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October 12, 2018

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter. Below you will find updates from federal, state and local agencies on events from this week.

It was another busy week in House District 127, even though we started off with a holiday. Tuesday saw one of the largest City of Houston Town Hall's in District E. Council Member Dave Martin hosted Mayor Sylvester Turner, along with several other council members and experts on Recovery and Prevention. There was a great conversation on the City propositions and the great strides made by Council Member Martin and his team to help our community.

On Friday, the House Committee on Pensions met at the University of Houston to hear about Legislative Oversight, Funding Soundness and State Retirement Systems. The audio is not yet available from that meeting, but you can [view the agenda by clicking here.](#)

That same day, Janet attended the FamilyTime Purple Ribbon Luncheon, where she heard a moving personal testimony from Judge Lincoln Goodwin and applauded Mrs. Chris Parker for being named the 2018 Woman of Excellence!

Should you have questions regarding anything in this newsletter, please feel free to contact us directly using the information provided at the bottom of this email.

Sincerely,



## October 2018 Calendar

Download my October 2018 calendar by clicking the link below. This month is full of events in and around Texas that could be fun or useful to you and your family! This new format allows you to save the document for printing or sending to your family members.

October 2018						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October 1st Annual Meeting NE Lansdowne	National Night Out	1:00 PM CDT, National Link - Emergency Alert System	BigCons - Humble	HARCA, Special Meeting		
COLUMBUS DAY Lake Houston Parkdorms Club	General Member Page Meeting, Texas Hall Meeting		YEP Retreat-A Venue	Travis County Meeting (Houston)	Lake Houston, 10K/5K	
HARCA		Special Time Candlelight Vigil	LIACC Schoonover, After Hours	in The Park of Health Lansdowne		HS-01 Boulder, Ringwood Track & Ball Challenge
Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting
Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting	Early Voting

Thank you for downloading my Calendar for the month of October. You can use this document to view the links that contain more information about various events occurring in House District 127 and in Austin, Texas. You may also print it or get a basic idea of what I'll be up to this month. I hope to see you around town!

Sincerely,  
State Representative Dan Huberty

[Click Here to View and Download This Month's Calendar!](#)

## Hurricane Harvey Updates

### GLO: Regional Councils of Government Approved as Methods of Distribution for Local Recovery Funds



Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush announced the Texas General Land Office (GLO) has approved all nine methods of distribution (MODs) proposed by regional Councils of Governments' (COGs) for \$276 million in Hurricane Harvey recovery funds for the buyout and acquisition program and \$413 million for infrastructure program for cities and counties affected by Hurricane Harvey. COG boards are comprised of elected officials from the impacted communities. These local leaders are vital to the distribution of funds process as they are experts in local recovery needs and are best suited to prioritize the limited funds available for programs such as buyouts/acquisitions and infrastructure improvements.

"Hurricane Harvey devastated communities across the Texas Coast," said Commissioner Bush. "The Texas General Land Office continues to work diligently through the federally mandated process for distributing recovery funding and implementing programs. We are dedicated to working with our local partners to ensure that available funds are distributed in a fair process directed by regional leaders while also adhering to complex federal requirements."

The nine regional COGs allocated portions of the \$5.024 billion in Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) allocated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Hurricane Harvey housing recovery assistance are: Alamo Area Council of Governments, Brazos Valley Council of Governments, Capital Area Council of Governments, Central Texas Council of Governments, Coastal Bend Council of Governments, Deep East Texas Council of Governments, Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission, **Houston-Galveston Area Council** and the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission.

The COGs facilitated the development of each MOD through a public participation process that included at least two public hearings and a 14-day public comment period. Objective criteria, such as unmet needs, were used in each MOD to distribute funds to eligible cities and counties. To review the approved MODs, please visit <http://recovery.texas.gov/hud-requirements-reports/hurricane-harvey/index.html>.

