



FLORIDA AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Nominee Name: Mr. Alan Wildstein

Dealership:

Alan Jay Automotive Network
Alan Jay Automotive Network Group
2003 US 27 South, Sebring, Florida, Florida 33870

Date of nomination: 6/28/2012

Is this a self-nomination? No

Nomination submitted by: Randall Leonard

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Reason for this nomination:

Mr Alan Jay Wildstein is being nominated for this prestigious award as result of his 21 years of success in the Automobile Industry. Mr. Wildstein grew up in Miami, Florida and worked in the family business, Tropical Chevrolet for many years. He received his BBA Business and Social Sciences from Northwood University in Midland Michigan in 1989. After college he returned to Tropical Chevrolet first as Sales Manager and then General Manager. Mr. Wildstein moved to Sebring, Florida and started his first automotive dealership in 1992. As of this date he is involved in eleven (11) automobile dealerships, seven (7) in Sebring, Florida, one (1) in Avon Park, Florida, two (2) in Wauchula, Florida, one (1) in Clewiston, Florida and one (1) in Miami, Florida. He has been successful in all of his business endeavors with other business entities including Gold's Gym-Sebring, Sebring Aviation Services, The Melting Pot Restaurant - Sarasota, Grillsmith Restaurants Group - as partner. Hobbies include philanthropic work and amateur race car driver in the #95 Lightning McQueen Ferrari. Mr. Wildstein has received numerous awards in the last 21 years of his business, standards of excellence and charitable contributions to the communities his businesses reside. 2012 is Mr. Wildstein's 20th Anniversary as a successful Automobile Dealer.

Additional document provided:

Alan Jay Wildstein, President of THE ALAN JAY AUTOMOTIVE NETWORK, exemplifies his commitment to his employees by his involvement in the health, education and welfare of his employee staff and their families. By example, he enables his employees to excel at their positions by creating a positive workplace environment conducive to personal and business success. Mr. Wildstein, along with his management staff continually strives to create positive proactive programs to better serve the employees and their families.

At present, THE ALAN JAY AUTOMOTIVE NETWORK employs 274 individuals. In the 20 years in business in Highlands County, the company has grown from one location to ten(10) locations with future expansion scheduled and ongoing. Through its growth, the company has made a substantial impact on the community through increased employment and the creation of the most sought after automotive industry related employment opportunity. To document this fact, Mr. Wildstein and the ALAN JAY AUTOMOTIVE NETWORK received the Highlands County Economic Commission INDUSTRY OF THE YEAR AWARD, for 2001.



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The company is continually striving to obtain the best benefit plans available for its staff., (401K Retirement Plan, Hospitalization Insurance, Educational Opportunity Assistance, Implementation of a Company in-house fitness center wherein those employees utilizing the gym 10 times a month will receive their hospitalization insurance at no cost the employee. The company provides an annual fishing trip or family day to which all immediate family members are invited to attend to promote fellowship and interaction amongst all employees and departments. The company also provides an annual Fourth of July party with family oriented rides/games/boating/jetsking/food/entertainment, held at the president=s residence. In addition, the company provides sponsorship of the annual AFall Sebring Race Classic@ auto racing event, wherein all employees and their families are invited to attend. Furthermore, the company has ongoing employee/family events such as movie theater ticket events to reward personnel and departments for their accomplishments of goals. Finally at year-end, the company provides for an annual Holiday Party wherein employees receive awards of merit, president's award, and employee of their year, food, fellowship and entertainment. The party is the highlight of the year and includes the issuance of yearly bonuses provided in cash so the families can use the funds immediately to purchase gifts or for any other purpose they deem necessary. In 2001, Mr. Wildstein provided a special donation to an employee and her husband who had become Habitat for Humanity home candidates. Both husband and wife were struggling to find the time away from work the requested sweat equity hours to complete the home. Mr. Wildstein donated \$35,000.00 towards the construction costs of the home. This donation also moved the completion date of the construction up approximately 12 months. This presentation was an emotional one, which brought forth a standing ovation from all in attendance. For the last five years, Mr Wildstein has donated funds to build an additional 6 Habitat for Humanity Homes in Highlands County, Florida.

The company is proactive in education through is adoption of a local elementary school AFred Wild Elementary@, wherein the company provides employees to mentor students during the entire year. Immediately prior to the Christmas Holidays, the company provides a Christmas gift for every student. All of the employees, particularly those parents of children enrolled in the school are invited to participate in the presentation of the gifts by Santa Claus and his elves. Furthermore, the company is involved in working with the South Florida Community College apprentice programs where the company hires students that have completed programs and classes related to the automotive industry.

