



THE NAVIGATOR

Economic Development

by Dr. Charles Grant, President & CEO

There was a very interesting article written by L. M. Sixel in the Business Section of the Sunday, August 12th addition of the Houston Chronicle. According to Sixel, "A buoyant economy, the rock-solid energy industry and a recovering real estate market are giving Houston a real boost." The article continues to state that "Houston continues to outshine the nation" according to a panel of experts in the Houston area. The following are several economic indicators that suggest why Houston is one of the best areas in the country to live and work.

*Home Sales--Year-over-year sales activity rose 14.4% in June

*Home Prices--Year-over-year home prices rose 6.9% in June.

*Job Growth--Houston gained 7,600 jobs from May 2012 to June 2012.

*Auto Sales-- Year-over-year new vehicle sales were up 46% in Houston.

*New Homes--The number of home starts by builders were up 30% from a year ago.

Economic Development is also on the upswing in the North Channel Area. For example, a new company, Genan, Inc is currently being constructed in the Sheldon area at 18038 Beaumont Highway and plans to open in 2013. According to their website, www.genan.eu, Genan is the world's largest scrap tire recycler with four plants in Europe. This facility in the

North Channel Area will be the FIRST in the United States! When completed the company will have the capacity to recycle 100,000 tons of tires per year. This clean/green company will cost an excess of a 100 million dollars. Genan, Inc is a relatively new member of our chamber and was the major sponsor of the golf tournament last June. In fact, Butch Battreall, Head of Supply Management for the company plans to give a presentation about Genan in the near future.

Another huge complex in the Sheldon area is Generation Park. According to their website which is www.generationpark.com, it is a "mixed-use, master-planned corporation development" and is located on the East and West side of the Sam Houston Tollway near Summerwood. Generation Park is the

FIRST Environmental, Social and Economic (ESE) energy development in the world! More than 28 million square feet will be developed on 3,635 acres. For additional information on Generation Park, you can view their website or contact McCord Development (who are new members of the chamber) at 713-860-3000.

Other economic activity in the North Channel Area include a Men's Wearhouse, Peter Piper Pizza, and a LongHorn Steakhouse as well as an apartment unit just North of Lowes. Additionally, a Carl's Jr. will be in the Black Rock Commons Shopping Center near Bubbles Car Wash and Sears. There is also talk of Dunkin' Donuts, Five Guys Hamburger, and an Iberiabank coming to our area in the near future.

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OUR MEMBERS

Our chamber thrives on membership. Help us out with the names of new businesses opening in our area.

You show your support for the North Channel community when you purchase goods or services from businesses that display the chamber membership decal.

When in doubt, contact the chamber office for a list of businesses at 713-450-3600 or go online to www.northchannelarea.com

2012 Board of Directors

Dr. Vickey Giles— Chairman
Sheldon ISD

Wilfred Broussard Jr.— Chairman Elect
Broussard's Real Estate

Greg Ollis—1st Vice Chairman
Channelview ISD

Kimberly Gonzalez— Secretary,
Platinum Copier Solutions

Bill Palko —Treasurer,
Amegy Bank

Matt Davis – Immediate Past Chair,
CommunityBank of Texas

Alice Adams, East Houston Regional Med. Center
Bob Bartel, Individual
Don Bobo, CenterPoint Energy
Ryan Dagley, Individual
Shalonda Dawkins, United Community Credit Un.
Dr. Shirley Ellisor, Holy Trinity Episcopal School
Pedro Garcia, Port of Houston Authority
Ramon Garza, Farmers Insurance
Abraham George, Sheldon ISD
Dr. Allatia Harris, San Jacinto College N.
Dawn Harris, Harris County Precinct 2
June Harris, Halo Branded Solutions
Dear Hofmann, LyondellBasell
David Hopkins, Life Member
Carrie Hulsey, Texas Bay Area Credit Union
Jennifer Johnson, United Community Credit Un.
Dale Jones, Sterling Wood Church
Erika Koehler, Wendel D. Ley Y
Terry Loving, Advantage Howard Glendale
Adam Lund, Woodforest National Bank
Kim Marak, Arkema, Inc.
Edward Miller, Edward Miller Appraisal Svs.
John Moore, Galena Park ISD
Larry Pfeifer, Sheldon ISD
Jim Wadzinski, Community Toyota
Brian Wilhelm, State Farm Insurance
Mike Williams, Edward Jones

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Commerce, 13301 I-10 East Freeway,
Suite 100, Houston, TX 77015 (713) 450-3600**

JULY NEW MEMBERS

Basic Logistics, Inc.