Background on \$5.024 billion CDBG-DR funding allocation: Three days after Hurricane Harvey made landfall, Commissioner Bush submitted a letter to President Donald J. Trump and key members of his Cabinet describing \$180 billion in damage to the state of Texas and estimating at least \$40 billion in unmet need to the state. At the time, Hurricane Harvey was still over most of the greater Southeast Texas region and the extent of the storm's damage was yet unknown. On

September 8, President Trump signed the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018, and Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017, which included \$7.4 billion appropriated to HUD for long-term recovery. HUD then allocated \$5.024 billion of the appropriations to Texas for Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts - the single largest allocation of its kind for any event. To date, the GLO estimates more than \$1.05 billion in unmet need in Texas as a direct result of Hurricane Harvey. HUD recently released guidance for an additional \$652 million in recovery funds. Guidance for an additional \$4.3 billion for mitigation projects is anticipated to be released soon. The GLO will continue to work with local, state, and federal partners to ensure funding is available for ongoing recovery efforts.

## FEMA: Successful Test of Emergency Alert Systems

The Oct. 3 national Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) and Emergency Alert System (EAS) test messages were successfully originated and sent through FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System. All wireless provider gateways acknowledged receipt of the test message.

Only WEA compatible cell phones that were switched on, within range of an active cell tower, and whose wireless provider participates in WEA were capable of receiving the test message. This was the fourth nationwide EAS test and the first nationwide WEA test. FEMA is committed to continuously improving the national alert and warning systems and supporting local authorities in getting effective and timely warning to people.

FEMA will collect additional results from wireless providers that participated in the EAS test over the next month, and will report the results compared against previous EAS tests. FEMA invites the public to send information on the reach and effectiveness of the nationwide WEA test to [FEMA-National-Test@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-National-Test@fema.dhs.gov).

Please include the following information in your email:

- Whether your mobile device displayed a WEA test message;
- The make, model and operating system version of your mobile device;
- Your wireless service provider;
- Confirmation that the device was turned on and in the same location for at least 30 minutes after the start of the test (2:18 p.m. ET);
- The location of the device, including the device's environment (e.g. indoors or outdoors, rural or urban, mobile or stationary);
- Confirmation that you are normally able to make calls, receive texts, or use apps at that location;
- Confirm the mobile device in use at the time of the alert (for a call or other use); and
- Confirmation that others at your location received the WEA test alert message.

**[For more information, please click here.](#)**

## Updates from Austin

### TEA Awarded \$2 Million in School Safety Grants

Commissioner of Education Mike Morath announced that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) has been awarded two Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act grants. Both federal grants, worth \$1 million each, will be used to support mental health training for Texas school districts, as well as establish effective campus threat assessment practices across the state.



"Texas remains committed to providing a safe learning environment for every student on every public school campus across our state," said Commissioner Morath. "By focusing on these two key areas of mental health and preventative measures, we strengthen our state's ongoing commitment to school safety."

The two STOP School Violence Act grants awarded the state will be used for the following:

- **Statewide School Violence and Mental Health Training Program** – An informal competitive grant program will assist Texas school districts in obtaining needed mental health training for staff and administrators. This training will serve the needs of students, while also providing awareness and connections to needed mental health services. The initial grants will be made available to the Alpine Independent School District, Italy Independent School District and Santa Fe Independent School District.



Additional school districts will be added to the grant program through a competitive application process over the next two years. All grant funds will be awarded to provide the training needed to meet the identified needs of the district to prevent school violence from occurring.

- **School Threat Assessment Teams** – This grant will be used to support the statewide development, implementation and operation of school threat assessment teams. Texas schools currently lack formalized statewide training in the threat assessment process, which is critical to successfully preventing targeted acts of school violence. This statewide training program, which will be a collaborative effort between TEA, the Texas School Safety Center and SIGMA Threat Management, will properly equip school personnel with the skills needed to recognize, respond quickly to and prevent acts of violence across the state of Texas.

Commissioner Morath noted that the two grants of \$1 million each represent the maximum grant awards for each category of the STOP School Violence grants. Both issues were discussed and identified during Gov. Greg Abbott's roundtable discussions on school safety held earlier this year. The need to implement statewide training in the threat assessment process is among the recommendations in the Governor's School and Firearm Safety Action Plan, which was released in May.

## SBOE: Brand the Fund Student Art Contest



The country's largest education endowment, the Permanent School Fund, needs a logo and the State Board of Education is soliciting Texas high school students to design a unique image for the fund. The "**Brand the Fund**" Student Art Contest opened October 1, 2018, and continues through November 1, 2018.

