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Westlake Baja to benefit Academy

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WESTLAKE - Golf, tennis and big prizes await event goes at the 4th Annual Westlake Baja benefiting Westlake Academy.

The event, presented by the Westlake Academy Foundation, begins at 5 p.m. Oct. 2 at The Vaquero Club, 2300 Vaquero Club Drive.

New this year are 10 "Big Break" style golf events like Break the Glass, Over the Wall and Floating Green.

Tennis events include a King & Queen of the Cross Court format with prizes.

A Helicopter Golf Ball Drop contest will finish out the events prior to the live auction, which begins at 8:30 p.m.

Auction items include a seven day stay at a vacation home in Zihuantanejo, Mexico, a "Harry Potter in London" experience, original oil painting by renowned artist Trish Biddle, Dallas Cowboys and Texas Rangers game experiences, autographed sports memorabilia and Vaquero golf rounds with professional athletes.

In the last three years, this event has raised \$573,000 for the school.

For the 2011-2012 school year, the Westlake Academy Foundation used Baja proceeds to award \$262,275 in grants to develop, retain, and recruit high-quality educators.

Tom Brymer, town manager, said the Westlake Academy Foundation is an integral part of Westlake's Academy's success.

"The funds they raise through events like Westlake Baja covers the shortfall created by reduction in state public education funding over the last two fiscal years," Brymer said. "Without the WA Foundation's efforts to raise the funding they do we could not offer the educational programs we offer at Westlake Academy."

Shelly Myers, executive director of the Westlake Academy Foundation, said Westlake Baja is a great event to support public education.

"School finances continue to be a challenge," Myers said. "Westlake Academy parents, local residents and Westlake Academy staff members enjoy socializing off the school campus and enjoying all that the Vaquero Club has to offer while raising money to support the rigorous IB curriculum at Westlake Academy."

For event details and information about sponsorship levels go to www.westlakeacademyfoundation.org.

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