

Hats off to the Mithoffs' hard work

SHELBY HODGE STAFF

How sweet it is to have the final dollars of a capital campaign in the bank in the middle of these rough economic times. Just ask Children's Museum of Houston capital campaign chairs Ginni and Richard Mithoff and Melissa and Michael Mithoff.

Their \$35 million success was celebrated last week at the home of Kitty and Richard Rabinow, where museum board members and capital campaign committee members saluted the hard-working Mithoffs. It was with a grateful sigh of relief that the foursome closed the chapter on the effort which actually exceeded its goal.

Board president Lee Lahourcade toasted the Mithoffs and former board president Dan Parsley, who launched the campaign in 2005. It was a great night also for building-committee chairs Jennifer and Lance Gilliam. But their eyes are set on March 14 when the new museum build-



ing, financed by the campaign, will come to life with a grand opening celebration.

Two others wearing big smiles on this night were museum treasurer Bill Hill and executive director Tammie Kahn, accompanied by her husband Barry. Among guests were Laurie and Randy Allen, Mike Plank (wife Susan stayed home nursing a ski injury), Sarah and Doug Foshee, Leslie and Jack Blanton, Kara and Aaron Howes and Mollie and Dan Castaneda.