

 **The Rotary Club of Beaumont**
Club No. 72 - Founded February 26, 1913



Mon Sep 30, 2013

[Home](#)



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Please click on the link just above the banner heading.

Those still owing dues for July-December have been reminded by email and a second invoice was sent electronically. If you need a copy of your invoice mailed, please contact the office.



Speakers

Oct 02, 2013
[Senator Tommy Williams](#)

Oct 09, 2013
[Jimmy Singletary, Beaumont Chief of Police](#)

Oct 09, 2013
[\[ROTARIAN OF THE DAY: Kevin Dodson: 50th anniversary of the Lamar University Honors Program](#)

Oct 16, 2013
[Rotary Goes Home Ashley Barber, Chairman](#)

Oct 23, 2013
[Roger McCabe, District Foundation Chairman The Rotary Foundation](#)

Oct 23, 2013
[\[BELL RINGER: Cindy Cherry\]](#)

Oct 30, 2013
[TBA](#)

Nov 06, 2013
[Andrew Conders, Regional Director The Security and Exchange Commission](#)

Nov 27, 2013
[Happy Thanksgiving: No meeting this week Happy Thanksgiving](#)

ROTARYGRAMS
October 2, 2013 - Vol. 101, No. 14

MCM Elegante' Hotel
2355 IH-10 South, Suite 213
Beaumont, TX 77705
Telephone: 409-842-1913
Fax: 409-842-5613



PROGRAM PREVIEW

October 2, 2013

"Review of the 83rd Legislative Session"



Tommy Williams
Senator

There were five new state laws created in the 83rd Legislative Session which will affect you and your business. There will be business tax cuts, water supply projects, education reform, and a ban on cell phone use on school property. Senator Tommy Williams will share more information about the session and will highlight major constituent questions from the Session.

Senator Tommy Williams brings a strong record of business achievements, community involvement and public service to the people of Southeast Texas. Williams served in the Texas House of Representatives for three terms, and in November 2002, Texans showed their confidence once again by electing him to the Texas Senate, and re-electing him to the Texas Senate in 2004 and 2008. He is a Texas Society of CPA member, an outspoken advocate for Texas taxpayers, and a recognized and respected leader in budgetary issues.

Head Table and Menu for Wednesday, October 2



Invocation:

Tim Sudela, President, American Valve & Hydrant



Pledges to the USA and Texas Flags:

Lum Edwards, III, Partner/Vice President, J. S. Edwards & Sherlock Insurance Agency



Introduction of Guests:

Laura Miller, Owner, Beaumont Dealers Auction, Inc.

Menu: salad bar, potato soup, braised beef tips, roast pork loin, white rice, green beans, assorted desserts and pastries, tea & coffee

[View entire list...](#)



Club Events & Makeup Opportunities

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Oct 22, 2013 11:45 AM

Rotary After Hours
TBA
Oct 24, 2013 05:30 PM

"Show Your Colors" Flag Project
Nov 11, 2013 05:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Nov 26, 2013 11:45 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Dec 17, 2013 11:45 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Jan 28, 2014 11:45 AM

Rotary After Hours Visits the Art Museum
Museum of Southeast Texas
Jan 28, 2014 05:30 PM

"Show Your Colors" Flag Project
Feb 17, 2014 05:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Feb 25, 2014 11:45 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Mar 25, 2014 11:45 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Apr 22, 2014 11:45 AM

District 5910 Conference
College Station
Apr 25, 2014 - Apr 27, 2014

"Show Your Colors" Flag Project
May 26, 2014 05:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
May 27, 2014 11:45 AM

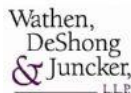
"Show Your Colors" Flag Project
Jun 14, 2014 05:00 AM

Board of Directors Meeting
The Beaumont Club
Jun 24, 2014 11:45 AM



Like our Facebook page!

Website Sponsors



President's Initiative: RING MY BELL!



Benefiting the Beaumont Rotary Foundation

Ever wish you had the opportunity to ring the opening bell at the meeting?

For a donation of \$25 to the Beaumont Rotary Foundation, you will be allowed to do just that. You will be called up to ring the bell to start the meeting.