The company provides part time employment when available for employment age youth from the local high schools to include those children that have parents employed with the firm. Each year the company participates in the Great Sebring Chamber of Commerce scholarship fund by matching the funds raised by the chamber for a graduating senior to continue his/her education. Our most treasured program is the AWheels for A=s by Alan Jay@ where a High School Senior at each of the three high schools has a chance to win a one or two year old vehicle free and clear to own as a means of continuing their education. For each A received during the school year students are provided a ticket that gives them a chance to win the vehicle. We provide the



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three vehicles in the color of the schools banner colors. This year 2012, The Alan Jay Automotive Network gave away its 50th vehicle over a 15 year period. A great milestone for this program which raises the scholastic averages of all the students striving for educational excellence.

Continually during the year, the company provides sponsorships and donations to all youth sports, and cultural programs (baseball, football, little league, tennis, volleyball, band choir, cheer leading, etc) especially those where employee children are participating. In addition, the company provides ongoing sponsorships for seniors, especially parents of the employee staff to include (golf, tennis shuffleboard, bingo etc). To document his efforts to support education and children, Mr. Wildstein won the Florida Education Foundation "Shining Star Award" for outstanding support of education business recognition award on April 10, 2008.

The company is involved in community service as volunteers for the Children's Services Council and Foundation since 1992. The United Way "Day of Caring", Sponsorship of the Children's Car Seat Safety Program Inspection/replacement program. Mr. Wildstein supplies vehicles for the Drivers Education Program at all three county schools. He additionally provides transportation and vehicles for the "American Red Cross". This year at the Boys & Girls Club of Highlands County, Mr. Wildstein was a judge at the club's fall festival costume contest where 2 winning youths would win bicycles. As the two winners were selected, tears began to form in the eyes of the other children. Mr. Wildstein at that point realized how important the new bicycles were to the contestants. So he announced that all of the contestants were winners and provided a new bike for all the contestants. He did not want any of the children to feel like they were losers.

In addition, due to the events of September 11, 2001, Mr. Wildstein took the initiative to present a program where the Alan Jay Automotive Network dealerships donated \$100.00 for every vehicle sold for a period of 45 days. The company collected \$45,600.00 in funds which were directly donated to the Red Cross relief programs. After the 2004 Summer Hurricanes (3) that directly affected the employees and families, Mr. Wildstein paid all employees for the days where we were unable to conduct business due to the loss of power and damage to homes and businesses.

Mr. Wildstein and his team review every request for assistance, sponsorships, and donations from organizations, employees and others. The company is dedicated to always providing help and assistance in some way. When an employee is in need due to any family tragedy or emergency the company and its employees rise to the occasion to be of assistance. Mr. Wildstein is adored and respected by his employee staff for his enduring love for the family institution. He truly believes that his success is based on the team of individuals that surround and support him.

During the company's 19 year existence it has won many awards. We would like to list a few of the most prominent awards as follows:



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- 1996 **SAM WALTON - WALMART - Business Leadership Award** - Alan Jay Wildstein, Pres.
- 2001 **TIME MAGAZINE QUALITY DEALER AWARD** - Presented by Time Magazine and Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company - Alan Jay Wildstein
- 2001 **INDUSTRY OF THE YEAR AWARD** - Highlands County Economic Development Commission presented to Alan Jay Wildstein, President
- 2001 **GREATER SEBRING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** – “I Believe in Children Award” Student of the month Scholarship Fund.
- 2001-2002 **UNITED WAY** – “Spirit of the Family Award” for the most family friendly employer
- 2002 **FLORIDA RETAIL FEDERATION- Retailer of the Year** - Alan Jay Wildstein
- 2003 **AUTOMOBILE MAGAZINE/MOTOR TREND/AIADA** - Dealer of the Year Award Top Five Finalist
- 2004 **JUDGE CLIFTON KELLY, CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN AWARD** - one of the 10 Finalists.
- 2008 **Florida Education Foundation** – “Shining Star Award” for outstanding support of education and children
- 2009 **South Florida’s Finest Couples Cystic Fibrosis Foundation** - Michelle Sayez and Alan Jay Wildstein Honoring South Florida’s Finest Couples for the success in business and unparalleled support of Charitable Causes. In attendance, Governor Charlie Crist, Congressman Adam Putnam.

OTHER INDUSTRY AWARDS:

- GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION - Standards for Excellence, Mark Of Excellence
- CHRYSLER FIVE STAR - Chrysler Corporation
- TOYOTA - Presidents Award - 5 years running