



Leader's Edge

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Looking ahead ...



January 26 lunch

Topic: What's up with Port of Houston

RSVP by **Jan. 19** at 832-813-6665.

Check out these LNHA Investment Opportunities - \$25-\$99, or contributor levels of Associate \$100-\$199, Partner \$200-\$499 and Investor \$500. See page 2.

LNHA Chair shares board role, gratitude

During this holiday season, I'm reminded how truly blessed I am to serve an organization like Leadership North Houston. Through this program, we, collectively, are making significant differences in our communities, and I'm proud to be part of such an auspicious group!

I'm grateful to the Lone Star College System for its commitment to community leadership. In designing and administering

Leadership North Houston, LSCS realizes that building strong community leaders builds stronger communities.

Governance of the Leadership North Houston program is the responsibility of the LNHA Board of Directors, led this year by a team that includes myself, Vice Chairman Lowell Little and Secretary Mike Waites. We hail from the Best Classes of 2002, 2004 and 2005, respectively. I



Jocklynn Keville (class of 2002) - current LNHA chair

thank these men for their work and dedication to the board, which oversees not only the LNHA program, *Please turn to page 4*

LNHA leader's holiday wish – volunteer

How can we be effective leaders during the holidays? Well, as I see it, it's a time for reflection on the year to date and looking forward to the remainder, thinking, "What else can I do to better the circumstances of individuals and friends in my community?"

Sure, you've volunteered on various committees, boards or advisory councils throughout the year but it's not quite over. Your volunteering this time of the year is very im-

portant and beneficial to many who are a little or a lot less fortunate than you. Places to assist in our area include non-profit organizations that help the homeless and families with children who may be struggling and may not be able to celebrate Christmas with gifts or even be able to afford a Christmas meal. Remember that there are groups who will accept non-perishable food items and toys and will distribute them to those



Pat Boullion (class of 2006) - current LNHA president

who are in need. Additionally, many of these non-profit organizations are in desperate need *Please turn to page 5*

RECAP: October Lunch and Learn – Darcy Mingoia speaks on how to be an effective board member

Lone Star College Foundation Executive Director Darcy Mingoia (class of 2000) presented "What you need to know to be an effective board member" at the Oct. 20 Leadership North Houston Alumni Association luncheon.

She began with an important point - that when you choose to serve on a board, be sure to know the organization's mission, learn about, get passionate about it and share all about it. She cautioned prospective board members to be judicious in deciding what board to serve on and what the time commitment will be and that you can give.

Once on a board, be a participant, bring ideas to the table, share your viewpoint as you are representing a community. Then it's important for a board to be unified once a plan or decision has been agreed upon, so forget the differences of opinion, go forward and work together.

As a board member, you are a door opener into your community. You can contribute your time, share talents and provide connections. It's not about donating money all the time. Give 100% and set the example, pay your dues.

This leads to your fiscal responsibility as a board member. Understand the hows, whats, profit/loss, etc. of the budget and ask questions. Also read the board packets prior to meetings and be prepared to bring ideas to the table.

Advice for new board members - listen - at least the first couple of meetings to get up to speed on efforts that may have had months of discussion already.

Organizations should provide their board members with an orientation and their expectations from you, a job description, copies of financials/tax returns and liability insurance.



LNHA President Pat Boullion, left, thanks guest speaker Darcy Mingoia.

In closing, serving on a board is an opportunity to make a difference for something you care about and touches your heart.

Reserve your seats for the **Jan. 26** lunch and learn by **Jan. 19** with Anita Furr at 832-813-6665, via e-mail at anita.c.furr@lonestar.edu or online at www.leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org. The topic is the Port of Houston – what's new and proposed for the port.

Remember, lunch and learn events are open to the community, so feel free to invite a coworker and friend.

Mark your calendars for other spring events including the April 20 lunch and learn and the May 21 graduation event.