7410 Miller Rd. 2
Houston, TX 77049

(281) 542-5405

www.basiclogistics.net

Tommy E. Balke

Trucking - Heavy Hauling

Greater Praise Communi- ty Church

5520 E. Sam Houston Parkway
North.

Houston, TX 77015

(832) 347-3759

greaterpraisecommunity.org

David Charles

Churches

Iberiabank

1601 Center Street

Deer Park, TX 77536

(281) 478-6230

www.iberiabank.com

Sandra Gonzalez

Banks

Leo Dentistry

5607 Uvalde Rd., Ste #G

Houston, TX 77049

(832) 230-3122

leodenistry.com

Tae Chui Ho, Vincent Luan

Dentists

Ashley Shibley

Sheldon ISD

11411 C.E. King Pkwy.

Houston, TX 77044

Individuals

Vic's Janitorial Service

13347 Holly Park

Houston, TX 77015

(713) 826-1840

Victor Boudreaux

Office Cleaning

Doug Weiskopf for State Representative Dist. 143

14403 Wadebridge

Houston, TX 77015

(713) 455-8421

DougWeiskopf.com

Candidate

XTreme Sandblasting & Painting, Inc.

7410 Miller Rd. 2

Houston, TX 77049

(281) 695-8880

www.sandblastingandpaint.com

Tommy E. Balke

Still caring...by renewing their membership

A special thank you to the following members who have shown their dedicated support of the Chamber and the community by renewing their membership investment.

11–31 Years

Advantage Howard Glendale	25 years
Don's Auto Service	25 years
Galena Park Motors	25 years
Slocomb Insurance	20 years
Rite-Way Janitorial	20 years
San Jacinto Pilot Club	20 years
Harris County FWSD #47	17 years
South Lake Houston EMS	17 years
CommunityBank of Texas	11 years
City of Jacinto City	11 years

6-10 Years

State Farm—Rick Blount	8 years
A-1 Fire	8 years
Days Inn & Suites	7 years

1-5 Years

Northshore Dental	5 years
Farmers Insurance—R. Garza	3 years
Matt Davis	3 years
Jan Crenshaw	3 years
Randy Taylor	3 years
Heights Builder	2 years
GVMS	2 years
McClain Trailers, Inc.	2 years
Mister Car Wash	2 years
Mosaic Dental	2 years
Allied Pallet & Equipment Co.	1 year
Econocuts	1 year
Kross Enterprises, Inc	1 year
Golden Corral	1 year
Herrera Fabricating	1 year



PORT BRIEFS

Tonnage and Revenue Remain Ahead

While recent figures reflect a slowdown in activity, overall tonnage and revenue are still well ahead of last year's pace, Executive Director Leonard Waterworth reported at the July 24 Port Commission meeting.

Total tonnage was up one-percent for the month of June, but is up nine percent compared to the first six months of 2011. After having shown fairly consistent growth since April 2010, steel declined by 4,000 tons or one percent.

"This results primarily from softening the import of drilling pipe, given a 'flattening' of rig count and likelihood of decreases in natural gas pricing," Waterworth explained.

He said growth is expected to flatten for the remainder of the

year after having grown by 1.1 million tons—or 60 percent—for the year through June. General cargos at Port of Houston Authority facilities (bulk product, bagged goods, wind power equipment, etc.) continue to show growth of 247,000 tons—or 14 percent—for the year. The number of container twenty-foot-equivalent units (TEUs) increased by 11 percent in June, but is still running 2 percent behind the first six months of 2011.

June operating revenues were \$18.4 million, up by 10 percent over last year, and year-to-date revenues increased 9 percent. Waterworth attributes the increases to steel throughput, dredge disposal fees and the signing of seven new leases for 2012.

"Overall, our financial health



Pictured—Executive Director Col. Leonard Waterworth of the Port of Houston Authority (left) and Dr. Charles Grant, President & CEO of the NCACC.

is very good," Waterworth said.

(Taken from *Port Report* July 2012)

Please join the Chamber and adopt the slogan "Increase support for an expanded Port!"

NORTH CHANNEL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Upcoming Events

Wednesday, August 22

Free Pain Management Seminar
6 pm @ San Jacinto Methodist Hospital,
4401 Garth Rd., Baytown

Monday, September 3

Labor Day—Chamber office closed

Friday, September 7

Monthly Luncheon @ 11:30 am
SJCN Monument Room
Speaker—Brian Rinehart, Ellington Air
Field

Tuesday, September 11

Ambassadors Breakfast
8 am @ TBD

Tuesday, September 18

Chamber Board Meeting

Month of October

Memberfest

Tuesday, October 23

Port Boat Tour, 5—8 pm

Thursday, November 8

Salutes/Business Expo/Job Fair/Health
Fair @ Armenta's Banquet Hall

*Did you know you can put
your calendar events on our
website? Go to northchan-
nelarea.com, click on view all
events and then click on
submit an event.*

Log on to the new online
community newspaper,
northchannelnews.com



Like us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/ncachamber>

GREAT CHAMBER EVENTS!



A ribbon cutting was held on Tuesday, August 14th at the new Shell Federal Credit Union. Go by and visit them at 5544 E. Sam Houston Pkwy., N., 77015.



A great Chamber luncheon was held at the Alvin Baggett Community Center in Galena Park on the third of August. The speaker (pictured above) was Pete Garcia, Executive Director of the US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce The Woodlands-Gulf Coast Chapter.