When he rings the bell to conclude the meeting, President Chad Blanchard will match your donation with another \$25 donation to the Beaumont Rotary Foundation!

TOTAL WITH PRESIDENT'S MATCH = \$650

Bell Ringer on October 2



Alan Sampson
Partner
Benckenstein & Oxford, LLP

CALENDAR OF ROTARY EVENTS
(and make-up opportunities)

October 6	Applications for GSE Team Members are due.
October 16	NO MEETING AT THE ELEGANTE; PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN ROTARY GOES HOME
October 23 (tentative)	New Member Orientation; 10:45 a.m. in Embassy Room

In every issue of the RotaryGrams, we try to include photos and videos for added interest. This one, like others, is full of great pictures from recent events. If your browser is not allowing you to view graphics readily, click on this link at the top of the page just above the banner, or go directly to the issue posted on the website under Public Relations/RotaryGrams on the top horizontal bar. (You do not have to have a YouTube account to view YouTube videos.)

[Having trouble viewing this email? Please click here](#)



ROTARY GOES HOME IS SCHEDULED!

Ashley Barber, Chairman of Rotary Goes Home this year, will begin signing up participants. Rotarians will gather in small groups in members' homes during the week of October 13 - 19. Remember to sign up at the regular meeting this week or email Ashley (Ashley.Barber@ExpressPros.com) to see what date and time will work with your schedule.



Remember: **NO MEETING** at the MCM Elegante' on Wednesday, October 16.

Rotary Proclamation Passed by City Council

A large group of Rotarians gathered in Chambers at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2013, for the historic event.



Councilman W. L. Pate, Jr. read the proclamation written by Past President Bobbie Applegate, citing the Beaumont Rotary Centennial Playground as the Club's gift to the City of Beaumont in recognition of the 100-year anniversary. Mayor Becky Ames signed the Proclamation and presented it to Centennial President Becky Mason as Project Chairman Chuck Mason and current President Chad Blanchard flanked her at the podium.

It was another great day of celebration and the special recognition preceded the opening of the Playground later in the afternoon.

(Click on the small image of the proclamation on the right to open a readable copy. The YouTube below documents the event.)



Interested in being a sponsor?

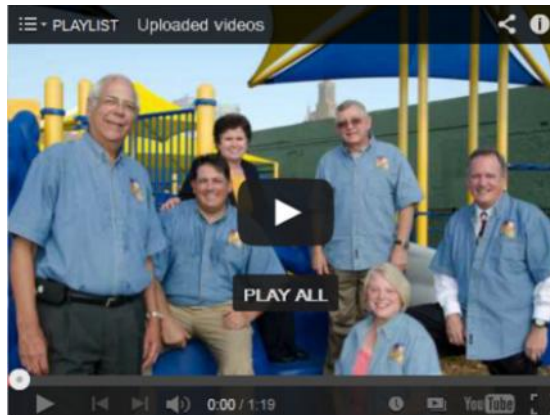
[Download the website sponsorship guide](#)



We Built it and They Played!

The Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of the Beaumont Rotary Centennial Playground on September 24, 2013, was as great a day as could have been imagined! A large crowd gathered and the eager children added excitement and anticipation that was perfect for the occasion!

The event started with photos of donors and contributors who could attend.



Members of the City Council arrived and the Ribbon Cutting ceremony took place. Centennial President Becky Mason welcomed all and thanked those who donated time or resources to the project. Mayor Becky Ames added her congratulations to the club on behalf of the city and thanked Rotarians for the impact this project will have on the community.



The event was the culmination of the entire year of celebration for the club and it was an appropriately grand event. Thank you to all who contributed funding and to all who gave of their time and hard work to actually build the playground. It is a grand statement of Rotary's commitment to making the community better, and is a great start to the next century of service!



<http://youtu.be/Rc47I2YuO84>

Photography by **Karen Bourdier**, **Tim Sudela**, **Ashley Barber**, and others. Thank you to **Kristie Young** for chairing the grand opening event and to all who helped with decorating and serving that evening. Special thanks to **Blue Bell** and **H-E-B** for snacks and treats.

Thank you!