Make an investment in LNH - renew your memberships

LNH Alumni are vitally important to the integrity and vitality of the program and the LNH Alumni dues provides scholarship funds both for LNH and Leadership High School.

Who's already invested in LNH?

See the contributor list on page 6.

It's not too late. The LNH Alumni Calendar year is Aug. 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009. Dues paid at any time during that period are credited to

the current year. LNH Alumni Membership dues may be tax deductible - see your tax advisor for information.

For contributor level information, go online to www.leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org and then click on 'How to Join' or call 832.813.6623 or e-mail cathy.owen@LoneStar.edu.

Stay informed on alumni news at
www.leadershipnorthhoustonalumni.org

Find out what's happening in LNH, Collegiate Institute and Leadership High School so far!

Leadership North Houston Class of 2008-2009 (Class 14) attended their lke-postponed retreat Oct. 30-Oct.31 at Camp Allen where 32 class members participated in Team Building and Challenge Course activities in a non-threatening environment.

Dick Hammond, of Leadership on the Move, and his wife, Lura, with a combined 25 years of leadership facilitation experience, led the class through several activities before the group embarked on a day-long journey of teambuilding activities culminating with the personal challenge of climbing the 40-foot high pole and crossing the high wire to the zip line. The class spent time with **Jill Hickman** (class of 1997) assessing their Leadership Dimension aka Leadership Style, in setting their goals and plans for the year's programs. After each program session, the class divides into their leadership style group (character, analysis, accomplishment and interaction) to evaluate the day's program. The retreat concluded with the class setting goals and creating committees to structure the program of choice and community service projects.

October's Education program included a visit in Klein Independent School District. They



2008-2009 Class members are:

Jimmy Adams, Jana Anders, Billy Andersen, Al Aranda, Pampi Bartels, Stephanie Biondillo, Dalane Boullion, Cindy Casparis, Vicki Clark, Helen Clougherty, Jon Connolly, Barry Doering, Teresa Dossman, Diana Garbis, Cezar Gonzalez, Danette Haines, Darlene Hajduk, Camille Hamilton, Paul Hendrickson, Sheleah Hughes, Tracey Kearny, Michael Kirch, Monica Kohlenberg, Belinda Menasco, Petra Owens, Taunya Painter, Kevin Petersburg, Melissa Robey, Dylan Schopper, Yvonne Sharp, Anne Vallette and Eric Zuleger.

learned about Klein ISD and the new technology systems at Krimmel Intermediate School. Several administrators gave presentations at their technology center including Dr. Jim Cain, superintendent.

In November, the class session was on cultural arts that began with a visit to the Centrum where **Nanci Decker** (class 2002) heads up the Foundation for Arts and Community Enhancement (FACE). She presented first-hand knowledge of regional arts and program challenges and successes. Then it was off to tour the Museum of Fine Arts, Project Row Houses and a wonderful behind-the-scenes tour at The Wortham Theater.

December found the group hearing from area Economic Development representatives from The Greater Houston Partnership, Greenspoint District and the Port of Houston Economic Development Alliance, who presented information relating to creating jobs and bringing new businesses to the Houston area. Lone Star College System's **Ray Laughter** also gave an overview of the definition and purpose of Economic Development processes.

The **Collegiate Leadership Institute** began Class Five with a retreat Sept. 26 attended by 25 students representing each LSCS campus. The students began the day with a DISC assessment and then participated in teambuilding activities concluding with the High Elements of the Challenge Course. The class has also experienced their Education and Legislative program days in October and November. In December, the students take a break for finals before resuming with the Health and Human Services session in January followed with Arts and Culture in February, Community Service in March and Career Skills and graduation celebration in April.

Leadership High School North Houston and Montgomery County held a joint retreat for about 75 students Saturday, Oct. 11 at Camp Allen. The 11th-grade students representing 35 high schools in North Houston and Montgomery County got acquainted, learned their leadership styles and participated on the challenge course. The programs join together for retreat and graduation then have separate programs each month on the topics of Education, Arts and Culture, Health and Human Services, Legislative /Criminal Justice, and perform a Community Service project each year.

