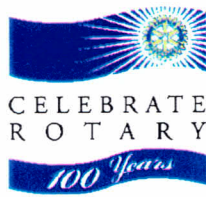
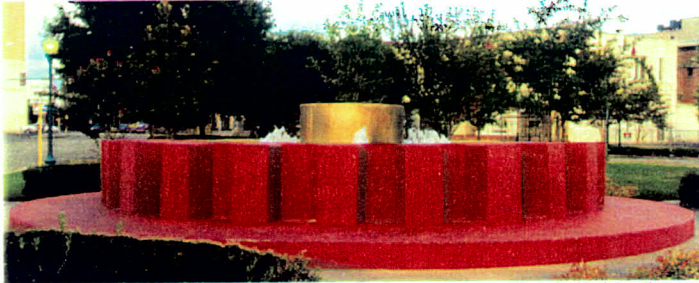


Published by the
 Rotary Club of Beaumont USPS 471-700
 Subscription price \$5.00 per year
 Periodicals postage paid at Beaumont, Texas
 Published weekly, except for Christmas week,
 New Years week & two unspecified
 non-meeting weeks.
 POSTMASTER: send address changes to
 Beaumont Hilton, Suite 213
 2355 IH-10 South
 Beaumont, TX 77705



Periodical
 POSTAGE
 Paid at
 Beaumont, TX



The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery

ROTARYgrams

Photo by Steve Buser

A Publication of the Rotary Club of Beaumont, Texas - Club #72

Vol. 94 No. 16 October 20, 2004

U.S. Congressman Nick Lampson



Beaumont native Nick Lampson took office representing the 9th Congressional District in 1997. A graduate of Lamar University, he earned his Bachelors Degree in Biology and his Masters Degree in Education. Prior to his

tenure in Congress, Lampson was a high school science teacher before serving as the Jefferson County tax assessor for nearly 20 years.

The four-term Member of Congress serves as the Ranking Member of the Science Committee's Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics, and is a strong advocate for the Johnson Space Center and the entire NASA manned space program. He also serves on the Transportation and Infrastruc-

ture Committee, where he fights for federal highway construction and repair funds, and the improvement of Houston and Southeast Texas airport facilities.

He established the first-ever Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, which now numbers more than 120 members from both parties. With the power of the Caucus behind him, he has fought in Congress to help families protect their children and aid communities and law enforcement searching for missing children. He has sponsored legislation to fund law enforcement efforts to stop child pornography and exploitation on the Internet.

In addition to his own Caucus, Lampson is active in other issue-oriented Congres-

(Continued on page 3)

Head Table



INVOCATION
PAT ANDERSON



PLEDGE
MARY RANDALL



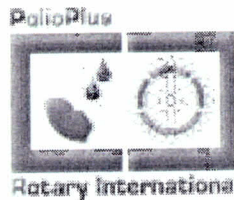
4-WAY TEST
MAX DUPLANT



GUEST INTRODUCTION
MELINDA MCNEELY

From the chef: Baked Chicken

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 Meets Wednesdays at Noon
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Future Programs

October
 27th Ted Poe
 November
 3rd Rotary Goes to Work

Make-ups

Monday:
 No. Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69
 Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank
Tuesday:
 Spindletop.....Holiday Inn 11th St.
 Orange.....Sunset Grove
 Port Neches.....Pompano Club
Wednesday:
 Groves.....Pompano Club
Thursday:
 Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69
Friday:
 Nederland.....Sanderson's

On-line: www.rotary5450.org/eclub
 (limit 3 times in each quarter)

Program Reviews

October 6th - Leading U.S. market analyst, Roland Ramirez, owner of Ramirez Development Strategies, shared his impressions of what is going on economically in South-east Texas. He has done consulting work with Nederland, Port Neches and Port Arthur.

Ramirez first shared the following facts about our region and our state. The demographics are changing, the general economy in Jefferson County is strong in sales and manufacturing and that there are workforce challenges, particularly in the area of education.

