

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

USPS 471-700



Periodical  
 POSTAGE  
 Paid at  
 Beaumont, TX



Photo by Steve Buser

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

Vol. 96 No. 25, January 17, 2007

## U. S. REPRESENTATIVE TED POE



Judge Ted Poe was sworn in on January 4, 2005 as the United States Representative for Texas' 2nd Congressional District.

Elected to a second term in 2006, Judge

Ted Poe continues his distinguished career of public service to the Lone Star state.

Judge Poe first made a name for himself in Texas as a straight-talking, no-nonsense Assistant District Attorney and criminal court judge famous nationally and locally for his "shame punishment" of criminals.

Poe's tough reputation began as a top-notch prosecutor in Harris County. As an assistant district attorney and chief felony prosecutor for 8 years, Poe tried hundreds of cases, even those seeking the death penalty, and never lost a jury trial. When Poe was appointed judge in 1981 by Governor Bill Clements, he continued his dedication to justice and became one of the youngest judges in the State of Texas.

Today, Judge Poe takes his passionate, common-sense approach to problems to Washington, D.C. where he has a commitment to security for the citizens of Congressional District 2 and

*(Continued on page 2)*

## HEAD TABLE



INVOCATION  
**TERRY BOURDIER**



PLEDGE  
**BRUCE HOFFER**



4-WAY TEST  
**ROBERT TURNER**



GUEST INTRODUCTION  
**BOBBIE APPLIGATE**

*Barbecued Chicken & Brisket*

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**Future Programs**

January  
 24<sup>th</sup> Houston Livestock Show  
 31<sup>st</sup> Rotary Goes to School

**Make-ups**

**Monday:**

No. Port Arthur ..... Holiday 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

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 (limit 3 times in each quarter)

**REVIEW**

What is domestic violence? It is threats and/or violence that occur between domestic partners. Our speaker last week was Debbie Carter with the Texas Counsel on Domestic Violence. She quoted some very sobering statistics on the subject.

In the United States approximately 1.5 million women are physically assaulted and/or raped by a domestic partner each year, according to the National Institute of Justice (July, 2000). Of these abused victims, 75% are targeted at work by their abuser (U.S. Department of Labor, 2001). More than two women in Texas are killed each week at the hands of their partners. In 2003, 140 Texas women were killed by their partners, an increase from 117 in 2002. In 2005, seven women in Jefferson County and one woman in Orange County were killed by their domestic partners. Nationally about 90% of victims of domestic violence are women and about 10% are men.

A fairly common question... Why doesn't she just leave? This is the wrong question. This question puts the responsibility on the victim and not on the abuser. The victim shouldn't have to stop the violence. It is the responsibility of the abuser to stop the violence.

Most women do leave their abusers, but the victim generally returns to the abuser several times before they finally leave for the last time. Not all abusive behavior is considered illegal or criminal. It may be damaging to a family, but not against the law. This type of behavior can be defined as abusive language or neglect.

Most victims are too embarrassed to speak out about their violence. It may be necessary for you, the employer, to get involved and help an employee who may be suffering from domestic abuse or violence.

So what can we or our business do about this problem? Debbie suggested some actions we can take. First learn to recognize warning signs of domestic violence:

- Unexplained bruises
- Depression, anxiety and/or fear
- A change in attitude or performance
- Fear about her children's safety
- Repeated and harassing telephone calls or disruptive visits from her partner

She also suggested developing a company policy to cover domestic violence issues.

Be supportive, guarantee confidentiality to the victim and be sensitive to the seriousness of the situation. And above all advise her about state agencies that can help such as the National Domestic Violence Hotline. We need to learn that our work place can be drastically affected by this problem and we need to know what to do. You may be able to save a life.

If you know that someone is a victim of domestic violence, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-SAFE... Break the Silence. Make the call.

Thank you, **Janet Walker**, for arranging this important and timely program and for introducing the speaker. This problem affects all of us directly or indirectly as well as the economy of our area.

*(Continued from page 1)*  
 the entire state of Texas.