Gain some perspective into volunteer efforts of visioning, marketing and recruiting committees

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but also Leadership High School for both Harris and Montgomery counties, and Collegiate Leadership.

A key role of the LNH Board is ensuring the growth and vitality of the various LNH programs we oversee. To advance that effort, we formed three committees this year:

- Our Visioning Committee keeps us forward-thinking, ensuring that our programs remain relevant to the needs of the communities we serve. The committee has been benchmarking Leadership North Houston against other leadership programs around the country, contrasting and comparing factors like types and costs of programs offered, funding mechanisms, activities for engaging alumni, etc.
- Our Marketing Committee works to increase awareness of LNH, the role it plays in the community and the pool of leaders it produces to address community needs. This committee is developing a speaker's bureau to address groups throughout north Houston. Please keep us in mind for any organizations to which you belong.
- Working to ensure a steady flow of the strong leaders necessary in maintaining strong communities, our Recruiting Committee is developing ways to increase the number of program applicants each year.

Alumni accolades . . .

Al Aranda (class of 2009) of the Greenspoint District was recently promoted to Director of Public Safety. In addition, he was appointed as 1st Vice President of the Texas Gulf Coast Crime Prevention Association (TGCCPA). In his role, Aranda will be responsible for monitoring legislative reform as chairperson of the legislative committee. He will also serve as sergeant-at-arm and be responsible for the organization's by-laws. The TGCCPA covers 16 counties along the Texas upper Gulf Coast and works to increase awareness and build partnerships that promote crime prevention.

LNH Board member and alumni **Jerry Lowry** (class of 2001) of the Greenspoint District is serving on Harris County Sheriff-elect Adrian Garcia's transition team. Garcia personally requested Lowry's assistance on the team. Lowry is also assigned to a sub-committee reviewing the county's Contract Deputy Program.

Please help us identify candidates. Share your experiences of LNH with your friends and associates. Bring them to alumni events. Help them explore how this program would benefit them, and how, through LNH, they could benefit their company, organization or community.

I thank Cathy Owen, LNH director, and my fellow LNH Board members for their commitment and camaraderie in overseeing the program. I thank the Alumni Board for providing LNH graduates a forum for continuing our connections and our leadership education after our Best Class fades into the next Best Class, and the next, and the next.

To the 14 Best Classes of Leadership North Houston, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

LNH Board 2008-2009

Executive Board

Chair Jocklynn Keville 2002

Chair-Elect Lowell Little 2004

Secretary Mike Waites 2005

Immediate Past Chairman Kim McCully 2003

Board of Directors

Jill Boullion 2004

Rand Key

Patrick Boullion 2006

Curtis Lovett 2007

Elaine Chrisman 2005

Jerry Lowry 2001

Keith Edwards 2006

Belinda Menasco 2009

Ari Fleitman 2008

Keith Silas 2005

Cindy Gilliam 2002

Andie Szabo 2007

Debra Harper 2007

Bruce Wise 2005

Nadine Jenkins 2007

LNH Program Sponsors

Leadership North Houston is sponsored by the, Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce, Humble Area Chamber of Commerce, Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, Lone Star College System, North Houston Association, Community Chamber of Commerce, African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston, North Houston Greenspoint Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce.

Kudos to 2008 Business of Year winner, finalists

Congratulations go to Cy-Fair Federal Credit Union named a 2008 Small Business of the Year winner.

One of nearly 130 local businesses nominated and one of 15 finalists, the Small Business Development Center at Lone Star College System announced at the 22nd Annual Small Business Award Banquet that Cy-Fair FCU was the winner representing the LSC-CyFair area. The awards are given annually to businesses that meet a variety of criteria such as exemplifying leadership in their community and industry, business growth and community contribution.

