy & Kavin Vickery

Downy and Kavin Vickery were introduced by two other movers and shakers, Stan and Patsy Stanley, and have since become pillars of the community. "Married life has been a blessing every minute of every hour of every day," says Downy.

## Katy's Generous Spirit

As the president and CEO of Tradition Bank, Downy has a very visible role in the community. He also takes an active role in the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, Katy Area Economic Development Council, and Katy ISD, among other organizations. Kavin is also passionate about giving back and likes sharing the generous Katy spirit through her mission work with those outside of the community. "I love projecting myself to the larger community and sharing with others the amazing compassion of Katy citizens," says Kavin, adding, "Katy is a wonderful city with a wonderful hometown feel. It makes it easy to want to share that."



Married 9 years

## Motivating Each Other

Her mission work has at times taken her across the world, and she feels fortunate that Downy supports all of her endeavors, as well as her fight with breast cancer. "We love to support one another's causes, and together, we grew close to the Susan G. Komen Foundation when I was diagnosed with breast cancer," she shares. Their faith inspires them to serve and motivates them to help others. "We want to be great in our Lord's eyes, and that's a wonderful motivation for us to get involved," explains Downy.

## Brett & Fatima Donaldson

Brett and Fatima Donaldson first met in 1985, while they were working at a shoe store. So much has changed since their first days together, but their love has remained strong. Brett is now an eye doctor with Grand Vision in Katy, and Fatima works within Katy's art scene, helping businesses with marketing and photography needs through FALA Creative and Fatima Photography.

Fatima also takes a proactive role in the community, after having grown up watching both her mother and grandmother always ready to lend a helping hand. "I also remember a powerful quote from Gandhi: 'Be the change you wish to see in the world,'" says Fatima. "We both believe that complaining about a problem is useless. The effort is better put forth helping to solve the problem."

## At Home in Katy

Both Brett and Fatima love Katy's small-town feel with the conveniences of a big city. "The community has supported Grand Vision Center, Fala Creative, and Fatima Photography beyond what we could hope for," says Brett. While their schedules can be hectic, they make time to stop and appreciate life. "There's always a lot going on," explains Fatima. "So for me, step number one is don't get overwhelmed. Sometimes, people put more energy into being worried about how much work something is instead of the work itself."

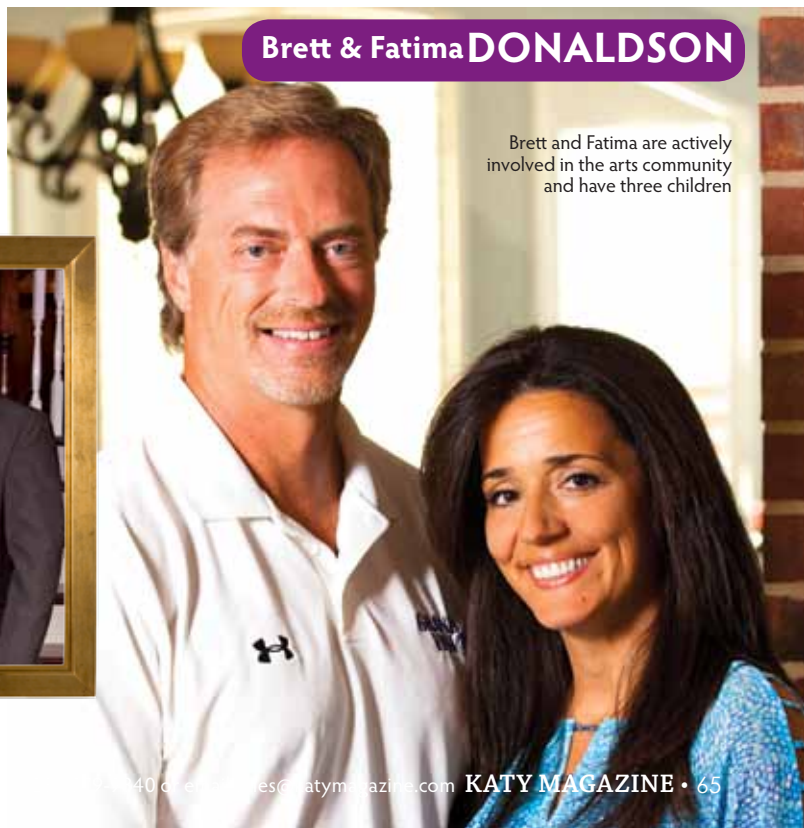
## A Passion for Giving Back

Both are passionate about giving back to the Katy community. "Through Grand Vision, I have done the Glasses for Katy Kids program, sponsored the YMCA Turkey Dash, and served within many school and sports programs," shares Brett.



Married 25 years

## Brett & Fatima DONALDSON



Brett and Fatima are actively involved in the arts community and have three children

Bill and Ann just celebrated their 50-year anniversary



**Bill & Ann CALLEGARI**

### Bill & Ann Callegari

Texas Rep. Bill Callegari has served local residents of District 132 since 2000, with his wife Ann supporting and encouraging him every step of the way. Prior to Bill's election in the Texas Legislature, the Callegaris served in local chambers of commerce, church organizations, and PTOs at their children's schools. "We consider ourselves lucky to

have been raised in an old-time, all-American community where everyone pitches in and helps whenever needed," says Bill.



Married 50 years

The Callegaris say they do almost everything together, working as a team to achieve their goals and dreams. "Ann takes care of family, home, and social items,"

explains Bill. "I bring in the income and make sure that the family is safe and secure."

