

**Exchange Club of** Sugar Land Newsletter May 15th, 2022

#### The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100 Stafford, TX 77477 www.ecsl.org

#### **Weekly Meetings**

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m.

Meeting at: Sugar Creek Country Club 420 Sugar Creek Blvd. Sugar Land, Texas 77478

#### Officers 2021-2022

President: Rick Bell

President Elect: Lori Bisewski

Secretary: Vida Goodell

Treasurer: Jeff Dodson

Immediate Past President: Paul Barnett

#### **Board of Directors**

Camille Edwards Leslie Woods Thad Olive Juli Fournier Cookie Joe Colleen Migl Suzanne Whatley Bruce Smith

#### Spaghetti Chair 2022 Lori Bisewski

#### Webmaster:

Paul Barnett www.ecsl.org

**Newsletter Editor:** newsletter@ecsl.org

Gladys Brumfield announced the winners of our Blue Ribbon School Contest. This year, the first-place prize of \$800.00 was awarded to Settlers Way Elementary. Mission Glen Elementary won second place and received a check for \$650.00. Lantern Lane Elementary won the third-place prize of **\$450.00**.





Lantern Lane Flementary Trading in our Yellow Jackets for Blue Jackets

**Settlers Way** 

Mission Glen

**Lantern Lane** 

## **SETTLIERS WAY ELEMENTARY \$800**

L-R, Gladys Brumfield, Najet Ayachi, Brook Day, Emily Loesch, Rick Bell.

The children made giant paper chains, pinwheels, banners, etc. to bring awareness of child abuse prevention!







### MISSION GLEN ELEMENTARY **\$650**

L-R, Gladys Brumfield, Fannie Rodriguez, Christina Rodriguez, Jacob Nichols.

The Children participated, decorating Paper Mate kids, posters and ribbons!



### LANTER LANE ELEMENTARY \$450

L-R, Gladys Brumfield, Jessica Leal, Tisha Hart, Justin Kowrach.

The Children trading in there "Yellow Jackets for Blue Jackets!" Changing the Mascot stripes from Yellow to Blue!

## **ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE OF EXCELLENCE! (A.C.E. AWARD)**



This program recognizes high school students who have made a dramatic change in their attitude and performance during their high school years. These changes have enabled the students to overcome adversities and prepare for graduation. Clubs also submit their top A.C.E. Award winner to the district competition. Winners at the district level then have an opportunity to compete for the National A.C.E. Award.

This years recipient we are proud to announce is **Ilianna Dean** from <u>Clements High School</u>! Ilianna received a plaque and a check for \$500 from Exchange member Doc Lee Ivey.

Ilianna cares for her three brothers due to her mother's premature death and father having to work offshore jobs to provide financially. Her home was destroyed by Hurricane Harvey forcing them to live in transitional

housing and becoming homeless.

Regardless of Ilianna's circumstances they never interfered with her academics. Ilianna received the Academic Achievement Award, Congress of Future Medial Leaders, and Academic Award of Excellence. The National Society of High School Scholars, Advanced Placement Scholar, and 3rd. Place winner of MLK Stem Challenge in Houston, Texas.

### ALSO RECEIVING THE A.C.E. AWARD!



This years recipient we are proud to announce is **Drake Nguyen** from Kempner High School presented by Exchange member Colleen Migl! Drake received a plaque and a check for \$500.

From Mark Sanchez Lead Counselor at Kempner; "Drake is an individual who never stops improving and always strives to be the best he can be. This champion attitude is the reason why he will be receiving the Jackson Foundation Scholarship and the ACE Award. We applaud his accomplishments!"

From Drake; "Soon college will become a reality and independence will be perhaps the biggest obstacle in my life. However, I do not plan on allowing That to hinder my plans and goals. Attending U. of H. as a part of the class of 2026, I plan to work hard to gain a deeper understanding of the

world. Majoring in psychology and minoring in business, I intend to get a quality education in sectors that allow myself to prosper in a wide array of careers.

As and Asian student, I will look into Asian student associations as well as clubs in hope to act as a passionate member and possible leader in these clubs and communities. In dong so I plan to bring people together, raise and allocate funds to bettering organizations and provide for various charities, nonprofits, and volunteer based activities.

I want to help those around me in college and in the future, just as I have been able to do with local volunteering in my high school community. I have always tried to be active in my community, be it s a volunteer, student, or even as a coach for a local swim team. It will be no different in the future and I will continue to work hard as I attempt to do what I believe is my part for my community, my family, and myself."



