



# THE NAVIGATOR

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## Memberfest by Dr. Charles Grant, President & CEO

With cooler days approaching and fall right around the corner, residents in the area will find many Octoberfest opportunities in the weeks ahead. During the month of October, the North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce is planning Memberfest, a recruitment and retention membership drive. John Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Operations at Galena Park ISD and the chamber's 2012 Membership Chair recently said, "The key to chamber membership is retention!" Mr. Moore is planning this drive October 11th & 12th. Those who bring in one or more new member will be treated, as well as their new members, to a free dinner cruise on the M.V. Sam Houston the evening of

Tuesday, October 23rd. However, you don't have to wait until the drive. You can start getting your members NOW!!

If you are a current member of the chamber and would like to participate in Memberfest, please contact Betty Garcia at 832-386-1221 or the chamber office at 713-450-3600. Although many companies as well as individuals have been members of the chamber for years, unfortunately some don't make it past the first year! According to Moore, "Chamber members need to see a value for their investment." However, mem-

bers must "get involved" to realize all the benefits the chamber has to offer. There are many activities available to members every month and those activities can be viewed on the chamber website at <http://northchannelarea.com/index.asp>

The chamber is about economic development and quality of life for the North Channel area. Do you know an individual or company that would benefit from being a member of the chamber? Have you thought about asking vendors or customers to join? Prospective members can fill out an application

online at: [www.northchannelarea.com](http://www.northchannelarea.com) or click [here](#). They can call the chamber office at 713-450-3600 for additional information. Please feel free to forward this issue of *The Navigator* to prospective members and follow up with personal telephone calls. Having a larger and stronger chamber will benefit our entire area.

The bottom line is: **If you live, work, do business or want to do business in the North Channel area, you should be a member!**

## Identify Theft-Detect, Deter and Defend by Charles Grant, President & CEO

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The next Chamber "First Friday Luncheon" is a MUST to attend! It will be Friday, October 5th in the Monument Room at San Jacinto College North. The luncheon will begin at 11:30 AM.

According to the National Identify Theft Resource Center, "Approximately 44 million Americans have been victims of identify theft!" In these cases, the average individual spent nearly 600 hours at a cost of almost \$1500.00 to get their finan-

cial affairs straightened out. And, this cost does NOT include attorney fees.

Our luncheon speaker will be Frank Mulcahy, a Certified Identify Theft Risk Management Specialist. Mr. Mulcahy has been a national speaker for over 32 years. He helps business owners and managers understand "why" it is critical to build a "culture of security" in the workplace. Frank works with public schools, colleges, hospitals, credit unions, banks, industry and even

non-profits to help them **detect, deter** and **defend** identify theft.

To RSVP for the luncheon, please send an e-mail to [margielb@flash.net](mailto:margielb@flash.net) or call the chamber office at 713-450-3600. The cost is \$20 if you RSVP and \$25 if you do not. Remember, our "First Friday Luncheons" are a great way to introduce prospective members to our dynamic chamber. So, bring a guest.

## 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

### Staff

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

## AUGUST NEW MEMBERS

### Cypress Gardens Apart- ments

11511 Highway 90  
Houston, TX 77013  
(713) 481-9750  
www.cypressgardensapts.com  
Brandy Campbell, Kathie  
Howard  
Apartments

### Storage West

5500 E.Sam Houston Pkwy.N.  
Houston, TX 77015  
(281) 452-7867  
www.storagewest.com  
Barbara Cash, Mona Pietsch,  
Don Willis  
Storage - Household & Busi-  
ness

### SouthCoast Terminals

7402 Wallisville Rd.  
Houston, TX 77020  
(713) 672-2401  
www.scterm.com  
Robin Martin  
Manufacturing



### 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***

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

# 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

Blasingame Insurance	31 years
Tharling Air Conditioning & Appliance	30 years
Mc's Electric Service, Inc.	27 years
Pineforest Jewelry, Inc.	26 years
Congressman Gene Green	16 years
Mr. Gatti's, No. 412	15 years
Stanley Parts & Equipment	13 years
Investor's Management	11 years

