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Exchange Newsletter April 1, 2011

Volume 16, Number 18

Publisher

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

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 2010-2011

President: Amy Mitchell

President Elect: Steve Griffith

Secretary: Vita Goodell

Treasurer: Pat Welsh

Immediate Past President: Betty Baitland

Board of Directors

Shirley Brown

Roy Miers

Jake Messinger

Linda Schoonmaker

Gladys Brumfield

Al McDonald

John Robson

Reagan Walters

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Larry Pullen Ed Lee Al McDonald

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Light of Hope



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

President Elect of the Board of Child Advocates of Fort Bend **Kurt Kirchof**, Executive Director **Ruthanne Mefford**, Assistant City Manager, **Karen Daly** and current Board President **Jim Shaw** express their hope that children everywhere have safe and loving homes. www.cafb.org

President's Message

As we move into April, Spaghetti, the Rodeo, and (we hope!) the cold weather are all behind us and we now focus on National Child Abuse Prevention Month. In April, we work hard to bring our powerful message to our community. We started Friday night with our sponsorship and participation in the Light of Hope program. Thank you to Exchangites and others who came out to show support. Mayor Protem **Thomas Abraham** was the emcee and **Ruthanne Mefford, Jake Messinger, Karen Daly** and I stood on the steps of City Hall and tied huge blue ribbons on the pillars to show our support of the child abuse prevention efforts. **Jim Shaw** and **Jim Lockwood** held large cutouts of children and **Larry Pullen**, as always, took wonderful pictures memorializing the event.

Next week, **Karen Daly** and her Child Abuse Prevention team will lead us in tying of ribbons on trees throughout Sugar Land to bring attention to child abuse. Blue ribbons tied around trees in the community has become a trademark of the Exchange Club of Sugar Land. Each ribbon is a visual reminder of each reported case of child abuse in Fort Bend County. Schools compete in a Blue Ribbon Child Abuse Awareness contest. There are many worthwhile causes that we support in Fort Bend County, but none touches our hearts like the reality of child abuse. Thanks to all of you who work so hard to get this message out.

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land is definitely Rising and Shining in our community. Each one of you exemplifies why Exchange is the nation's largest National Service Organization.

Amy Mitchell, President

Kurt Kirchof and Judge Ron Pope lit the "Candle of Hope" for all abused and neglected children while former Mayor Dave Wallace and recording artist Debbie Fancher sang.

Photos by Larry Pullen





ECSL Club members **Ruthanne Mefford**, Director of CAFB, **Congressman Pete Olson** and ECSL President **Amy Mitchell** enjoyed the food and fun at the Gala.

Supporting Local Non-Profits

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land was a Presenting Sponsor for the Child Advocates of Fort Bend Magic Carpet Gala 4/2/11. Other Exchange Members who helped sponsor the Gala were: Harish Jajoo and Himesh Gandhi with the Indo American Charity Foundation, Jim Lockwood and Kent Reynolds with Baker Hughes, Early, McClintic & McMillan, LLP, Mitchell & Duff, LLC, Jim and Tracy Shaw, Bill Rohrbach of Sullins, Johnson, Rohrbach & Magers, Farha Ahmed and Dr. Betty Baitland. Many other Exchangites attended the Gala and supported CAFB by purchasing items at the auctions.



www.texanacenter.com

A check in the amount of \$1000 was presented to Texana for their "Reaching for Stars" Program.

Texana Center is focused on helping people developmental disabilities make a positive difference in their lives. Exchangites **Kevin Barker** (left) and **Tracy Shaw** (not pictured) work at Texana.



Upcoming Events

46th Annual Crime Prevention Dinner, Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Exchange District Saturday, April 30, 2011 6:30 pm, \$65 per person Meridian Banquet Hall, 5200 Bissonnet Houston, TX 77401

The program will feature Harris County District Attorney Pat Lykos All nominations are due by April 15. RSVP by April 25, 2011 Contact: Pattie Smith-McNeese 979-848-7765 pattiemcneese@sbcglobal.net



Centennial Celebration National Convention Detroit, Michigan July 6-9, 2011

www.nationalexchangeclub.org



Paul Barnett, Trevor Nehls, Troy Nehls, Bob Hargarther, John Bourg, Don Schneider,

Nancy Brownlee, John Robson, Jim Kij, Jim Lockwood, Margot Pasko, Robert McDonough Congratulations to **Betty Baitland** who is interim Superintendent of Stafford ISD.

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers.

Linda Schoonmaker's husband is recovering from a stroke.

Amy Mitchell's son had successful heart surgery and is back at UT.