

March 2006

North Houston Bank Casino Night hosted by Chamber



The **North Houston Bank Casino Night** is quickly approaching—**Friday, March 31st** is the night all the fun will take place at the **Greer & Lowdermilk Conference Center**.

The Chamber hosts the North Houston Bank Casino Night as a fun way to raise funds for the general operating fund and the Chamber's Foundation.

Member businesses can use this fun-filled evening as a time to reward hard-working employees or as a time to say 'thank you' to those deserving clients. Tickets are available for \$50 per person and can be purchased at the Chamber, North Houston Bank, Northside Lexus and from Casino Night Committee Members.

High Roller:	Greer & Lowdermilk Conference Center Observer Newspapers
Shooter:	Caldwell Watson Real Estate Group
Hit Me:	Brookside Funeral Homes & Memorial Park MATTCO Manufacturing MCA Communications, Inc. Mir, Fox & Rodriguez

Food/Beverage:	The Greenspoint Club Jimmy G's Cajun Seafood Steak & Ale Restaurant Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel
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Our Chance to Celebrate 20 Again!

By Terry Burge, 20th Anniversary Committee Chair

That's right our March luncheon will be a celebration of the Chamber's 20th anniversary. Join us at the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel Thursday, March 16th as we turn back the clock and review our first two decades.

We've combed our dusty archives and compiled not one, but two video presentations that will debut that day. One will be a history of the Chamber, its leaders and what it has meant to our community. The second is a warm-hearted tribute to hundreds of volunteers caught in the act of enjoying themselves, often hilariously, at Chamber functions over the years. Past chairmen, presidents, board members and committee chairmen will also be recognized.

If you've been a part of our Chamber's first 20 years or if you just want to learn more about our past and future, you'll want to attend. You'll see some old friends, make new ones and we promise you some of the best networking of the year!

Make your reservations today by calling the Chamber office at 281.442.8701.



NORTH HOUSTON-GREENSPPOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Pacesetter

2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair, Jerry Lowry

Greater Greenspoint District

Past Chair, Ray Shotwell

Brookside Funeral Homes & Memorial Park

Chair Elect, Bill Ginder, CCIM, SIOR

Caldwell Watson Real Estate Group

Secretary, Rosemary Buske

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Treasurer, Bill Townsend

North Houston Bank

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IBC, Innovative Business Consultants, Inc.

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North Harris College

Vice Chair, Marketing & Fundraising, Jill Boullion

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Ray Bennett, ABS

Cheryl Canova, GFI Management, Inc.

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Margaret Eyster, Magoo's PrintShop

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Ken Harris, Harris & Associates

Ben McCaslin, Wells Fargo

Dana Podsednik, Hydril

Seth Sharr

Kristin Wells, Hines

Ralph Wheeler, Aldine-Greenspoint YMCA

Bill White, Parsons

John Zizelmann, MATTCO Manufacturing

Message from the Chair

Wow, can you believe that Spring is already upon us and year 25% done! And speaking of time flying by, here are some moments in March history:

- March 2, 1836 – The Declaration of Independence was adopted by a new nation called Texas.
- March 6, 1836 – The Alamo was captured by Santa Anna ending a 13 day siege.
- March 7, 1927 – The US Supreme Court declared unconstitutional a Texas law prohibiting African Americans from voting in Democratic Party primaries.
- March 16, 1861 – Governor Sam Houston refused to take the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States of America and was removed from office.
- March 17, 1836 – Harrisburg, now part of Houston, became provisional capital of Texas.
- March 26, 1918 – Governor William Hobby signed the Primary Suffrage Bill giving women the right to vote in Texas primary elections.
- March 27, 1986 – A group of 21 business leaders donated \$1,000 each and formed what is now the North Houston-Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce.

While it does not rank in magnitude with the former items, there have been many great accomplishments from the seeds those business leaders planted 20 years ago. I am tempted to tell you more about that, but I don't want to spoil the celebration we are planning to mark the Chamber's Twentieth Anniversary. Which, by the way, will be the feature presentation during the luncheon on March 16, 2006 at the Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel.