## 6-10 Years

North Shore Rotary	10 years
Awards & Engraving	9 years
Dagley, Ryan	8 years
Moore, John	8 years
Northshore Marine Supply, Inc.	8 years
Tony's BBQ & Steak House, Inc.	8 years
State Farm Insurance-Brian Wilhelm	8 years
Basic Equipment	8 years
Sterling Wood Church	8 years
Alloy Tubular Products Co.	8 years
JDH Association Management Co.	8 years
Fallin, Jerry	7 years
Courtesy Roofing & Services Inc.	6 years

## 1-5 Years

Lalor, Elizabeth	5 years
Amegy Bank	5 years
Platinum Copier Solutions	5 years
Wallisville Dental Associates, PA	5 years
Bartel, Bob	4 years
Darrell McWhorter	3 years
Galvan, Pat	3 years
Fairfield Inn & Suites Channelview	3 years
Our Lady of Fatima Church	2 years
Anheuser-Busch, Inc.	2 years
Goalpost	2 years
Holiday Inn-East Houston	2 years
La Quinta Inn & Suites-Channelview	2 years
John Ennis, CLU, ChFC	2 years
Axiom Power	1 year
Johnson, Yvonne	1 year
Valdez, Carmen	1 year
AAA Tax Services	1 year
Insogna & Stewart, CPA, PC	1 year
JW Communications	1 year
Safe Way Signs, Inc.	1 year
Osaka Steak House	1 year
Ross Mortuary, Inc.	1 year
Manpower, Inc.	1 year
R & K Barbecue	1 year



## PORT BRIEFS

### Committee Focuses on Port's Readiness For Panama Canal Expansion

The state's readiness for expansion of the Panama Canal was the focus of a fact-finding mission by five members of the Texas House Transportation Committee and staff who recently toured the Houston Ship Channel and the Port of Houston Authority's Bayport Container Terminal.

The tour was part of a two-day visit to study the state's readiness and determine whether the state's infrastructure is ready for an increase in com-

mercial traffic.

The focus of the briefing was on the Port Authority's work to prepare for the larger ships that will be traversing the Panama Canal once the canal's widening project is completed. Texas Transportation Commissioner Jeff Austin also participated in the briefing.

The second day of the committee's visit included a public hearing at the Greater Houston Partnership, where the

committee heard testimony from Port Commission Chairman Jim Edmonds on the need for investments in port-related infrastructure.

"Improving the infrastructure in and around Texas ports is a critical part of the economic equation defining international trade and commerce," Edmonds said.

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

## NORTH CHANNEL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Houston, TX 77015  
Phone: 713-450-3600  
Fax: 713-450-0700  
[www.northchannelarea.com](http://www.northchannelarea.com)

### Upcoming Events

#### Friday, October 5

Monthly Luncheon @ 11:30 am  
San Jacinto College North, Student  
Center, Monument Room  
5800 Uvalde, 77049  
Program—The impact identify theft,  
social media and cyber bullying has on  
business and employees.

#### Tuesday, October 9

Ambassador Breakfast @ 8 am  
Chamber office

#### Tuesday, October 9

Business After Hours, 5– 7 pm  
Shell Federal Credit Union

#### October 11-12 @ GPISD

Membership Drive

#### Tuesday, October 16

Chamber Board Meeting @ 11:30 am

#### Tuesday, October 16

Ribbon Cutting @ 5 pm  
Osaka Steakhouse  
15242 Wallisville Rd., 77049

#### Tuesday, October 23

Port Boat Tour, 5— 8 pm

#### Thursday, November 8

Salutes/Business Expo/Health Fair @  
Armenta's Banquet Hall  
823 Sheldon Rd., 77530

*Did you know you can put  
your calendar events on our  
website? Go to [northchan-  
nelarea.com](http://northchannelarea.com), click on view all  
events and then click on  
submit an event.*



Like us on Facebook!

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

## RIBBON CUTTINGS



A ribbon cutting was held on September 5th at Cypress Gardens Apartments. They are located at 11511 Highway 90, 77013.



A ribbon cutting was held for Kelley Tennis Club on September 8th.