A group picture of all the winners including the Blue Ribbon School winners (front page),

A.C.E. Award winner from Clements H.S. Ilianna Dean and Young Citizen of the Month Award winner Shekinah Morancie (below) and our ECSL President, Rick Bell and committee member, Gladys Jones Brumfield.

Our other A.C.E award winner Drake Nguyen not showing in this photo. He was at a different breakfast meeting.





Our Young Citizen of the Month from Sugar Land Middle School is Shekinah Morancie presented to us by Exchange member Cookie Joe.

Shekinah started Orchestra in 6th Grade and took to it quickly! Viola is her instrument of choice. Last year Shekinah made it to "Orchestra Regions". She is also currently a member of "Katy Youth Symphony". Sheki participated in the AVID program at SLMS. She was super happy for the opportunity to mentor the younger ones at school. She served zealously and proudly whenever needed. She is always looking for opportunities to reach out to young people who seem like they need encouragement and advice. Shekinah's grades all year have also reflected her dedication to learning and excelling. She has maintained a near perfect average!

Shekinah is very spiritually minded and loves the Lord with passion. She was born and dedicated to the Lord at Dominion International Center. At church, Shekinah is known amongst her friends as the "one with reason" and as "Madam Solutions" (the one with the answers"). She started and heads a small facetime group of daily bible study. She also belongs to a bible study discord group which she uses to bring online friends to the knowledge of Christ. At church, Shekinah is a member of the DO-MINION DANCERS (ministry through dance). She also serves at the "Dominion Lifestyle Cafe" and helps out in the Children's Department.

Shekinah serves as a volunteer at a weekly food outreach at "Victory Life Church" on weekends as needed. Serving food and other necessities to those who need it in the community alongside the rest of the family.

Shekinah is already looking forward to her years at Kempner High School and has begun her search for ways she will be able to be of impact there. She recently successfully tried out for the Brigade team and is now a "JV Cadet on the Kempner Brigade team". She has not completely decided on what her future profession will be. But she is sure that whatever it is, it will be one that allows her to help others.

## YOUTH OF THE YEAR / KEMPNER HIGH SCHOOL!

Exchange member **Juli Fournier** presented our **Youth of the Year Ms. Mahima Aggarwal** at the May 4th breakfast meeting! Here is what Mahima had to say to us! (Reprint from April 13th breakfast as Youth of the Month. Mahima received a plaque and a \$500 Check from Exchange Club.



I have been playing the double bass for 5½ years and am currently a member of the varsity chamber orchestra in my high school orchestra program.

I also enjoy traveling and photography. I have traveled to over 3 continents and 22 countries and have self-branded my photography passion under the name Photography Phenomenon. I mainly focus on travel, nature, landscape, and street photography; however, I am currently experimenting with portrait photography. I hope to open a photography business, as a small passion project, in the future!

I love learning new languages and practicing & utilizing my current language skills! Currently, I am fluent in English, Hindi, and Sanskrit! I am learning Korean and Japanese at the moment. I hope to use these language skills in my future travels and career opportunities! In my free time, I love to volunteer at my local food distribution center for the underprivileged as well as help out at my local Hindu temple.

Under the guidance of my father, I am learning programming and web development. I am currently learning HTML, CSS, JavaScript, & C.I am the Co-Founder of Helping Hopes Non-Profit Organization that is aimed at serving the community in any way possible! I find psychology fascinating hope to expand my knowledge in that area even more. I anticipate majoring in psychology or neuroscience in college!"

Mahima is a Chamber Orchestra Member, National Honor Society Member, Science National Honor Society Member, Philharmonic Orchestra Section Leader and Student Philanthropist! She has received the Academic Excellence Awards 2019-2020. And there is more but too much to mention here!



Exchange Club of Sugar Land presented a check for \$4,200.00 to AADC (Cookie Joe) for the benefit of defraying the costs associated with breast cancer treatment for first responders.



## **Speaker Series**



Our featured speaker at our May 4th breakfast meeting was Sugar Land Mayor Joe Zimmerman who gave us a City of Sugar Land Address as it stands currently.

Joe is a respected leader, businessman, engineer, Sugar Land City Councilman, former Chairman of the Sugar Land Planning & Zoning Commission and Commissioner, longtime resident, husband of 44 years to his wife Nancy, father and grandfather, an active member of Second Baptist Church Woodway and community volunteer.