Make your reservations early, as in right now, because seating is limited. Remember, for the chamber to work for you, you must work the chamber. Networking events are a way to keep you *connected for growth*.



Jerry Lowry
Chair of the Board

Ex-Officio Members

Representative Kevin Bailey, District #140

Marilyn Bayless, North Houston-Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce

Regina Curry, Spring ISD

Ray Laughter, North Harris Montgomery Community College District

Senator Jon Lindsay, District #7

Dr. James Simpson, North Forest ISD

Ben Wilson, Aldine ISD

Thank you February Renewing Members!

ABS
Ajilon Finance
Aldine ISD
Aurora Design
EFG Insurance Agency
Exxon/Mobil Production
gevity hr
Glennloch Farms Golf Course
Harris County Precinct 2
Holiday Inn Houston Intercontinental Airport
I—45 Signs
JA Green Development
KB Home
Klein Funeral Homes & Memorial Parks
Lasagna House III
Macedonia Outreach & Career Center
Northeast YMCA of Greater Houston
Power Procurement Specialists, LLC
SBC
SplashTown Waterpark
TransWestern Publishing

Lunch & Learn Seminar— Identity Theft

Each year 7 to 10 million Americans fall prey to identity theft and the majority of them have never met the culprit. From massive date-brokerage firms to tiny local banks, your identity is irretrievably out there.

- How is it stolen
- Cons and Scams

You can not prevent all ID theft, but some simple safeguards can minimize your risk.

- How to steer clear of trouble
- How to save yourself if it ever comes calling
- What to do if it happens to you
- How to protect yourself

March Lunch & Learn Seminar—Identity Theft
Brian Ellis, EVP, InvesTex Credit Union
Wednesday, March 22nd from 11:30 am to 1 pm
Chamber Conference Room, Suite 155

Lunch will be provided by InvesTex Credit Union.

NBA All-Star weekend a slam dunk for Houston economy

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn predicted \$79.6 million in economic gains to Texas from the National Basketball Association's (NBA's) All-Star Weekend events that came to Houston in February.


The 2006 NBA All-Star Game was held at the Toyota Center in Houston on February 19, 2006 with the associated Jam Fest held at the George R. Brown Convention Center on February 16.

"The 2006 All-Star Weekend events in Houston will be an economic slam dunk for the city and for Texas," Strayhorn said. "The game and its associated events will bring more than 25,000 out-of-state basketball fans to Texas, who will spend an average of \$317 per day during their stay." Projected out-of-state visitor spending was \$24.4 million, with the NBA's and the organizing committee's in-state expenses, promotion and other expenses associated with hosting the event adding another \$9.7 million in direct economic impact.

Secondary, or "multiplier," effects on visitor-related industries, local earning and "induced" household spending brought the projected total economic impact up to \$79.6 million. *News from the Comptroller's office*

Please support NAM's
Survival Over the Summer Project
*Help feed hungry children during the summer
when school meal programs aren't available.*

**Conduct a food drive
at your business or organization.**
We can arrange to pick up
large donations.
Call 281-885-4608 for information.
www.namonline.org



**NORTHWEST
ASSISTANCE
MINISTRIES**
Together. Helping. Together.

NAM ENDOWMENT FUND
GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday, March 13, 2006

10:30 am Registration - 12:30 pm Shotgun Start
Awards, Door Prizes, Auction, Dinner, Featuring Channel 11's Matt Musil
Fee - \$200 per player
Raveneaux Country Club
9415 Cypresswood Drive, Spring
Call 281-885-4608 for information
www.namonline.org



