



# GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 137



**Issue 37**

## NEWSLETTER

**February 2019**

Friends,

We are in the second month of the 86th legislative session, committee assignments have been made, bills are being heard and Team Wu is hard at work!

Gulfton Story Project unveiled murals at three HISD schools in House District 137 on January 18th.

On January 21st, the first unified Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade in Houston was held downtown!

January 29th was Texas Muslim Day at the Capitol. Muslims from throughout the state visited us in Austin.

I joined my fellow members in celebrating Lunar New Year at our Texas Capitol and I passed out envelopes filled with candy on the House floor on February 5th, the commencement of the Year of the Pig.

Lastly, I've included some information about Refugee Services of Texas' Refugee Youth Career Pathway Program. Click on the links that follow for more information.

Happy Year of the Pig!

Sincerely,



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# 86th Texas Legislature Committee Assignments

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I am pleased to again serve on the House Appropriations Committee. I was appointed by House Speaker Dennis Bonnen to serve on the Appropriations Subcommittee on [Articles I, IV & V](#). I was also appointed Vice Chair of Appropriations subcommittee on Infrastructure, Resiliency & Invest Committee, a committee that will address our needs since Hurricane Harvey. I look forward to working with Appropriations Chairman John Zerwas and fellow members to create a budget that works for the people of Texas. Juvenile justice, CPS, mental health, and public schools are all areas that deserve our attention, and I am working to increase funding across the board for the children of this state.

I will also be serving on the Pensions, Investments, and Financial Services Committee for the first time this session and am grateful for the opportunity to ensure financial stability for Texans, especially our retired teachers and workforce.

## City of Houston Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade

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It was a privilege to participate in this year's Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade organized by the City of Houston. This year's event paid tribute to Ovide Duncantell, the Black Heritage Society's founder who passed away last year. Georgia Congressman and civil rights leader John Lewis served as parade grand marshal along with Astros outfielder George Springer.

This was Houston's first unified Martin Luther King, Jr. parade, and I look forward to many more to come.

## Texas Muslim Capitol Day

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January 29th was Texas Muslim Capitol Day.

Delegates from the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) participating in Texas Muslim Capitol Day talked to their representatives about their professional background, community concerns, and volunteer work. CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding.



I was honored to speak before our Muslim neighbors and was delighted to host them at our Capitol.

## HISD Special Unveiling of Gulfton Story Trail Murals

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In celebration of the murals donated to HISD schools at William Sutton Elementary School, Jane Long Academy and Wisdom High School, an unveiling ceremony was held on January 18th.

These schools have provided a wonderful opportunity to foster a more creative, aesthetic environment for generations of students to come. Special thanks to all of those helping to build and foster more arts for our students through Gulfton Trail Story Project.

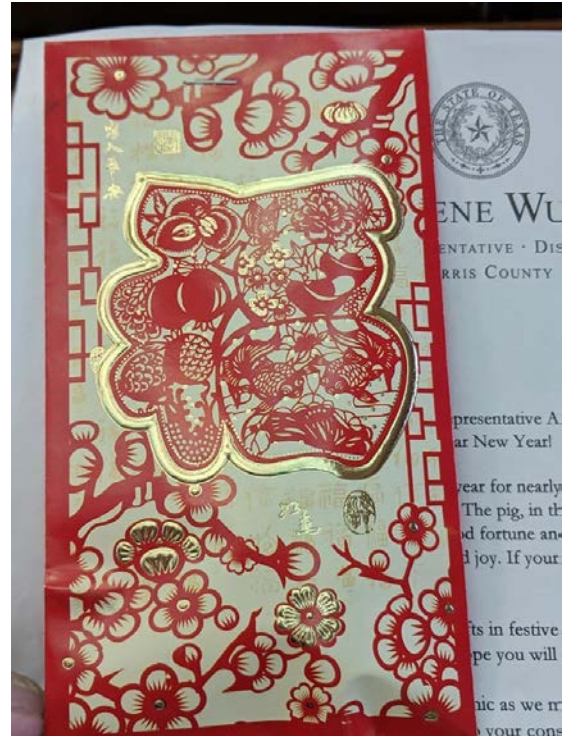


# Lunar New Year

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February 5th marked the commencement of the New Year of the Pig for nearly all Asian cultures that observe the lunar calendar. The pig, in Asian horoscope, is considered especially lucky as it is a symbol of wealth, good fortune and prosperity. Many believe that the Year of the Pig will be a time of great prosperity and joy. If your age this year is a factor of 12 (i.e. 12, 24, 36, etc.), then this is your year!

I was pleased to bring the Lunar New Year spirit to the Texas House of Representatives by giving out the lucky red envelopes to honor the season.



## Civic Saturdays

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At Civic Saturday events, you can speak directly with the Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo on issues concerning Harris County Commissioners Court that you care about. The Commissioners Court is responsible for serving as the main governing body for the entire county, which includes adopting its budget, setting tax rates, calling for bond elections, building and maintaining roads and bridges, setting boundaries for voting precincts, and overseeing county courthouses, jails, libraries and parks.

9:30am—1:00pm (Doors open at 9:00) Se habla Español. Free childcare + food provided

**February 23rd - Resilience (Adapting to Change)** Baytown Community Center - 2407 Market St, Baytown, TX

**March 2nd - Children & Education** Julia C. Hester House - 2020 Solo St, Houston, TX

**March 9th - Economic Opportunity & Housing** BakerRipley East Aldine - 3000 Aldine Mail Rte Rd, Houston, TX

**March 16th - Criminal Justice Emancipation Center** - 3018 Emancipation Ave, Houston, TX

**March 23rd - Flood Mitigation** Magnum-Howell County Facility - 2500 Frick Rd, Houston, TX

More info & Registration at: [www.talkingtransition.us](http://www.talkingtransition.us)

# Refugee Services of Texas

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We are pleased to share information about Refugee Services of Texas' Refugee Youth Career Pathway Program. Their program provides completion of career plans, job readiness, and job placement, as well as additional support, to identify a career pathway, coordinate career-related training and connect participants to career mentors.

RST also provides access to:

- Skills training programs
- English language instruction
- Internships
- Mentorships
- Relevant coursework, as appropriate

Those with refugee, asylee, unaccompanied minor and survivor of trafficking status that are between the ages of 16-24 are eligible to enroll.

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