



## SPEAKERS

Oct 21, 2015

[Meeting will be held in the Fountainview Room]

Oct 21, 2015

Jamie Smith, Jefferson County District Clerk

New Innovations Serving Jefferson County Citizens

Oct 28, 2015

NO MEETING AT THE ELEGANTE

Rotary Goes Home (Select your meeting day/time from the list of hosts.)

Nov 04, 2015

Wayne Prokopetz, Super., Big Thicket Ntl. Preserve

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service

Nov 11, 2015

[Meeting will be held in the Fountainview Room.]

Nov 11, 2015

Colonel Gregory Baine

Saluting Veterans

Nov 18, 2015

Jane Burns, Bridget Johnson & VEA Committee

Vocational Excellence Awards:  
"Thankful for Exemplary Performance in the Workplace"

Nov 25, 2015

## ROTARYGRAMS

**October 21, 2015**

**Vol. 103, No. 17**

MCM Elegante' Hotel  
2355 IH-10 South  
Suite 213  
Beaumont, TX 77705

Phone: 409-842-1913

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**Be a gift to the world**

## STORIES

This Week's Program

## PROGRAM PREVIEW

**October 21, 2015**

**THE MEETING WILL BE IN  
THE FOUNTAINVIEW ROOM.**

**"Functions of the Jefferson County  
District Clerk's Office"**

No Meeting: Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec 02, 2015

Ray Woodard, Head Football Coach,  
Lamar UniversityHighlights of the 2015 Cardinal  
Football Season

Dec 09, 2015

[Meeting will be held in the  
Fountainview Room.]

Dec 09, 2015

Sgt. Ken Carona, Port Arthur Police  
DepartmentThe Feared Question: What Do You  
Do When You Face an Armed,  
Active Shooter?

Dec 16, 2015

Holiday Party

Becky Mason, Chair

[View entire list](#)**UPCOMING EVENTS**[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

The Beaumont Club

Oct 20, 2015 11:45 AM

[Show Your Colors Flag Project-  
Veterans Day](#)

Nov 11, 2015 5:00 AM

[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

The Beaumont Club

Nov 17, 2015 11:45 AM

[Rotary After Hours](#)

Art Museum of Southeast Texas

Nov 17, 2015

5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

The Beaumont Club

Dec 15, 2015 11:45 AM

**SPONSORS****Jamie Smith****Jefferson County District Clerk**

Jamie Smith found his way to the Jefferson County District Clerk's Office after a path that took him from serving in the U.S. Army, to work in the Sheriff's office, then as a classroom mathematics teacher and a school coach, and lastly, a Beaumont City Council Member for seven years. He was elected to the position of District Clerk and took office on January 1 of 2015.

Most of us likely know the District Clerk's position administers the Jury pool upon which the court system relies. But do you know the other responsibilities of this important office in the Jefferson County Courthouse? Come learn about the functions of the office and the goals District Clerk Jamie Smith and his staff have to improve the operation and services they provide to Jefferson County residents.

\* \* \* \* \*

[Read more...](#)[Head Table](#)**Head Table for October 21****Invocation:****Lindy Dennis**  
Retired



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### Pledges to the USA & Texas Flags:

**Derrick Barber**

Owner

Express Employment Professionals



### Introduction of Guests:

**Gene Arnold**

Owner

Gene Arnold Enterprises

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### Introduction of Guest Speaker:

**Craig Lively**

Chief Magistrate, Municipal Court  
City of Beaumont

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### ROTARIAN OF THE DAY:

**Allen Lea**

Executive Director

McFaddin-Ward House Museum

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### Calendar of Events

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(and meeting make-ups)

OCTOBER	
October 20	Board of Directors Meeting, 11:45 a.m., The Beaumont Club
October 20	New Member Orientation, 4:00 p.m., Room 218 of the Elegante
October 21	Meeting moved to the Fountainview Room of the MCM Elegante
October 22	Strategic Planning Committee meeting, Noon, Embassy Room of the Elegante; brown bag lunch
October 24	Done in a Day Project with Habitat for Humanity
October 28	No meeting at the Elegante

	today; attend Rotary Goes Home this week as your meeting obligation
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	
<b>November 5</b>	Membership Committee meeting, Noon, Room 216 of the Elegante
<b>November 11</b>	"Show Your Colors" Flag Project for Veterans Day

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Rotary Goes Home!