**NORTHWEST
ASSISTANCE
MINISTRIES**
Together. Helping. Together.

March Calendar of Events

- 01 **Job Fair Committee Meeting, 9 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 01 **Casino Night Committee Meeting, 11:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 02 **Golf Committee Meeting, 9:30 am** Willow Creek Golf Club, 24525 Northcrest Drive, Spring
- 07 **Economic Development Committee Planning Meeting, 12 noon** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 08 **Community & Governmental Relations Division, 8:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 08 **Casino Night Committee Meeting, 11:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 09 **Networking Breakfast, 7:30 am** Hotel Sofitel, 425 N Sam Houston Pkwy E
RSVP by March 8th at 10 am to rachael@nhgcc.org or Rachael at 281.442.8701
\$15 for members/\$20 for non-members or w/out RSVP
- 10 **Job Fair Committee Meeting, 9 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 10 **Business Development Division Meeting, 11 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 13 **Executive Committee Meeting, 11:30 am,** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 155
- 14 **Membership Division Meeting, 8:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 14 **Marketing Committee Meeting, 3:30 pm** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 155
- 16 **20th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon, 11:30 am—PROGRAM BEGINS**
Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel, 12400 Greenspoint Dr—RSVP by March 15th at 12 noon
\$25 for members/\$35 for non-members or w/out RSVP
- 21 **Board of Directors Meeting, 11:30 am** The Greenspoint Club, 16925 Northchase Dr
- 22 **Lunch & Learn – Identity Theft , 11:30 am,** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 155
RSVP by March 21st at 12 noon to rachael@nhgcc.org or Rachael at 281.442.8701
Lunch provided by InvesTex Credit Union—FREE for members/\$15 for non-members or w/out RSVP
- 23 **Workforce/Education Committee Meeting, 11:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 27 **Transportation Committee Meeting, 4 pm** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 155
- 28 **Marketing & Fundraising Division Meeting, 9 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 28 **Economic Development Committee Meeting, 12 noon** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 29 **Casino Night Committee Meeting, 11:30 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 30 **Beautification Committee Meeting, 9 am** Chamber Conference Room, Suite 150
- 31 **North Houston Bank Casino Night, 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm**
Greer & Lowdermilk Conference Center, 4225 Interwood N Pkwy
Tickets \$50 per person—can be purchased at Chamber Office, North Houston Bank & Northside Lexus

Welcome February New Members

360 Development, LLC

Dennis Brantley
P.O. Box 681503
Houston, TX 77260
281 880-5341

Commercial Real Estate Services

Specializes in creating private investments
in commercial real estate.

A To Z Specialties

Larry Neal
2111 Hartwick
Houston, TX 77093
281.444.3511

Advertising - Promotional Products

Champion Court Apartments

Kelli Wilson
17601 Cali Dr
Houston, TX 77090
281.440.8055

Apartments

Building Professionals of Texas

Alex Leon
9500 Westview #114
Houston, TX 77055
713.476.0800

Janitorial - Services

A full service provider of a clean working environment.

T N T Printing Co.

Tommy Neal
2111 Hartwick
Houston, TX 77093
281.449.9090

Printers

Golf Plus Gifts & Events, LLC

Bill Cantrell
3418 Kings Mountain Dr
Kingwood, TX 77345
281.361.7086

Retail—Gifts

We provide art & memorabilia for auctions. Minimum bids are set 50% off www.golfplusgifts.com retail prices & we guarantee a profit on all sales. We also offer photo awards, tee prizes, logo items, 24/7-year around web base fundraising program & provide a 24/7 profit center for dealers.

Cottman Transmission

Marshawn Merriwether
1302 FM 1960 Rd West
Houston, TX 77090
281.444.3511

Automobile - Repairs/Service

1960/Ella Cottman's center adheres to a strict code of ethics, ensuring that our customers' vehicles are repaired quickly, economically, & efficiently. The Cottman's service philosophy is why thousands of customers have trusted us to repair their vehicle's transmissions. At Cottman, we know YOU have more important things to worry about.

Spring Texas Visitors Bureau

Sandra Grisham
P.O. Box 1952
Spring, TX 77383
281-288-2355

Associations/Clubs/Organizations

The Spring Texas Visitors Bureau is located west of Old Town Spring on Spring Cypress. Our purpose is to attract customers & visitors to Spring, partner with businesses to promote the area & provide information to Spring residents & residents-to-be about schools, churches, government agencies & local attractions.

Thomas Properties

Bret Williams
15600 JFK Blvd. Suite 160
Houston, TX 77032
713.255.2300

Real Estate - Commercial

Spa Ranks Among Top in Houston

Derma Technique Day Spa, recently named among the top 10 area day spas in the Houston Business Journal, will celebrate 20 years of service in North Houston with an open house March 23.