IN THE NEWS

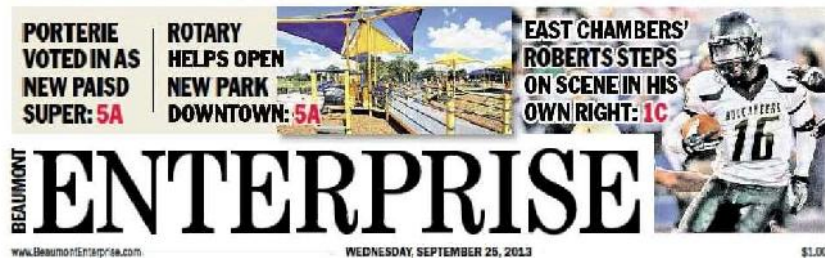
The opening of the Beaumont Rotary Centennial Playground garnered much press and media attention.

Links to television spots are: [KFDM 6: Live at Five with Tom Wright](#)

[KFDM 6: The Morning Show with Dan Gresham](#)

[FOX 4](#)

And in print:



Publication: Beaumont Enterprise; Date: Sep 25, 2013; Section: Your Day; Page: 5A

6A Saturday, September 28, 2013

beaumontenterprise.com/opinions



Kessidy Lewis, 1, glides across a horizontal slide at the new playground next to the downtown Event Centre in Beaumont on Tuesday. Now open to the public, the facility offers equipment for special needs kids.

Rotary conveys new playground to city

BEAUMONT

By Don Wallace

The city of Beaumont's newest playground, a centennial gift from the Rotary Club of Beaumont, opened Tuesday next to downtown's Event Centre, Town Lake and skateboard park.

Decky Mason, Rotary's centennial president and the club's immediate past president, said club members and volunteers worked to finish the landscaping, fencing and clearing this past weekend while dodging rain.

The playground is designed for all access, which means developmentally disabled children can enjoy it.

The equipment was selected in consultation with parents of physically disabled kids and with professionals in childcare development to ensure that children of varying abilities could use it.

City Council officially accepted the park at its regular meeting Tuesday. The city will maintain it and carry liability for it.

Mason estimated the

playground's value at about \$550,000 if it had been built and equipped commercially instead of using donated labor and materials.

The club's major expense was the purchase of the actual playground equipment.

The Beaumont Rotary Club was founded in 1913. Club members voted to celebrate its centennial by building the all-access playground for the city.

Don Wallace is a freelance writer. He can be reached at don.wallace@beaumontenterprise.com.

Opinions

TWO VIEWS
Beaumont Enterprise
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The opinions in this column are the property of the Beaumont Enterprise.

Whaddya Think?
BLOG: Write to us on our next editorial at beaumontenterprise.com/think

Rotary comes through

Bouquets go to:
The Rotary Club of Beaumont, for presenting to the city this week a new playground built in its gift to celebrate the club's centennial. It's located at 600 Crockett St. on the east side of Town Lake and the downtown Event Centre and nearby skateboard park. Decky Mason, the Rotary's centennial president, said club members and volunteers worked hard to finish the landscaping, fencing and clearing last weekend while dodging rain.

Commemorative Playground Shirt



How would you like to own one of the special commemorative Playground Shirts? They are a great-looking denim fabric with a button-down collar. The Centennial Playground logo, with all its detail, is embroidered on the front.

Order yours now in (uni-sex size) small, medium, large, X-large, XX-large, XXX-large or XXXX-large for only \$25.

You can pay by cash, check or credit at the next meeting or online through the payment center (please make sure you click on the "other" radio button and enter \$25 and size in the box at the bottom.)

Thank you to Munro's for donating so all the proceeds can go to the playground fund.

A New Look for the New Century

With good planning, great budgeting, splendid leadership, and an awesome committee, the Rotary Large Club Conference hosted by our club in 2013 was exemplary in many ways. The other clubs are still talking about it and continue to contact us for information.

One truly outstanding outcome was that this great event was successfully accomplished **UNDER BUDGET!** The committee leadership, Chairmen Angela Baker and Bobbie Applegate, decided that the best use of the monies would be to replace some very worn and mismatched furnishings in the Rotary Office.

