

Pizarro: A pair of milestones celebrated in style

By Sal Pizarro

spizarro@mercurynews.com

Posted: 10/19/2009 05:06:03 PM PDT

Updated: 10/19/2009 08:29:43 PM PDT

It was a festive Saturday night in downtown San Jose with the 40th anniversary party for the San Jose Museum of Art and the 20th annual Hispanic Charity Ball taking place at the same time.

There were several people - especially corporate folks and elected officials - bouncing between both events. Fortunately, both dinners took place at the San Jose Fairmont, making travel pretty easy.

STRONG SUPPORT: Ron Gonzales, the former San Jose mayor and new CEO for the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley, was very pleased with this year's charity ball, which honored the family of Alcario and Carmen Castellano with the La Familia Award.

"When you look at what's happening at other nonprofits having to cancel or postpone their events, it says a lot about what people think of the foundation," Gonzales said.

There were 21 new sponsors this year, said Gonzales, who said organizers were adding tables Saturday to accommodate the more than 700 guests.