"Our longevity within the industry supports our role as a leader of exclusive day spas in the Houston area," said Regina Simon, who co-owns this day spa with her husband Bill. "Our established clientele, along with our new clients, enjoy the benefits of our talented and seasoned service providers."

Derma Technique Day Spa is located at 5460 FM 1960 W. For information call 281-580-4130.

Please welcome these new members with your patronage!

March Networking Breakfast
Thursday, March 9th —7:30 am,
Hotel Sofitel, 425N Sam Houston Pkwy E
\$15 for members; \$20 for non-members
RSVP to rachael@nhgcc.org by 12 noon, March 8th

Chamber President Graduates from Institute for Organizational Management

Marilyn Bayless, IOM, CAE, CPA, recently graduated from Institute for Organization Management (Institute), a four-year professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, held at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

For more than 80 years, associations and chambers have used the U.S. Chamber's Institute as a training platform for the professional development of their future leaders. Participants receive training in leadership, organization management competencies, as well as targeted curriculum in membership, technology, and financial management.

Graduates of Institute receive the IOM recognition, signifying completion of more than 90 hours of nonprofit study and dedication to the nonprofit profession.



Institute students also earn points toward the Certified Chamber Executive (CCE) or Certified Association Executive (CAE) designations.

The Institute program offered at the University of Arizona is one of five Institute programs held each year at U.S. college campuses. Nearly 1,500 individuals attend Institute annually.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region.

For more information, contact Institute for Organization Management at U.S. Chamber headquarters at 202-463-5570; 1615 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20062-2000; www.uschamber.com/institute.



Leadership North Houston Taking Applications

What is Leadership North Houston? A multi-community based program committed to educating and enhancing the involvement of existing and emerging leaders of north Houston.

Who should participate in Leadership North Houston? Approximately 30 participants will be selected from among the emerging and existing leaders who apply for the program, representing the diversity of our area.

When is the program? Leadership North Houston is a ten-month program beginning in August with a brief orientation meeting followed by a two day retreat in September. Monthly day-long meetings will be held October thru May.

What are the program goals? Educate, train, and provide experiences to enhance leadership skills. Provide opportunities for participants to develop lasting relationships among north Houston leaders. Inform and stimulate leaders to solve the significant needs of the area. Motivate participants to help make a difference in the community and to instill that desire in others.

Applications are available at the Chamber office. Please call the office at 281.442.8701 to have an application sent to you.

Quarterly Beautification Nominations Sought

The Beautification Committee awards the Beautification Award to an area business or organization that has made significant efforts towards beautification of their property through landscaping or cleanup efforts. The award is to be presented quarterly and the recipient has the impressive Beautification Award outdoor sign posted on their property for the quarter. A formal presentation and commemorative photo is taken at the time the award is presented. The award winner's picture is printed in our monthly newsletter and is also submitted to area newspapers.

The committee is seeking your input for the next recipient. If you know of a business or organization that is deserving of this award please complete the form below and submit it to the Chamber office. **Deadline March 23rd.**

Company: _____ Location Address: _____

Brief description of work that has been done: _____

Nominated by _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Chamber Wranglers support Aldine ISD Livestock Auction

Thanks to all our generous sponsors who made it possible for the Chamber to support the Aldine FFA students!

Angel Collins, Greenspoint Business Association
Betty Carr, GuestHouse Inn & Suites
Bill Ginder, Caldwell Watson Real Estate Group
Bill Townsend, North Houston Bank
Bill White, Parsons
Bruce Cameron, The AdNov Group
Clark Austin, Austin & Associates
Diane Newman, Greater Greenspoint District
Elvin & Ann Franklin, State Farm Insurance
Erv Baumeyer
Henry & Martha Vogel, EFG Insurance Agency
Jan Winn, North Houston Bank
Jana Anders, InvesTex Credit Union
Jerry Lowry, Greater Greenspoint District
Jo Ann Ross, Ross Enterprises Insurance Company
Judy Hoya, Aldine ISD
L.B. Hunt, Greenspoint Business Association
Margaret Eyster, Magoo's PrintShop
Marilyn Sander, Proaction Careers
Marti Boone, Be an Angel
Ralph Wheeler, Aldine-Greenspoint YMCA
Ray Bennett, ABS
Ray Shotwell, Brookside Funeral Homes & Memorial Park
Roger Evans, Evans & Kosut. P.C.
Sherran Domescik, Sam Houston Race Park



