

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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McLennan County Republican Club

**McLennan County Republican Club West Benefit  
Raises More Than \$31,700 for West Area Ministerial Alliance**

The McLennan County Republican Club announced at its monthly lunch meeting Thursday that the benefit that was held with Senator Ted Cruz the evening of August 22 raised a total of \$31,704.16 for West recovery efforts. The Club also announced that the funds will be donated to the West Area Ministerial Alliance.

Underwriters of the event included Texas House Rep. Kyle Kacal, District Attorney Abel Reyna, County Commissioner Will Jones, Target Restoration Services, LLC and the Waco-based law firm Naman Howell Smith & Lee, PLLC. Twelve table sponsors also supported the event, and a list is available upon request.

Auction items were generously donated by Congressman Bill Flores (AR-15 Rifle, purchased by Eric Meyers for \$6,500), Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, State Sen. Brian Birdwell, State Sen. Glenn Hegar (Framed picture autographed by State Senators, purchased by Eddie Young for \$1,700), State Rep. Harvey Hilderbran (Hill Country Trout Fishing Trip, purchased by County Judge Scott Felton for \$1,200), State Rep. Doc Anderson, County Commissioner Will Jones and Bill & Peggy Johnson, among others.

A West Trojan football helmet autographed by Ted Cruz, Bill Flores, Rick Perry, Greg Abbott and other prominent Republicans brought \$1,200 in the live auction, thanks to the generosity of Czech Consul General Ray Snokhous. A second helmet containing the same autographs will be donated to West ISD at a presentation to occur later.

Senator Cruz released the following statement: "I am grateful to the people of West, Texas for their commitment to restoring hope after a tragic accident, and I am honored to witness their dedication. Their story is a testament to the power of the grassroots to bind together and provide for the families of West. It is inspiring to see the strengths and sacrifice of the community."

Congressman Flores released the following statement: "The West benefit was a very special evening as our community gathered to raise funds for the victims of the tragedy. I am grateful to all of those that made donations to help our neighbors in need, and I continue to be in awe of the outpouring of support. I applaud the McLennan County Republican Club for all of their hard work in making the evening a success. We are also grateful to Senator Ted Cruz for serving as keynote speaker for the event. Together as a community, we will help West on its long road to a full recovery. We will never forget the lives lost and the courageous men who died while trying to keep our community safe."

Wesley Lloyd, President of the McLennan County Republican Club, thanked those involved: "Recovery efforts in West will require the continued support of our community. Seeing conservatives step up and support West the way they did was truly inspiring. The Board, volunteers, table sponsors, auction bidders and politicians who lent their support all deserve more thanks than we could ever offer."

Lloyd also shared the reasons the Club chose the West Area Ministerial Alliance as the recipient: "We performed significant due diligence on many different options and solicited input from West residents before deciding the Alliance was the best fit. Importantly, the funds will be immediately available for distribution to families in the West area who need assistance purchasing necessities like food, utilities and gasoline. We also liked that the Alliance is a multi-denominational organization that takes a Biblical approach to benevolence."

For more information about the McLennan County Republican Club, please visit [www.mcrcctx.org](http://www.mcrcctx.org).