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ROTARYgrams

Photo by Steve Buser

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Vol. 96 No. 30, February 21, 2007

JOE TORTORICE - JASON'S DELI



agement, Inc.

Since its founding in 1976, Jason's Deli has expanded to 158

Our speaker this week will be Joe Tortorice, Jr., founder of Jason's Deli, co-owner of Novrosky's Hamburgers Etc. and president of Deli Man-

restaurants in twenty-one states from Florida to Arizona, from Nevada to Virginia and as far north as Nebraska and Iowa.

A member of a longtime Beaumont family, Joe is the son of Margaret and Joseph Tortorice, Sr. and a 1966 graduate of Monsignor Kelly High School. He earned a BBA from Texas A&M

(Continued on page 3)



Jason Armstrong, Cynthia Wolf and Travis Brewer pictured above with President Gerald are our newest Paul Harris Fellows.

(Continued on page 3)

We will meet in the Fountainview Room instead of the Ballroom this week. Please arrive early for the most convenient parking.

Chicken Fried Steak & Mushroom Chicken

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75th Anniversary Party

FEBRUARY 27, 2007
 5:00-8:00PM

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Future Programs

February
 28th President of Baylor University

Make-ups

Monday:

No. Port ArthurHoliday Inn Hwy 69
 Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank

Tuesday:

Spindletop.....Elegante' Hotel
 Orange.....Sunset Grove
 Port Neches.....Pompano Club

Wednesday:

Groves.....Pompano Club

Thursday:

Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69
 Hardin County... Red Onion, Lumberton

Friday:

Nederland.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

On-line: www.rotaryclubone.org
 (limit 3 times in each quarter)

REVIEW

Dr. Carrol A. Thomas, Superintendent of Beaumont Independent School District (BISD), spoke to the Rotary Club of Beaumont last week. Dr. Thomas has been employed as the Superintendent of BISD for eleven years. His presentation focused on the academic report card for BISD.

School districts in Texas are measured by both Federal and State Guidelines.

The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) rates how districts and campuses are performing against the Federal regulations of No Child Left Behind. Schools are reported as either "meets" or "does not meet" AYP based upon Reading, Math, and Participation standards.

- ◇ 24 BISD schools "Meet AYP"
- ◇ 5 BISD schools "Meet AYP" due to Rita Exemptions
- ◇ No BISD school failed to "Meet AYP"
- ◇ BISD was considered to "Meet AYP"

The Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) report rates how districts and campuses are performing on the State's curriculum. Schools are reported as exemplary, recognized, academically acceptable, academically unacceptable, or "not rated" based upon Reading/English Language Arts, Math, Writing, Science, and Social Studies TAKS results.

- ◇ 11 BISD schools are Recognized or Exemplary
- ◇ 17 BISD schools are Academically Acceptable
- ◇ 1 BISD school is Not Rated
- ◇ No BISD school is unacceptable or low-performing
- ◇ BISD is considered Academically Acceptable

Total BISD enrollment in April 2005 was 20,071 students. The enrollment in April 2006 was 19,534. This decrease has been linked to Hurricane Rita. The attendance of BISD is 95.5%, compared to 94.1% for the state standard.

BISD's Special Education student graduation rate increased from 9.6% in 2005 to 13.4% in 2006.

Dr. Thomas also stressed that the curriculum for the last two years of high school is based on college-bound standards, not minimum state graduation standards.

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THANK YOU, ROTARIANS!

President **Gerald** received the following letter last week:

"Dear Mr. Condon:

"Please accept my heartfelt appreciation to all members of the Beaumont Rotary Club for the wonderful Rotary Goes to School project. Once again you provided memorable opportunities for our youngsters, both by your presentation and the one-on-one attention.

"A special thanks to Kevin Roy for his leadership in this program. We are indeed fortunate to have such strong community role models. My warmest regards to each of you."

Carrol A. Thomas, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

(Continued from page 1)

Travis' donations to The Rotary Foundation qualified him for the honor. Jason was recognized with the honor by donations from President Gerald and **Joe Fisher, Jr.** and Cynthia was honored by her husband **Michael Wolf** and their family for Valentines Day, and for her ten years of service to our club for writing memorial resolutions for our departed Rotarians.

The Rotary International Foundation Paul Harris Fellowship was established in 1957 to express appreciation for a contribution of \$1,000 to the humanitarian and educational programs of the foundation. Rotarians also designate a Paul Harris Fellow to recognize another person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose to build world understanding and peace.

BIRTHDAYS

25th Carole Reeves (99)

Officer,
Talon Insurance Agency



Born in Port Arthur, she attended Lamar University. She and her husband Marvin are the parents of Aimée, Amber and Spencer, and are members of First Baptist Church in Groves. She enjoys reading, spending time with family and friends and snow skiing.

28th Michael Lohr (85)

Retired



Born in Bad König, Germany, he is a graduate of the University of Frankfurt in Germany. He and his wife Carol Ann are the parents of Dion, Sheri and Michael. He enjoys stamp collecting playing golf and reading.

(Continued from page 1)

University in 1970 and an MBA from Lamar University in 1971. He served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force from 1971 until 1973.

He has served on the Development Councils of the College of Agriculture and the Department of Management at Texas A&M University. He was named the Jaycees Outstanding Young Man of Beaumont in 1983, the Sabine Area Restaurant Associations' Outstanding Restaurateur of the year in 1993 and the Sales and

Marketing Club of Southeast Texas' 1999 Executive of the Year.

Also, he was named a Distinguished Alumni of Lamar University in 2000, an Outstanding Alumni of the College of Business of Texas A&M University in 2002 and a Distinguished Alumni of Monsignor Kelly High School in 2005.

In 2005, his company was recognized as the Best Sandwich Concept in the United States by R&I Magazine and the Best

Place to Work by Chain Leader Magazine. It also won the Conn Family Distinguished New Venture Leader Award presented by Texas A&M University in 2006.

He and his wife Shelley (nee Schoolfield) have three children, all of whom are Texas A&M graduates and all of whom are part of the family business.

Jay is a Franchisee with five units, Rob is a Regional Manager of thirty-five units and Ashley is the Director of Customer Relations.

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