**October 26-30 will be Rotary Goes Home meetings!**



Rotary Goes Home, the popular fun event where the weekly Rotary meeting is moved to Rotarian homes, will take place October 26- 30. We have some very gracious members who have volunteered and are hosting some fun events! Sure hope you reserved your place. Watch for more information via email from your host.

Thank you to Becky & Chuck Mason, Lynn & Kris Castle, Mellie & Sam Bevilacqua, Lori & Allan Higgins, Sheree & Vernon Pierce, Connie & Paul Szuch, Elizabeth & Gene Arnold for your gracious hospitality. We are looking forward to it!

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DONE IN A DAY Project Helping Habitat for Humanity

**GET ON BOARD WITH SERVICE**



The next project work the Club will take on is "Brush With Kindness" for Habitat for Humanity. This wonderful effort will involve building wheelchair ramps for those people who cannot get out of their own homes due to stairs or steps on the entry ways.

**With enough people, it should be a "Done in a Day" project. Good feelings for your work should be priceless and will last much longer than one day!**

Chair Shannon Williamson will explain more at upcoming meetings but plan now to give "Service Above Self" to someone who needs you.

Watch this video from Lincolnshire on their involvement in the "Brush With Kindness" program. It will convince you to come out and help with our first Habitat "Brush with Kindness" project on Saturday, October 24.

A Brush With Kindness



[Sign Up](#)

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[VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS](#)

**Nominations Requested for Coveted VOCATIONAL**



## EXCELLENCE AWARDS



In recognition of "Service Above Self," the Rotary Club of Beaumont will recognize and honor individuals who exemplify a "service above self" attitude in their vocation on Wednesday, November 18.

These coveted awards are given annually to **community members who demonstrate exceptional service, honesty, and friendliness in performing their jobs.** Some past recipients describe receiving this honor as "a treasure," "very special," and "the only time I've received anything like this."

With the chosen date so near Thanksgiving, it will be a wonderful time to give thanks for the good work of others in our community.

We appreciate your support of this honor with your nominations of deserving people who you have come in contact with through your business transactions. Please submit your nomination to Jane Burns at email [jane@wdjcpa.com](mailto:jane@wdjcpa.com) by **Friday, November 6, 2015.**

**[Link here to the document and submit your nomination now.](#)**

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### Office to Close



The Rotary Office will be closed on October 26-28 as the entire staff will be attending the Large Club Conference.

Please send an email or leave a voice message to be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

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### Show Your Colors Flag Project

**"Show Your Colors" on November 11**



### Save the Date to Show Your Colors!

We need some good men and women to post the flags for Veteran's Day. Mark your calendar now so you don't make other plans for that morning!

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### Can You Help?

### **ROTARACT & INTERACT LEADING SERVICE PROJECT**



Interact and Rotaract clubs are joining together to pack toiletry bags for local youth rescued from human trafficking. Please help by saving small personal care items such as soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotion, ponytail bands, combs, and hairbrushes. You can bring donations to any meeting and we will see that it is given to the youth organizations.

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### Family of Rotary



We send wishes for a quick recovery to our friends and fellow Rotarians who have been ill or had a recent surgery. We hope you are better soon!

Lee Freeland  
Sylvester Hill

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*Please let us know of others to be included in our weekly good wishes article.*

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#### [Birthdays](#)



**Roy Huckaby**  
October 24



**Ken Arola**  
October 25

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[Read more...](#)

#### [Program Review](#)

### **PROGRAM REVIEW**

**October 14, 2015**

**"Prison Recidivism and the  
Bridges to Life Program"**





## **Kirk Blackard**

### **"Bridges To Life"**

by John Neely

Our speaker today was Kirk Blackard from the "Bridges To Life" Prison Program. Mr. Blackard was introduced by Uliana Trylowsky. Jesse Doiron, a long-time member of the "Bridges To Life" program and Uliana's husband, accompanied today's speaker.