### Paying It Forward

They have enjoyed 50 years of marriage and are very proud of their four children and 11 grandchildren. "God has given us so much that we do need to pass it on and give back to our community," says Ann. "To make a difference in good ways is important, because it leaves you with a real good feeling that you have left something behind that may help someone else along the way."

### Valuing Hard Work

With Bill's background in professional engineering and the many organizations they have both volunteered with throughout the years, they definitely know the value of hard work. "Katy is a wonderful place to live, work, play, and raise a family," shares Bill. "We love the Katy people and what they stand for. One attraction was Katy's history as a farming community, similar to the one in which we grew up. We find Katy citizens to be hard-working, conservative people, with strong family and Christian values."

**"God has given us so much that we do need to pass it on and give back to our community."**

*-Ann Callegari*

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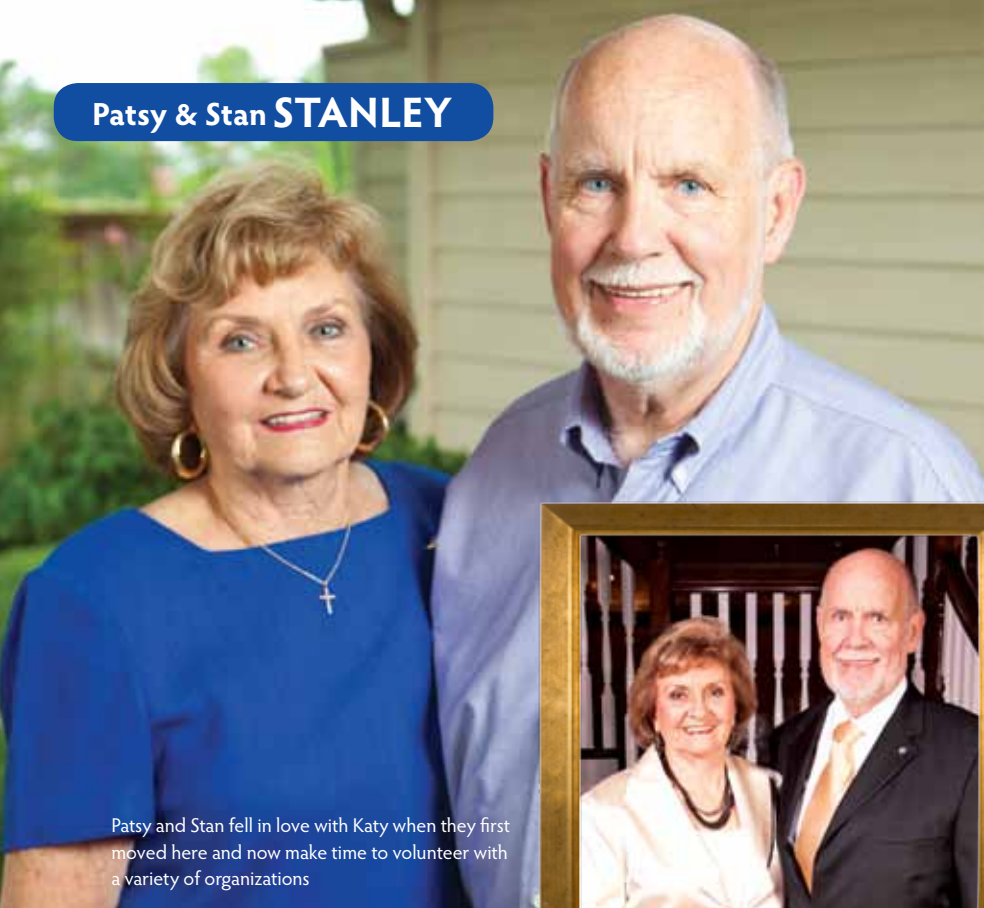
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## Patsy & Stan STANLEY



Patsy and Stan fell in love with Katy when they first moved here and now make time to volunteer with a variety of organizations



### Stan & Patsy Stanley

These Katy movers and shakers first met 30 years ago while on a blind date. Stan and Patsy Stanley hit it off and shortly afterward, decided to move to Katy, which they immediately fell in love with. "We recognized that someday, the Katy area would be poised for a terrific period of growth," explains Stan. "That worked out, and now we are part of an exciting 21st century market."

### Leading the Way

Stan owns Stanley Signature Designs and is the namesake for Stanley Elementary School, and Patsy volunteers with many local organizations. Giving back to the community allows them the unselfish opportunity to impact the future of the Katy area. "It's important to have community members who recognize that true leadership is accomplished through setting an example of service to others," says Patsy.

Stan has also been involved in the Scouting program for over 50 years, and enjoys the opportunity to help mold the lives of young men through that service. "My father died when I was 19 years old, but before his death, I made a commitment to give back to Scouting as a tribute to his assistance in helping me become an Eagle Scout," explains Stan.

### Supporting Each Other's Endeavors

In between their many commitments, the Stanleys make sure to take time for each other. "We support each other by recognizing that we are a team and we all need our special time to focus on special interests to fulfill our personal goals," says Patsy. They hope to encourage other Katyites to get involved in making the community an even better place to live. "So frequently in an era of instant gratification, the decision to help others is often overlooked in the desire to reach personal goals," Stan shares. KM

*These are just a few of the many Katy couples who are giving back to the community. If you have a story idea to share, please email [editor@katymagazine.com](mailto:editor@katymagazine.com).*



NATALIE COOK CLARK is a native Katyite, author, and journalist who enjoys sharing stories from her hometown. She loves life with her wonderful husband, beautiful daughter, loveable dog, and sweet bunnies.

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