These Charter Chamber Wranglers donated \$ 2535. A portion of the funds were used at the Aldine ISD Livestock show and the remainder will be used at Spring ISD's show on April 1st and North Forest ISD's show on April 6th. It is not too late to become a Charter member of the Chamber Wranglers. Make your donation today to have your name added to this list and to support the students of Aldine, Spring and North Forest ISDs.

110% Club Members

Adecco Employment Services
Ajilon Finance
Aldine-Greenspoint YMCA
Allseas USA, Inc.
Boring Specialties, Inc.
Brothers Lighting & Electrical Specialists
Caldwell Watson Real Estate Group
Case Contractors
EFG Insurance Agency
Golf Plus Gifts & Events
Greater Greenspoint District
Greer & Lowdermilk Conference Center
Hines
Houston Pipe Benders
Houston School of Morals & Ethics, Inc.

IBC Innovative Business Consultants, Inc.
International Specialist, Inc.
Magoo's PrintShop
Mir, Fox & Rodriguez, PC
North Harris College
Northeast Medical Center
Parsons
Partners Bank of Texas
Peacock Building Services
PrimeWay Federal Credit Union
Ross Enterprises Insurance Company
Seth Sharr
Steak and Ale
Stevens, Pilkington, & Company, PC
The WorkSource- Greenspoint

Thank you for your support!

Chairman's Circle

Diamond Level

Aldine Improvement District
Aldine ISD
Brookside Funeral Homes & Memorial Park

Diamond Level

Caldwell Watson Real Estate Group
Kerr-McGee Oil & Gas Corporation
Observer Newspapers

Gold Level

American Bureau of Shipping
Fitness Connection
Greater Greenspoint District

Silver Level

Amegy Bank of Texas
Baker Hughes
Boring Specialties, Inc.
CenterPoint Energy
Continental Airlines
Convergys Corporation
Delaware North Companies
DeMontrond Automotive Group
Exxon/Mobil Production
FMC Technologies, Inc.
Frost Bank
geivity hr
GFI Management Services
GrantPrideco, Inc.
Greenspoint Mall
Hines
Hotel Sofitel Houston

Houston Community College—NE
Houston First Insurance Associates
Hydril
Landmark Chevrolet
Mac Haik Dodge Chrysler Jeep
MATTCO Manufacturing
Montgomery & Associates
Moran-Gulf Shipping Agencies
North Forest ISD
North Harris College
North Houston Bank
Northeast Medical Center
Northline Mall
Northside Lexus
O'Donnell, Ferebee, Medley & Keiser
Office Systems of Texas
OMNIBANK

Partners Bank of Texas
Peacock Building Services
Reliant Energy
Ross & Baruzzini
SBC
SETEC Protection Service
Shell Oil Products USA
Smith International, Inc
Sterling Bank
Stone Energy Corporation
Swift Energy Company
Texas Southern University
Thomas Properties Group
Wal-Mart
Wells Fargo
Wyndham Greenspoint Hotel

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Just One Benefit of Membership!**

**NORTH HOUSTON-GREENSPPOINT
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



15600 JFK Blvd, Suite 150
Houston, TX 77032
Phone: 281.442.8701
Fax: 281.442.8713
email: nicole@nhgcc.org
www.nhgcc.org

Houston's Gateway to Global Growth

**We're on the Web!
www.nhgcc.org**

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES TICKETS

Two (2) Round-Trip First Class Tickets

Drawing to be held March 31st at North Houston Bank Casino Night

Need not be present to win

Checks Payable to NHGCC Foundation (a 501 C (3) organization)

Tickets: 1 for \$50 OR 3 for \$125.00

ONLY 50 TO BE SOLD

Valid for any of the following Continental destinations:

Contiguous United States

Alaska

Canada

Caribbean

Central America

Mexico

South America

