

**Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** August 21, 2013

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**What:** Southside Rotary Honors Hometown Hero Berry Contracting, Inc.'s Laura Berry

**When:** Thursday, September 26, 2013 at 6p.m.

**Where:** Corpus Christi Country Club-6300 Everhart Rd.

**Tickets:** Purchase online at <https://southsidecorpuschristirotary.eventbrite.com> or call Erasmo Nava (361) 854-1471 or e-mail: [enava@sntarchitects.com](mailto:enava@sntarchitects.com) to purchase.

**Tickets:** \$75 individual; \$140 Couple

**Sponsorships:** Sponsorship Levels for Tables are Available:

**\$1500 Gold Level Sponsor:**

1 table of 8, Table signage (company/table sponsor name), Program Recognition, Honorable mention during event, Premium seating, Company/sponsor banner placement (On the day of the event), 16 raffle tickets.

**\$1000 Silver Level Sponsor:**

1 table of 8, Table signage (company/table sponsor name), Program recognition, Honorable mention during event, Priority seating, 8 raffle tickets.

**\$750 Bronze Level Sponsor:**

1 table of 8, Table signage (company/table sponsor name), Program Recognition, Honorable mention during event.

**SOUTHSIDE ROTARY HONORS HOMETOWN HERO  
BERRY CONTRACTING, INC.'s  
LAURA BERRY AT FUNDRAISER**

**Southside Rotary will honor Berry Contracting, Inc.'s Laura Berry as their 6<sup>th</sup> Annual "Hometown Hero" fundraising dinner to be held at 6 p.m. on Thursday September 26th at the Corpus Christi Country Club.**

The club will present Laura Berry with an honorary Paul Harris Fellow Award. The award signifies collective contributions of \$1,000 from club members to the Rotary Foundation in her honor.

The tribute will celebrate Berry's outstanding community service, both in her professional role as Berry Contracting, Inc.'s Chairman as well as her volunteer efforts in the community. Festivities will include a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle.

The main feature of the evening will be a presentation chronicling her accomplishments with testimonials from family, friends, and colleagues. **Proceeds from the event will benefit local community service projects, including scholarships to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, the building of wheelchair ramps for**

people with disabilities, and EarlyActFirstKnight®, a character education program for elementary and middle schools.

Tickets are \$75 individual; \$140 Couple; with \$750, \$1000, and \$1500 sponsorship levels also available. For more information or to purchase tickets please go to <https://southsidecorpuschristirotary.eventbrite.com> to purchase online or call Erasmo Nava (361) 854-1471 or e-mail: [enava@sntarchitects.com](mailto:enava@sntarchitects.com) to purchase over the phone. Deadline to purchase tickets is 9/22/13.

To learn more about the Rotary Club of Southside Corpus Christi please visit our website at: <http://www.southsidecorpuschristi.rotary5930.org> or find us on Facebook.

### **Biography:**

Laura Berry was born in Center Texas and later moved to Baytown where she met and married Marvin Berry. Humble Oil & Refining Co. employed her while living in Houston. Laura and Marvin moved to Corpus Christ in 1952 and during the course of the next ten years had four sons. Laura now has nine granddaughters, four grandsons and three great granddaughters.

Marvin and Laura started their own business “Berry Contracting, Inc., and devoted most of their time and energy to the company. Over the years the company thrived and is now the largest privately owned company in Corpus Christ and employs over 3,000 people, with offices in Houston and Friendswood, Texas New Orleans, Belle, Chasse, and Morgan City Louisiana, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Billings, Montana, Tampico Mexico, Columbia and Canada

Laura’s devoted husband, Marvin, expired of ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease, after a lengthily illness on November 23, 1997.

Laura loves the outdoors, raises Beefmaster cattle, Axis deer, elk and is an avid hunter. She has won many honors from The Muy Grande contest over the years.

Over several decades she has given much to her community donating her resources and time to numerous charitable organizations. Laura organized a support group in 1997 for ALS patients and their families from Corpus Christi and surrounding areas and also started a loan bank for ALS patients. She served on the Arts Commission for the City of Corpus Christi, the Beautify Corpus Christi Association, the Tuloso Midway Independent School District Board, and is now serving on the Program Development Board of Nueces County, Chairman for Wildlife, Pasture, and Cattle Committee for Nueces County, Agricultural Development Board for Texas A&M, College Station, The Natural Resources Foundation of Texas Board in Austin, Texas and on the advisory board of Texas Tech University, Lubbock for the Department of Range, Wildlife and Fisheries. Member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and the Texas Safari Club.

The Berry Family believes in giving back to the communities in which Berry Contracting (Bay Ltd.) operates. The company culture of ‘People caring about other people’ goes beyond the workplace and is evidenced by the significant community support and involvement of the company and its valued employees.

A few of the many agencies and organizations the company supports with both monetary donations and employee involvement are Ronald McDonald House, YWCA, United Way, Blood Bank, Habitat for Humanity, CCPAL, Angel Flight, American Cancer Society, Spohn Development Program, Metro Ministries, and school academic and athletic programs.

Laura continues the family tradition she and her late husband started in the early fifties with their support of the Nueces County Junior Livestock Show and Sale. The company also supports Junior Livestock Shows and Sales in other communities in which the company operates.