Congressman Poe has obtained significant appointments to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the House Committee on International Relations, and the House Committee on Small Business and in February 2005, Congressman Poe was selected as one of only three members of Congress to travel to Iraq to observe the historic Iraqi elections. Congressman Poe

*(Continued on page 3)*

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(Continued from page 2)

was proud to visit polling locations, speak with Iraqi voters and visit with troops from Texas and around the United States.

In January 2005, Poe founded and co-sponsored the Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus to represent and advocate before the United States Congress and the Administration on behalf of victims. The Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus facilitates discussions, organizes meetings, and disseminates information on the causes of victimization to help achieve greater understanding and to formulate sensible solutions.

Congressman Poe has a sustained passion for protecting abused, assaulted, and neglected children. He currently serves on the Board of the National Children's Alliance in Washington, D.C.

Previously, in his over twenty years of public service, Judge Poe has served on numerous boards and committees including: The Children's Assessment Center of Houston; CASA-Child Advocates; Child Abuse Prevention Council; Parents of Murdered Children; Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD); Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.); Roseate Women's Center for Abused Women; Abilene Christian University; the Houston International Theater School; Northland Christian School; and the Christian School of Kingwood, of which he was a co-founder and former president.

Ted Poe earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Abilene Christian University, where he served as class president. He went on to receive his Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center where he was a member of the Law School Honor Society.

A proud member of the U.S. Air Force Reserve's C-130 Unit at Houston's Ellington Air Force Base, Judge Poe's hobbies include photography and the study of Texas history.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

As most of you know, a portion of your annual Service Above Self tax-deductible donation funds four-year \$5,000 scholarships to two graduating high school seniors every year. I wanted to share a letter I received this week from one of our recipients who has just completed his first semester.


Dear Rotarians:


*I would like to thank you once again for the \$5,000 scholarship you gave me this past spring. This past semester was very challenging yet fulfilling at the same time. I feel that my time at the University of Texas at Austin has exposed me to many different people, cultures and belief systems that I was not very familiar with coming from Southeast Texas. With this said, I have made some awesome friends, learned some life lessons and "grew up" in a lot of ways.*


*My family and I are very pleased with my academic performance thus far. Due to my credit hours from high school and the classes I took over the summer, in conjunction with those have taken this fall, I have now completed 36 hours and am currently a sophomore. I have decided to double major in Public Relations and Corporate Communications and participate in the Business Foundations program which is the equivalent of a Business minor. My cumulative GPA is 3.4444. I would like to bring it up to at least a 3.5 so that I may be classified as an honor student.*


*The next semester will pose its own challenges. This spring I will take ADV318J which is the weed-out class for all advertising and public relations majors, and should cut about 50% of the prospective students. I plan on taking a few classes at Lamar University this summer so that I may graduate early and go on to get my MBA. I*

## BIRTHDAYS

**17<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Jackson (97)**  
Public Affairs Manager, Exxon Mobil  
 Born in Pensacola, Florida, she is a graduate of North Carolina State University. She is the mother of Tommy, Kit and Thea, and is a member of Amelia Baptist Church.

**21<sup>st</sup> Scott Childers (05)**  
Regional Vice President - Philanthropy, Christus Health Southeast Texas  
 Born in Columbus, Ohio, he is a graduate of North Texas State University. He and his wife Juliet are the parents of Jacqueline and Walker. He enjoys playing golf.

**21<sup>st</sup> Lum Edwards, Jr. (57)**  
President,  
J.S. Edwards & Sherlock Insurance  
 Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of University of Texas. He and his wife Mary Ann are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He enjoys golf and tennis. Lum is a Paul Harris Fellow.

**21<sup>st</sup> Mary Ellen Robertson (93)**  
Owner, Mary Ellen Robertson, CPA  
 Born in Beaumont, she is a graduate of Lamar University. She and her husband Denny are the parents of Annie, Erin and Jody, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. She enjoys shopping for antiques, reading, sewing and skiing.

*ask that you keep me in your thoughts and prayers as I continue down this path of self-discovery and greater knowledge, also known as college, as I am sure that I will keep you in mine.*

Grateful Longhorn

We can all be proud of this young man!

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342-5550 or jkoch@beaumontymca.org