A key goal in attracting and developing business and industry is to think regionally. It is also important to have a plan that allows those seeking to bring business and industry to our area to believe that we can meet their needs. There are some issues such as training and affordable housing that can better be dealt with on a regional basis and as a cooperative venture between government and private agencies.

Ramirez also shared with us some interesting and important statistics about Texas: We are the twelfth largest economy in the world, we have 45% of the nation's exports to Mexico and we are definitely business- and industry-friendly.

Jefferson County is expected to have a population of 271,000 in 2015. Racially, the Anglos will decline, African-Americans will remain stable and the Hispanic population will continue to increase. By 2040 the state of Texas is expected to be 50% Hispanic.

(Continued on page 3)



Liz Bradford is pictured with President **Maurine Gray** and **Sina Nejad** after the October 6th meeting at which Sina presented Past President Mike Bradford's memorial resolution.

October 13th - The Rotary Club of Beaumont had a visit from the Texas Country Reporter, Mr. Bob Phillips, who reminded us why there's no place like Texas.

For thirty-two years he has exalted our real heroes, just everyday people who make this great state what it is. The stories he reports come from a variety of sources such as observations and viewers' suggestions.

His new mission in life is to reinforce Texanese, the native language of Texas. Only true Texans would understand the meaning of ya'll, a heap of trouble, and fixin' to. For the more sophisticated Texans, revamped is a frequently used word. Dinner in Texas is the noon meal and you can always "get a biggo sack of groceries at the grocery store of a mornin'."

In Big Spring, there is former New York police officer selling New York Style Hot Dogs and doing quite well. It makes you wonder perhaps one of us could move to New York and sell boudain balls on the corner! The visit was the highlight of the day. In parting, he reminded us of the simple truths we learn from children such as no matter how hard you try, you can never baptize a cat.

**Welcome,
New Members!**

Please welcome these new members and a returning member who were inducted into the club on October 13th:

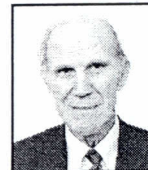
Vernon Pierce

Director, Customer Service, Texas, Entergy
 Born in Jackson, Mississippi, he is a graduate of Mississippi State University. He and his wife Sheree are the parents of Karen and Hugh, and are members of Wesley United Methodist Church. He enjoys playing golf and working around the house.



Eugene Wilson

Vice President, Wilson Capital, Inc.
 Born in Altus, Oklahoma, he is a graduate of West Texas State University and the SMU School of Law. He is the father of Mark, Gregory and Roger, and is a member of St. Marks Episcopal Church. He enjoys sailing.



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Birthdays

20th David Gaultney (01)
Justice, Ninth Court of Appeals



Born in Eku, Nigeria, he is a graduate of Southwest Texas State University, the University of Texas School of Law and the University of Houston. He and his wife Carol are the parents of David Jr. and Michael, and are members of First Baptist Church of Conroe. He enjoys playing tennis. David is a Paul Harris Fellow

22nd Barbara Knight (94)
Owner, Creativity Unlimited



Born in San Diego, California, she is a graduate of Lamar University. She and her husband Gary are the parents of Brent and Nicole. She enjoys scuba diving, computer graphics, water gardening and calligraphy. Barbara is a Paul Harris Fellow.

22nd Rodney Martin (02)
President/CEO, Beaumont YMCA



Born in Jonesboro, Louisiana, he is a graduate of Centenary College. He and his wife Tonya are the parents of Ambria and Jaslynn. He enjoys reading, playing golf and spending time with his family.

(Continued from page 2)

With the change in demographics of our area, several issues become very important, among these are education, particularly for the growing Hispanic population and affordable housing for the workforce.

There are some real pluses when we look at the general economy of our area. Total sales in 1990 were \$8 million and in 2002 they were \$14 million. For Jefferson County, retail sales are a smaller part of total sales and this is a good thing. Our area is growing in manufacturing and this produces a great need for skills. Other important facts are that like it or not, our economy is tied to Houston's economy, that we have a healthy balance between the service industry and the wholesale and retail segments of our economy.

