

SAM HARLESS

State Representative District 126
September 2019 Newsletter



Texas House of Representatives



District 126

**News
and
Information**



Recent Storms Refresh Our Vulnerability

Within the last month, we had Tropical Storm Imelda form in the Gulf of Mexico and inundate Harris County, once again reinforcing our vulnerability for flooding. While our area had some street flooding, most of the severe weather centered to our East and impacted our neighbors in the Lake Houston area all the way to

Beaumont. Record rainfalls of 43 inches demonstrate that hurricanes aren't always necessary to prompt heaving rain and flooding in our part of Texas.

District Office Opened In Style

Our new district office grand opening this month was a huge success, thanks in part to our wonderful Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, as well as our many friends and constituents in the community who stopped by to welcome us.



Located in Pam Bailey's Chapparral Management Building at 6630 Cypresswood Drive Suite 150, We are at the Northeast corner of Cypresswood Drive and North Greenfield Dr. It's just across from the Atria Assisted Living Center, just two blocks from the Cypresswood Courthouse. The office is staffed by our District Director, James Cook. The office phone is 281-251-0194. He will be representing me at Chamber of Commerce functions, attending meetings and events that I cannot make, so get to know him and feel free to stop by **YOUR** district office.

Tax Rate Increases

Harris County Proposed Historic Tax Rate Hike

On September 12th, Harris County Commissioner's Court voted to propose the maximum allowable increase of eight percent (8%) to Harris County's tax rate for next year.

This historic increase comes just ahead of a law passed during the 86th Session that would cap such massive increases at three and a half percent (3.5%) before requiring voter approval.

The issue will have had public hearings in September and the final hearing will be in

Commissioner's Court on October 8th. If you would like to sign up to appear before Commissioners Court to share your concerns, go to this link below.

[Commissioner's Court Appearance Form](#)

Precinct 4 Deputy Honored At Texas Capitol

Precinct 4 Deputy Christopher Gaines Awarded Star of Texas

One of our own Precinct 4 Deputies, Christopher Gaines, was honored at the Texas Capitol this month with the Star of Texas Award, issued by Governor Greg Abbott.



Deputy Gaines was injured during a shootout in April in the Atascocita area with a suicidal suspect that was later arrested and charged with aggravated assault on a public servant. He was accompanied at the award ceremony by his wife, Assistant Chief Ken Key, and Captain Toby Hecker. Our congratulations to Deputy Gaines on this special award and your recovery efforts.

Centrum Arts

Waltz Across Texas - Centrum Arts

The Centrum Arts Gala, Waltz Across Texas, was held at the Champions Golf Club on Friday, September 20th. The event honored Commissioner Jack Cagle and his wife Janet for their many contributions to our community. It was a hugely successful event in support of one of the crown jewels of our community. The Centrum provides so much of the culture of the Klein area and is something we are rightly proud to support.



I had the distinct pleasure of working as

auctioneer with Precinct 4 Judge, Lincoln Goodwin. It was all in good fun and for a great cause as well.

The backbone of the Centrum is the Foundation for the Arts and Community Enrichment which provides numerous entertaining and education events at the Centrum and other locations in the community. Their entertainers range from the famous well known entertainers to soon to be famous local performers and entertainers.

Its worth the time to check it out.

[Cypress Creek F.A.C.E](#)



Around The District

Klein Students Honored



David Oderinde - Eagle Scout

I was honored to recognize David Oderinde for this huge accomplishment. David worked very hard to achieve the pinnacle of Scouting in completing his Eagle Project and Court of Honor. David is an example of how committed young men and women can achieve their goals and stands as a role model for so many others.

David, a student at Klein Oak High School and quite an accomplished swimmer, holds several medals in statewide competitions. He has committed to attend Texas A&M University next year.

Grace Justice - Public Speaking

Grace Justice was the August speaker for the Northwest Forest Republican Women's meeting and I was fortunate enough to be there to hear her present. Grace is a confident and well spoken young woman with a skill in effective communications. I was so moved by her presentation on her generation's interest in politics that I requested and received a resolution from the Texas House of Representatives in her honor.

Grace is a senior at Klein High School and is the recipient of numerous honors through her participation in the National Honor Society, Klein High Debate Team, and National Charity League, just to name a few. Grace earned the distinction of being selected the 2017-2018 Outstanding Novice Speaker Award and has a passion for politics and has become a student ambassador for Congressman Dan Crenshaw. She is a frequent attendee of the Young Women's Leadership Summits.

These kids are wonderful examples of the truly amazing young men and women working hard to be leaders for the future. Our hats off to their parents and teachers for their efforts in developing and supporting them through the years.



In The District

Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce

Transportation and Mobility Committee

2nd Tuesday of each month
Meeting Location:
29201 Quinn Rd.
Tomball, Texas 77375
Upstairs Conference Room

Greater
Tomball Area



Chamber of Commerce

Tomball Government Affairs
Committee

Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce
Transportation\Government Affairs
Committee

The committee meets the 1st
Thursday of each month to discuss
governmental issues that confront
their Cy-Fair area. They meet at the
Chamber offices located at 8711
Highway 6 North, Ste. 120 Houston, TX
77095.

September's Speaker is Rep Jon
Rosenthal.

**CY-FAIR HOUSTON**
Chamber of Commerce

[Cy-Fair Chamber Website](#)



[Visit the Houston NW Chamber
Website](#)

Houston NW Chamber Public Safety Forum

Public Safety Forum Meeting: June
27th

8:30 am - 9:30 am

Champions Emergency Services
District

12730 Champion Forest Dr.
Houston, TX 77066

[Visit our House of Representative Website:](#)

Contact Us

Capitol Office Phone - 512-463-0496

District Office Phone - 281-251-0194

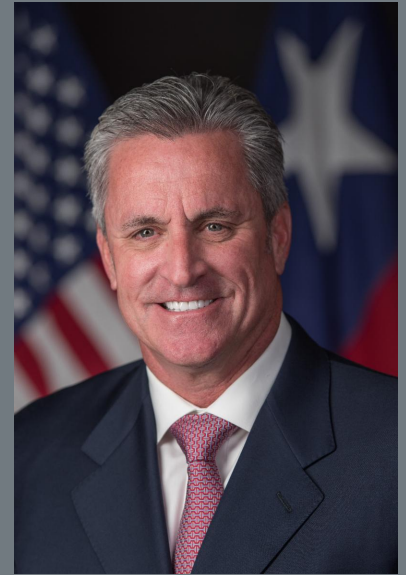
District Office Address - 6630 Cypresswood Dr #150

Spring, Tx 77379

Ron Hickman
Chief of Staff
[Email Ron](#)

Ashley Hyten
Legislative Director
[Email Ashley](#)

James Cook
District Director
[Email James](#)



[Email Sam](#)