Leadership North Houston alumni **Leslie Martone** (class of 2008), third from left, is the credit union's Business Development Manager. **Debbie Blackshear** (second from left), president for more than 24 years, and



her staff are dedicated to building lifelong relationships while providing premier service and personalized financial solutions to enrich each member's life.

Cy-Fair FCU, which formed in 1956 by Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District (CFISD) educators, has served CFISD employees exclusively for more than 50 years. In 2005, the National Credit Union Administration granted the credit union a community charter, allowing them to offer membership to anyone who lives, works, worships or attends

school within the CFISD boundaries and parts of Waller County.

Cy-Fair FCU is a full-service financial institution that offers a variety of products and services at three Cy-Fair area branches. For information go to www.cyfairfcu.org.

Margaret Eyster (class of 2005) with Magoo's Print-Shop, right top, and **Janine Moore** (2008) with Peak Financial, right bottom, were 2008 LSCS Small Business Development Center Business of the Year Award finalists.



Remember non-profits, our troops, LNHA in 2009

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of volunteer assistance this time of the year.

Additionally, remember our troops serving around the globe. Their lives can be brightened by sending cards or care packages. If you'll look around, there are websites where you can get information on where and how to send them. Just go online and google "Armed Forces Christmas Care Packages." Also, some churches in the area send care packages and cards to members of the armed forces.

I know this time of year is extremely hectic with shopping, visiting friends and relatives both in and out of town, but if you really want to help, you can always carve a little time to help your fellow man.

By the same token, remember your LNH Alumni Association. We're here for you and the future LNH class members. So, I request that you past graduates either renew your membership or join the

LNH Alumni Association. Keep in mind that the funds collected for memberships are used for future LNH scholarships.

Also, as an extra special incentive, this year the graduating class with the highest percentage of members who have paid alumni dues will be announced at the May 21 graduation ceremony as the BEST CLASS OF 2009.

One final item is to remind you that LNHA will have its next alumni luncheon Jan. 26, 2009 at the Greenspoint Club. Our speaker will be a representative from the Port of Houston who will enlighten us as to what's new and proposed for the port. I hope to see you there as it will be exciting and informative.

In closing, I ask you to do whatever you can to better life for your family, friends and the community as a whole. Have a Blessed Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

Leadership North Houston Alumni

Special Recognition for the 2008-2009 Contributors

INVESTORS

Advanced Technologies, Ari Fleitman
GCC Builders, Manuel Garcia
Hawes Hill Calderon LLP, Phyllis Oustifine
Bruce Wise, CFP, MCRS – Retirement Specialist

ALUMNI PARTNERS

Magoo's PrintShop, Margaret Eyster
East Montgomery County Improvement District, Suzanne Parmer
East Montgomery County Improvement District, Linda Floyd
East Montgomery County Improvement District, Connie Bloodworth
National Mail Advertising, Angel Collins
Darcy Mingoia
Boullion Graphics, Jill and Pat Boullion

ALUMNI ASSOCIATES

Computer MOMS, Kim McCully
Reach Unlimited, Susan White
Community Chamber of Commerce of East Montgomery County, Andy Dill
Lone Star College System, Cheryl Brock
Janel Dehnart
Colleen Gilbert
Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce, Bruce Hillegeist
St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, The Rev. Justin Lindstrom
Connie Maxfield
MSD Communications, Milton Schopper
Kathleen Scott
Aldine-Greenspoint YMCA, Ralph Wheeler
Reach Unlimited, Kathy Schmidt
Burnett Staffing, Kelly Hammons
Greenspoint District

Leadership North Houston Alumni Association Mission

The mission of Leadership North Houston Alumni Association is to encourage the on-going development of LNH graduates through community service participation and strong leader to leader relationships. Building on the momentum of Leadership North Houston, the Alumni Association ensures that graduates continue expanding their leadership skills and remain committed to improving their communities.