Joe is currently in his last and final 4th term as Mayor and acknowledge that his current City Council members are the best he has served with in the past 12 years!

Currently the population of Sugar Land is at 111,026 people and in 1980 it was only at 6,000 people and in 1990 it was 16,000 when he and his wife Nancy moved here. So you can see the remarkable growth of our city today. He also mention the only land left to annex would be the Riverstone community.

He gave us and update on the following topics, the Imperial Sugar area, First Colony Mall and Town center area will be going through re-development. He stated that re-development or facelift usually happens every 10-15 years and mention that City Hall was built in 2003. He also talked about the land near the Smart Financial Center. Some of that land is own by M.D. Anderson. Possibly a Regional facility for them. He summed up his talk with saying that Sugar Land has a bright future ahead in the next 10 years.

CITY OF SUGAR LAND



Our featured speaker at our May 11th breakfast meeting was City of Stafford Mayor Cecil Willis who gave us a City of Stafford Address as it stands currently.

Mayor Willis is a native Texan born in Comfort, Texas. He grew up in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Texas A&M University. He was elected to the position of Mayor on December 12, 2020.

Mayor Willis explains the fiscal foundation of Stafford is strong and continues to grow stronger. Since he took office, Stafford has ranked between #64 and #69 in sales tax re-

ceipts in the entire State of Texas for cities. This alone speaks volumes about what a 7 square mile area and its people can achieve. And there is no city property tax!

Also, he explained that there are many new and exciting developments under construction or in the planning stage of construction that will continue to strengthen and build on the City's foundation.

His presentation ended with questions and answers from our members of Exchange. And he assured us that Stafford will continue to grow and move forward with innovative ideas and concepts.

### Freedom Shrine Installation

On May 11th we met at the James Reese Career & Technical Center at 12300 University Blvd. in Sugar Land for our Freedom Shrine Installation. The Freedom Shrine is a display of a collection of historic document replicas that serve to remind all of us of the efforts that have been taken to ensure our freedom.

The Freedom Shrine originated with the Freedom Train that toured the nation in 1947 carrying and exhibit of historic documents. It serves as and educational tool in schools and as a motivational display in public arenas.





# Birthdays, Anniversaries, Events

### **Happy Exchange Birthdays!**



Duyen Le (5/1), Stephen Rogers (5/11), Jack Williams (5/14).

### **Exchange Anniversaries!**

Patrick Welsh 5/2/06 (16 yrs.) Lori Bisewski 5/4/16 (6 yrs.), Greg Oelfke 5/6/91 (31 yrs.), Chuck Sanchelli 5/14/02 (20 yrs.), Ruthanne Mefford 5/11/09 (13 yrs.), Kevin Barker 5/11/09 (13 yrs.).

Here is where you may find information and register for the TLGC District Convention on June 10-12 in New Orleans, Louisiana. https://www.eventcreate.com/e/texas-louisiana-gulf-coast

**Thad Olive** informed us that the Masonic Lodge is honoring **Doug Earle** for his volunteer work in the community on May 18 at 6:30 p.m. The lodge is located at 421 Eldridge Blvd., Sugar Land. If you would like to attend the dinner, please contact Thad. thadolive@gmail.com

**Carey Synder** reminded everyone that early voting for the run-off election starts on May 16 and continues through May 20. Make sure you get out and vote.

On May 25 at noon, we are having a Crime Prevention Luncheon at Sugar Creek Country Club. At the lunch, our club will be honoring Sugar Land Officers Daniel Barbarick and Demarcus Mitchell who helped save the life of fellow Officer Ruben Munoz. We had about twenty members sign up to attend the luncheon, but it would be nice if we can double that number to show support for our officers.

Doug Earle needs fundraising support for our district's Patriot Concert. The concert will take place in Sugar Land Town Center on May 28. If you can afford to help financially, please contact Doug.

**Doug Earle** told us to get ready for the first annual Patriot Concert that includes clubs from within our district. The concert will take place in Sugar Land Town Center on May 28.



**Cookie Joe** modelling a denim jacket with tons of Exchange pins that was donated by Norma Reyna. **Greg Oelfke** announced we will auction it off soon.



**SUGAR LAND, TEXAS 1987** 

Save the Date.! Our District (Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast) is hosting a Patriot Concert. The concert will take place in Sugar Land Town Center on May 28. Cookie Joe reminded us that this is an opportunity to attend a free event and watch the Cookie Joe Dancin' Team in action!







America's Service Club