The contest winner will receive a **\$3,000 cash prize** and the runner up will receive **\$1,000**. The award will be presented at the February 1, 2019, State Board of Education meeting in Austin. For eligibility and entry

requirements or to learn more about the competition, visit:

<https://tea.texas.gov/PSFlogocontest/>

## Texas Commission on the Arts: State Artist Nominations Due Monday, October 15th

The deadline for Texas State Artists nominations is coming up on Monday, October 15, 2018. On behalf of the Texas State Legislature, the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is seeking nominations for the positions of 2019 and 2020 State Poet Laureate, State Musician, State Artist two-dimensional media (i.e., painting, photography), and State Artist three-dimensional media (i.e., sculpture).



- Any Texan can submit a nomination.
- You can submit multiple nominations, so you don't have to pick just one artist to nominate.
- Self-nominations are welcome.
- Nominees must still be living to be considered.
- The legislature will use these nominations to designate the Texas State Musicians, Texas Poet Laureates, Texas State Artist 2D and Texas State Artist 3D (visual arts) for 2019 and 2020 in spring 2019.

All Texas citizens are encouraged to make nominations, and self-nominations are accepted. Citizens can nominate more than one artist. The nomination form and complete information are available online at <http://www.arts.texas.gov/initiatives/texas-state-artist/>.

All qualified nominees must be native Texans or five-year residents of the state. Candidates must have received recognition for high levels of excellence and success in their respective disciplines. They also must have received critical reviews in state, regional or national publications.

Chosen artists will join the company of previous state artists such as Willie Nelson, Dario Robleto, Dean Young, and Kathy Vargas and receive statewide recognition. Texas State Artists also have the opportunity to participate in TCA events and promotions, including participation on TCA's Texas Touring Roster and other state initiatives in relation to their respective arts discipline.

"We are fortunate to have many outstanding artists in Texas, and we anticipate receiving numerous qualified nominations," said Gary Gibbs, executive director of TCA. "Being named a Texas State Artist is the Texas Legislature's highest honor for an artist, and it brings new career opportunities and recognition from the arts community and the general public."

TCA oversees the selection process for the four positions, in accordance with Chapter 3104 of the Texas Government Code. TCA issues the call for nominations, oversees an evaluation review process, and provides a list of finalists to the selection committee. The committee, composed of members appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, makes the final selections. The 86th Texas Legislature will make the appointments next spring when they are in session.

#### **About The Texas Commission on the Arts**

The mission of the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) is to advance our state economically and culturally by investing in a creative Texas. TCA supports a diverse and innovative arts community in Texas, throughout the nation and internationally by providing resources to enhance economic development, arts education, cultural tourism and artist sustainability initiatives. For more information on TCA and its programs, please visit [www.arts.texas.gov](http://www.arts.texas.gov).

## Updates from HD 127

**TOMORROW: Saturday, October 13th  
Lake Houston 10K/5K & 1K Fun Run**

**SATURDAY,  
OCT. 13**

**LAKE HOUSTON  
10K/5K/1K  
2018**

Presented by  
**Serna Insurance Agency**

**KINGS  
HARBOR  
KINGWOOD**

 **LAKE HOUSTON AREA CHAMBER**

**Representative Huberty to Speak at Lake Houston  
Area Chamber "State of the State" Luncheon**

# STATE OF THE STATE

PRESENTED BY  
COMMUNITY RESOURCE  
CREDIT UNION



Speaker:  
State Representative  
Dan Huberty

Come hear from State Representative Dan Huberty about what to expect during the upcoming legislative session.

**NEW DATE!**

Thursday, October 25 at 11:30 a.m. at  
the Walden Country Club.

**[Register & More Info](#)**

## Constituent Resources

### Need Assistance?

Our office is always ready to assist you. Call or email us and we will do our best to help. Many State Agencies also have hotlines or citizen assistance offices to assist you. That contact information is available at this link, in alphabetical order:

<http://www.lrl.texas.gov/genInfo/stateAgencies.cfm>

## Live Updates

All of the relevant information our office has gathered during the week will be posted to our Facebook page. By "liking" us, you will stay up-to-date about important matters across the state that affect you and your family. Click below to find our page.



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