Ramirez concluded by reminding us of our most important needs in order to continue to strengthen our economy through 2040: *Education and a skilled workforce, affordable housing for workers, natural resources such as water, and regional cooperation.*

24th Roy Huckaby (79)
Retired



Born in Orange, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Glenda are the parents of Amy, Lisa and Brent, and are members of North End Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf, fishing and teaching Sunday School. Roy is a Paul Harris Fellow.

24th Norman Lee (70)
Retired



Born in Grayson, Louisiana, he is a graduate of the California Institute of Technology. He and his wife Nell Ray are the parents of Norman Jr. and Rebecca Nell, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys playing golf, stained glass and etching. Norman is a Paul Harris Fellow.

25th Bill Matthews (73)
Retired



Born in Atkins, Arkansas, he is a graduate of the University of Houston. He and his wife Mary are the parents of Whit and Ross. He enjoys flying, fishing and hunting. Bill is a Paul Harris Fellow

26th Terry Bourdier (97)
Executive Director,
United Way of Beaumont



Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University. He and his wife Karen are the parents of James, Jeffrey, Jacqueline and Joel. He enjoys music and fishing. Terry is a Paul Harris Fellow.

ROTARY GOES TO WORK

Wednesday, November 3rd
Sign up at next 2 weekly meetings!!!

Visit the Chamber of Commerce, the *Beaumont Enterprise*, the Mayor's Office, the Library, Blue Bell Creameries, Clear Channel Communications, Collision & Classics, Colorado Canyon, Cornerstone Media, Funchess, Mills & White, Goodwill Industries, Hibernia Trust, the Jefferson Theater, KFDM TV, Lamar University or the Texas Wildcatters

Statement of Ownership, Management & Circulation

1. Publication Title: ROTARYGRAMS
2. Publication No. USPS 471-700
3. Filing Date: 10/15/04
4. Issue Frequency: Weekly, except for Christmas week, New Years week & two unspecified non-meeting weeks.
5. No. of Issues Published Annually: 48
6. Annual Subscription Price: \$5.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77705
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77705
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor:
Publisher: Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77705
Editor: Bessie Chisum, Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77706
Managing Editor: Alexine Boutin, Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77705
10. Owner: Rotary Club of Beaumont, 2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213, Beaumont, TX 77705
11. Known Bondholder, Mortgagees, etc.: None
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates): The purpose, function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
13. Publication Title: ROTARYGRAMS
14. Issue Date for Circulation Below: 10/20/04
15. Extent & Nature of Circulation Avg. No. Copies Each Issue:
Actual No. Copies Single Issue
a. Total No. of Copies: 400:350 (net press run)
b. Paid and/or Requested Subscriptions:
1. Outside County: 8:8
2. In County: 302:307
3. Sales: 0:0
4. Other: 0:0
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation: 310:315
d. Free Distribution by Mail:
1. Outside County: 11:12
2. Inside County: 9:11
3. Other: 0:0
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail: 0:0
f. Total Free Distribution: 20:23
g. Total Distribution: 330:338
h. Copies Not Distributed: 70:12
i. Total: 400:350
j. Percent Paid/requested Circulation: 94%:93%
16. The statement of ownership will be printed in the October 20, 2004 issue of this publication.
17. Signature and title of Editor, publisher, business manager or owner:

Alexine Boutin

Alexine Boutin, Executive Director 10/15/04
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(Continued from page 1)

sional caucuses, including Manufactured Housing, Correctional Officers, I-69 Highway, Coast Guard, Coastal, Human Rights, India and Indian-Americans, Spina Bifida, Cancer, Asian and Pacific American, Arts, and Parkinson's Disease. He also served as the Chairman of the Congressional Study Group on Germany.

He is married to Susan Floyd Lampson, a special education teacher in Beaumont. The couple has two daughters.

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