Mr. Blackard is the current Chairman of the Board of the "Bridges To Life" Program, a restorative justice program that got its start here in Beaumont at the Richard P. LeBlanc State Prison. "Bridges To Life" is a faith-based program offered in 50 Texas State Prisons.

The LeBlanc Unit is a Pre-Release Substance Abuse Program with 1,224 inmates/offenders. LeBlanc is one of the largest prison programs in the world.

Mr. Blackard spoke of "recidivism" which is the rate at which paroled offenders are returned to the prison as the result of committing new crimes or violations of the conditions of their parole. Using his current statistics, Kirk stated there are 160,000 offenders (male & female) in Texas State Prisons on any given day (this does not include city, county, and Federal facilities). According to Mr. Blackard, the national recidivism rate is 45%, the recidivism rate for Texas is 34%, 14 % for those who complete rehabilitation programs, and 3% for those who have participated in and completed the "Bridges To Life Program."

"Bridges To Life Program" is designed to accomplish several objectives:

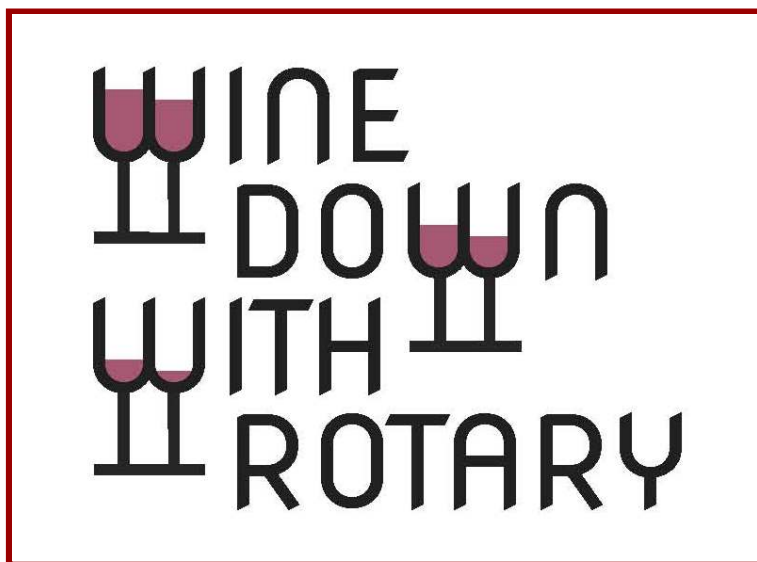
- this process offers a measure of peace/comfort/healing to victims and /or the victims' loved ones.
- this process is designed to awaken empathy in the heart of an inmate/offender through a 14-week program (4 hours per week). It involves a specific text along with homework assignments and classes which lead the inmate/offender into a forum, where they can be confronted by the families and/or the victims of similar

crimes that resulted in the incarceration of the offender.

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[Thank you Donors](#)

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



We are very grateful to the many Rotarians and friends who are sponsors and underwriters for the event, and promised to acknowledge their generosity throughout the month of October. Please click on image below to read it full screen, and patronize these businesses if appropriate and otherwise express thanks to those individuals who made such significant donations.

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	<b>MERLOT LEVEL</b> \$500	<b>Gene Arnold Enterprises</b>
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	<b>SYRAH LEVEL</b> \$300	<b>Angela &amp; Ray Baker</b>
	<b>CHARDONNAY LEVEL</b> \$250	Kathleen Alsop Roberta Applegate, PC (2) Laura & Craig Escamilla (2) A New You - Danielle Faraci Higginbotham Insurance (2) David Locke Texas Regional Title Wathen, DeShong & Juncker, LLP John Weitzel Whitlow Law
	<b>CABERNET LEVEL</b> \$100	<b>Connie Szuch</b>
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	<b>RAFFLE DONORS</b>	Earl Frost McFaddin-Ward House Museum - Allen Lea Floyd McSpadden South Shore Harbour Resort - Roy Green

(Click on image to view the list of sponsors.)

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