With thanks to Gale Daigle of Manning's for some great pricing, we were able to purchase multiple pieces from a quality manufacturer which should last for a long time. Not only did we replace broken items, we now have a conference table that will accommodate committee meetings for 6-8 people, and adequate storage for files and Club memorabilia. As we begin this new century of Rotary, we now have a functioning office of which we can be proud.



If you are planning a committee meeting, remember that the office in the Elegante' is centrally-located and has plenty of parking available. Call the office (842-1913) in advance to check on availability.

BANNER DESIGN CONTEST



ORIGINAL DESIGN

Trading club banners is a tradition of Rotary Clubs around the globe. Our club has been on the receiving end of that practice a number of times and we have had members take banners to other clubs on many occasions as well. It has been suggested that with this being the start of our second century, it is the perfect time to decide on a new design. Would you like to be the creator of a new design that depicts our club to the world?



MOST RECENT DESIGN

President Chad is announcing a "contest" for the best design. He hopes to present some of the members' ideas to the Board of Directors in the near future for them to consider. Shown here are what we believe to be the original design (left) and the most recent or current to spur your creativity. You do not need to have camera-ready art but rather a sketch of your idea for the next banner of the Rotary Club of Beaumont.

If you would like to see some [other club banners to inspire your creativity](#), [link here](#).

All ideas need to be turned into the office no later than October 15.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Van Greer
September 30



Laura Miller
September 30



Charles Wall
September 30



Gene Arnold
October 2

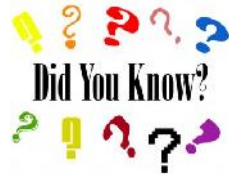


Lane Olson
October 4



Lum Edwards, III

October 6



Indian philanthropist and businesswoman Rajashree Birla has announced a new gift of US\$1 million to Rotary to help eradicate polio. The gift brings her total contributions to the Rotary effort to more than \$7.2 million. What's more, this gift will be matched two-for-one by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, resulting in \$3 million in new funding for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\)](#).

PROGRAM REVIEW September 25, 2013

"Do You Know Jack?"



Alex Rupp
Manager
Jack Brooks Regional Airport
 by Rotarian Craig Escamilla

Past President Jim Rich introduced Alex Rupp, manager of the Jack Brooks Regional Airport.

Each U.S. airport undergoes an annual FAA inspection. Our local airport received a clean bill of health this year. Mr. Rupp shared the current flight schedule, and reported that nearly 1,600 flights had passed through the airport this year. The number of seats filled increased by 50% since service began again in February 2013. The airport offers free parking, and Mr. Rupp emphasized that free parking will continue since it has saved Southeast Texas residents over \$800,000 in parking expenses vs. flying out of Houston. The average daily parking savings is about \$4,000. Part of American Airlines' commitment was to ensure that flight prices out of Beaumont were competitive with both Houston airports.

The Brooks airport is currently operating at a 96% completion rate (flights leave and arrive on time), with a target of 98%. Both numbers are above the industry average of about 91%. All of the customer service issues have been in Dallas, and Mr. Rupp continues to work with American to improve these issues. To date, no significant customer service complaints have been logged for the local terminal. Resuming service created fifteen new jobs. Mr. Rupp reiterated the parking fee savings by flying out of Beaumont. He also described some of the economic impact of annual, temporary jobs associated with the airport. Mr. Rupp indicated that future service additions might include an additional airline and/or additional American routes with Las Vegas, Austin, and Chicago topping the preferred list. He also discussed the effort to expand commercialization around the airport with shopping offerings. Marketing efforts continue to focus on people who continue to fly out of Houston.

Mr. Rupp, in response to a question, indicated that flight service between Beaumont and Houston is unlikely in the future because of the high costs associated with such a short flight. The airport's resumed service has required use of about half of the local guarantee. Mr. Rupp explained that the revenue guarantee helped ensure competitive flight prices with the resumed service. United shuttle service to Houston generates revenue through terminal rental fees. The "sea" of white Crown Victorias at the airport is part of a revenue generating agreement with a local car company that uses a hangar to turn the cars into police units. The airport still serves a large number of military flights.

Website: www.beaumontrotaryclub.org Email Executive Director: admin@beaumontrotaryclub.org