

THE BEAUMONT ROTARY CLUB



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 Vol. 97 No. 25 **January 16, 2008**

DIANE D. RATH—TWC CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER REPRESENTING THE PUBLIC



Diane D. Rath is Chair and Commissioner Representing the Public for the Texas Workforce Commission. Governor George W. Bush appointed her to the three-member Commission in September 1996 and named her TWC Chair on June 2, 1998. Governor Rick Perry reappointed her as Commissioner and Chair on June 13, 2001. On July 11, 2007, President George W. Bush nominated Rath to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Administration for Children and Families at U. S. Health and Human Services. She is awaiting Senate confirmation.

Since her appointment, Rath has become a leader in workforce development. During her tenure at TWC, a new workforce delivery system consisting of 28 regional workforce development boards has been developed, the welfare rolls have decreased more than 71 percent and more than \$800 million annually of programs have been transitioned to the control of local boards. The Texas Workforce Commission has downsized its workforce over 50 percent. Texas leads the nation in workforce development, earning more than \$84 million in incentive awards for high achievement for TANF job placement and WIA success in the past four years.

The Texas Workforce Commission has 28 programs that include all federal Department of Labor activities, state and federal training programs, and state child care initiatives. There are currently 3,000 employees and an annual budget of \$1.1 billion.

In August 2003, TWC completed the sale of \$1.4 billion in bonds. This is the largest bond sale ever issued by the State of Texas. The proceeds were used to innovatively finance the benefit payments for the Unemployment Insurance Compensation Fund. This action saved Texas employ-

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HEAD TABLE



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PLEDGE
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4-WAY TEST
DR. RUSS SCHULTZ


GUEST INTRODUCTION
DR. RICHARD



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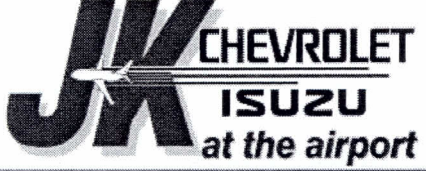
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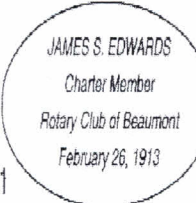


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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWS



4 NEWS
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REVIEW FOR JANUARY 9TH

This week Dr. Mary Kelly, an author and member of the History Department of Lamar University, brought the program on Spindletop and Beaumont at the time of the Lucas Gusher. Her topic gave Rotarians a perspective of what life in Beaumont was like at the turn of the last century and the significance of Spindletop.

On January 1, 1901 it was the beginning of the 20th century and the Lucas gusher had not yet been discovered. The newspaper predicted great things for Beaumont in the new century. They predicted an elegant union depot, modern factories, a deep-water channel, more people, more business and more paved street. Horses were the main mode of travel with railroads providing long distance transportation.

There were four institutions of higher education in Texas that included Texas A & M, Prairie View A & M, Sam Houston Normal (teacher's college) and the University of Texas. Leisure time was spent visiting friends and family, dancing, sewing, horseracing and baseball. Coal was the major fuel.

Topics of conversation included the end of the Spanish-American War, prohibition and the Galveston hurricane.

On the business pages were stories predicting spectacular growth in Beaumont since it

might replace Galveston as a major port.

Beaumont had a Chamber of Commerce, a mayor, telephone system, electricity, police force and a volunteer fire department. The population of Beaumont was 9,000 and rice, cattle and lumber were the major sources of income.

There were two banks, two newspapers, twenty-three boarding houses, four public schools, one hospital and an overabundance of saloons. Muddy streets were a major city problem.

When the gusher came in it blew for nine days sending about a million gallons of oil into the air and creating a huge oily lake. There were many fires and black oily smoke in the air.

After Anthony Lucas discovered oil Beaumont went from a population of 9,000 to 50,000 in just one year. The number of banks tripled, 600 oil companies sprang up almost overnight and the number of saloons went from 23 to 81. This unusual growth amplified the problems of muddy

(Continued on page 3)

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Uliana Trylowski presented the Memorial Resolution for **Jane O'Hanlon** at last week's meeting. Please read the entire resolution on our website:

www.beaumontrotaryclub.org

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Next Week's Program

1/23 Brian Littlefield - UPS Centennial

Make-ups

Monday noon:

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

Tuesday noon:

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

Wednesday noon:

Groves.....Pompano Club

Thursday 7:30 a.m.:

Hardin County.....
 Cowboy Reds, Lumberton

Thursday noon:

Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

Friday:

Nederland.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Spindletop Ball Park Bleacher
 Restoration Project
 Saturday & Sunday,
 January 26th & 27th

Contact Gerald Condon to
 participate - 338-1118 or
 gcondon999@aol.com

Rotary at the Rink
 Thursday, January 31st at 7:05
 Proceeds of ticket sales go to
 the Rotary Foundation

Spindletop Ball Park Bleacher
 Restoration Project
 Saturday & Sunday,
 February 2nd & 3rd

Contact Gerald Condon to
 participate - 338-1118 or
 gcondon999@aol.com

Rotary Women Build!
 Habitat for Humanity
 Saturday, February 16th
 Contact Uliana Trylowski to
 participate - 832-5853 or
 uliana@beaumont Habitat.org

(Continued from page 2)

streets, limited supplies of pure
 water and an adequate sewage
 system.

Beaumont was ill-prepared for
 Spindletop. On January 1, 1901
 it was still a sleepy town that
 would soon be redefined by oil.

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 available for
 non-profit ads**
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 information - 842-1913

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