

#### Issue 46

# **NEWSLETTER**

February 2020

Friends,

February is Black History Month - a time to recognize and celebrate Black history and culture, but also to reflect on the injustice and hardships endured by African Americans in the United States.

I joined the Houston West Chamber of Commerce for a legislative luncheon with my fellow State Representatives.

This past month, I held a press conference to address the Coronavirus rumors troubling our district. I've included a letter to the community asking for your help supporting the Asian Community in HD 137 by dining and shopping in Asiatown.

This month I invite you all to the State of Texas' first Blood, Bone Marrow, and Organ Donation Day!

Though we are not in session, the Texas legislature is holding committee hearings during the interim to prepare to address the challenges facing Texas in the 87th legislature.

This upcoming month, Southwest Schools will be having a Community Resource Fair on Saturday March 7th, 2020 sponsored by Southwest Schools.

It is an honor to serve and represent you in the Texas Legislature. Please feel free to contact my office at any time.

Sincerely,



Gene with Harris County Public Health and Community Leaders holding a press conference to dispel harmful coronavirus rumors

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### **Black History Month**



**Location**: 1300 Victor Street, Houston, Texas, 77019 Find out more about the historic landmark on their website.

In honor of Black History Month, we would like to share an important piece of Black History and culture that is located here in Houston in the historic 4th Ward. The African American Library at the Gregory School was once the first public school for African Americans in Houston. The library now serves both as a museum, and as a resource center that preserves, promotes, and celebrates the rich culture and history of African Americans in Houston, surrounding region, and the African Diaspora. I hope you get a chance to visit and learn more about an important part of Houston's History.

#### **Houston West Chamber of Commerce**

I was invited by the Houston West Chamber of Commerce to serve on a panel of my fellow House State Representatives. The panel focused on legislation that pertained to four issues that are important to Houston: flooding, transportation, education and homelessness.

We discussed our accomplishments during the past session and on work that still needs to be done next session.



Representatives left to right : Rep. Gina Calanni, Rep. Jim Murphy, Rep. Sarah Davis, Gene, and Rep. Hubert Vo

Thank you to the Houston West Chamber of

Commerce for hosting me and keeping West Houston engaged in our community.

## Letter to the Community



STATE REPRESENTATIVE · DISTRICT 137
HARRIS COUNTY

Friends,

I'm asking for your assistance in a matter that is troubling the Asian community.

Widespread rumors and misinformation regarding the Coronavirus have led to unfounded fears that the virus is present in Houston's Asiatown.

As many of you may know, I recently held a press conference with community and business leaders in Dun Huang Plaza alongside the Executive Director of Harris County Public Health to let the public know that there have been <u>zero</u> recorded cases of the Coronavirus in Asiatown, Houston, or all of Harris County.

The Asian business corridor is one of the reasons that Southwest Houston and House District 137 is such a unique and wonderful place to live and do business. Our Asian businesses are suffering due to these pervasive rumors, and it is our Asian community that has been most affected by these rumors and have been avoiding Asiatown as a result.

Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo's team has put up a page on their official website to help dispel these harmful rumors - <a href="https://www.readyharris.org/Rumor-Control">https://www.readyharris.org/Rumor-Control</a>. The information can be viewed in English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Spanish, or French by clicking the "select language" option at the top right of the webpage.

We need the Asian community to be educated with information from a trusted source when it comes to public health, and your help is vital in making sure the message gets to our neighbors.

Asiatown needs the support of the Asian community now more than ever, and I am asking for help from community leaders like you to reach out to your memberships to share this information and urge them not to avoid Asiatown.

Thank you for your partnership,

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Gene

### **Donor Day**



## State Representative Gene Wu invites you to join us on February 26th, 2020 to celebrate the State of Texas' first Blood, Bone Marrow, and Organ Donation Day!

February 26th is the state day for blood, bone marrow, and organ donation in Texas.

In an effort to increase advocacy for these vital donations, we've partnered with Legacy Community Health and The HOPE Clinic to bring state and national donation registries to come get Texans registered to be donors!

We will have representatives from Be The Match, LifeGift, and The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center at Legacy's Southwest Clinic, and at The HOPE Clinic's Main Community Health Center, from 10am-3pm to get people registered to be bone marrow and organ donors, and attendees will have an opportunity to donate blood.

Additionally, at 12pm Representative Wu will be holding a press conference at the Legacy SW Clinic in conjunction with other elected officials and representatives from our partner organizations to share their important work in our community.

We hope you can join us and register as a donor - it may one day save someone's life!

Legacy Community Health's Southwest Clinic is located at 6441 High Star Dr, Houston, TX 77074.

The HOPE Clinic's Main Community Health Center is located at 7001 Corporate Dr #120, Houston, TX 77036.











Texas First Blood, Bone Marrow, and Organ Donation Day!

When: Wednesday, <u>February 26th, 2020</u> from <u>10AM-3PM</u>
Where: HOPE Clinic Main Community Health Center, <u>7001 Corporate Drive #120</u>
& Legacy Community Health SW Clinic, <u>6441 High Star Drive</u>;
What: Come get registered to be a donor, it may save someone's life!

### **Interim Committee Hearings**

Interim Committee Charges have been assigned from the 86th legislative session. You can view them <u>here.</u>

#### What are Interim Committee Charges?

They are a list of important legislation that is selected by the Speaker for each committee. These charges are the issues that are considered a priority, many of which are important to you, and will be addressed leading into the next legislative session in 2021.

You can view the committee schedules here.

As your representative, my staff and I monitor interim committee hearings. If you have any questions or concerns, please relay them to us so we can speak up on your behalf.



## Community Resource Fair

# Come join us at the Community Resource Fair!

**When**: March 7th, 2020 at 9 AM - 1PM

**Where**: 6400 Westpark Dr. Suite 200 Houston, TX 77057

There will be free health screening, immunizations, HIV testing, resources on jobs and health!



