

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



President's Message

Photo by Sue Lockwood

The prevention of child abuse is our national project of service and April is *Child Abuse Prevention Month.* This is one month where you can really dig in and get involved.

A large portion of our charitable funds budget, \$30,000 in fiscal year 2006-2007, is dedicated to the ESCAPE Family Resource Center. Not many know that ESCAPE has its origins in the National Exchange Club. In fact, ESCAPE stands for Exchange Supported Child Abuse Prevention Effort. Make Child Abuse Prevention Month your opportunity to learn more about the programs and services of ESCAPE. Many ECSL members have volunteered their time and talent for the ESCAPE Center, including such diverse acts as serving on the board, obtaining training as mentors, and bailing out the Center after a flood!

Child Abuse Prevention Month, as practiced by the Exchange Club of Sugar Land, is all about raising awareness in the community. We kick things off on Saturday, March 31st with our Blue Ribbon Campaign. You can't drive around Sugar Land without seeing trees and poles festooned with the symbol of child abuse prevention; the blue ribbon. We also take the message to our schools with the Blue Ribbon Competition. Fort Bend ISD campuses are challenged to create an outdoor display that will teach children, parents, teachers and the community at large to be aware of the signs of child abuse and the ways to prevent it. Grouped by elementary, middle and high, schools compete for prizes and media recognition for the best decoration and the best message.

Light of Hope, a program in conjunction with Child Advocates of Fort Bend, helps people to visualize the size of the problem of child abuse. The lighting of hundreds of candles represents the thousands of abused and neglected children in the Houston area, but also serves as a symbol of hope. Child Abuse Prevention Month also marks the culmination of the efforts of our sister club, the Fort Bend Exchange Club, to educate the public about the dangers of Shaken Baby Syndrome. Never, ever shake a child!

If you need a reminder of why you joined Exchange, participate in one of these events and you'll be hooked all over again.

Stewart Jacobson

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4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100 Stafford, TX 77477

Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. Sweetwater Country Club Palm Royale Blvd. Sugar Land, Texas Officers 2006-2007 Interim President Stewart Jacobson (281) 277-6400 **President-Elect** Clark Walter (281) 277-6400 Secretary Paul DeMarsh (713) 782-7730 Treasurer Pat Welsh (281) 343-0444 Immediate Past President Norma Reyna (281) 980-2076 Directors Betty Bait land (281) 242-2214 Paul Barnett (713) 822-4612

Paul Barnett (713) 622-4612 Robert Kern (281) 238-3290 Susan Lockwood (281) 343-0415 Ron Norsworthy (281) 261-6673 Kay Parker (713) 260-5230 Larry Pullen (281) 530-9373 Bill Rohrbach (713) 521-0221 Don Zienty (281) 782-2922

Webmaster: John Bourg jbourg@omsi.net Newsletter : Sue Lockwood slockwood@houston.rr.com Calendar: Paul Barnett psb1@ix.netcom.com The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

Light of Hope 2007



Mayor David Wallace and Debbie Fancher sang while Child Advocates lit the "Light of Hope" for abused and neglected children in Fort Bend County. Please wear a blue ribbon in April to show your support for the Prevention of Child Abuse.



Photos by Sue Lockwood and Michelle Badillo



Victor Joyce enjoyed the Children's festival pre-

sented by Lamar HS Student Council.

Leanne Gilford and Alicia Boczar laughed with The Rockets' Mascot Clutch.

Tiny bubbles in the air blown by twins and their brother. Grace Messinger get her face painted.



Blue Ribbon Schools

This year 11 schools in Fort Bend ISD will again decorate their campus to raise awareness of Child Abuse Prevention. Students design and build creative displays in front of their schools. The displays will be judged by Exchange Club of Sugar Land members on Saturday, April 14 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Awards will be presented to the winning schools on April 25 at our regular breakfast meeting at Sweetwater Country Club at 7:00 a.m. If you are interested in being a judge, please contact David Newell <u>dnewell@co.fort-bend.tx.us</u>



Blue Ribbon Committee and volunteers tied blue ribbons around trees along the streets of Sugar Land.

MIKE FLORY CELEBRATES 60

While respecting Section 60 in Arlington Cemetery March 29th 2007

On Thursday 29th March, Mike Flory will celebrate his 60th year on this earth. More importantly he is saluting and respecting section 60 in Arlington Cemetery. Section 60 is the final resting place for those brave men and women fighting the war on terror. You can help Mike Celebrate

by going to the website http://www.impactahero.org and



click on "The Wall Of Support". We all owe a large debt to those that have served.

What a great way to celebrate his birthday in helping wounded solders and their families. Thank you

P.S. Should you choose to help build the wall please refer to Mike's Birthday so he can thank you for your help.



April Birthdays

Paul Barnett, Trever Nehls, Troy

Nehls, Bob Hargarther, John Bourg,

Janet Johnson, Nancy Brownlee, Cee Cee Parker, Jim Kij,

Jim Lockwood, Robert McDonough



GIVEAVETAFLAGTOWAVE Sunday, April 29, 2007

Join Doc Murdock at the Veteran's Hospital to cheer up our wounded soldiers with conversation and a flag. Meet at Hwy 6 & Austin Parkway in the parking lot at 1:30 or meet at VA Hospital off Old Spanish Trail at 2:00 p.m. Contact Doc at 281 455-5287 or gentlemanwarrior@yahoo.com



Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs

42nd Annual Crime Prevention Dinner

Honoring Local Law Enforcement Saturday, April 21, 2007 Westin Galleria, 5060 West Alabama 6:30 PM Cocktails - 7:00 PM Dinner For Reservations Call Susan Schwartz 832 264-4478 or

Marjorie Evans 713 947-5418

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

www.ecsl.org

TX LA District Exchange



www.tlgcd.org

National Exchange Club

www.nationalexchangeclub.org





April 14, 2007 **Sugar Land Town Square Marriott**

Support the work of Child Advocates of Fort Bend County by attending the CASA GALA. Child Advocates provide a voice for 400 abused children in Fort Bend County every month. For tickets and information call: 281 341-9955 or email Susie Moseley at smoseley@cafb.org

