



GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 137



Issue 40

NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Congratulations, Class of 2019!

Graduating from high school represents an important milestone. Nearly 1700 high school seniors from across District 137 will be walking the stage in a few weeks. We congratulate all of our graduating seniors for this achievement!

With school letting out for summer, there are a several activities in District 137 available to keep your children active.

Included in this issue is information about some of the programs being offered by some of our great community organizations this summer.

METRO is offering free bus rides again this summer to kids K-12 and college students. I hope this information will be useful to our students and their families.

HCR 42, a resolution declaring February 26 as Texas Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation Registry Day has been sent to the Governor for his signature.

I hosted an Imam from the Islamic Society of Greater Houston to give the invocation on the floor of the House of Representatives during Ramadan.

It is an honor to serve and represent you. Feel free to reach out to my office at any time.

Sincerely,



May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Celebrating Asia Day at the Capitol.

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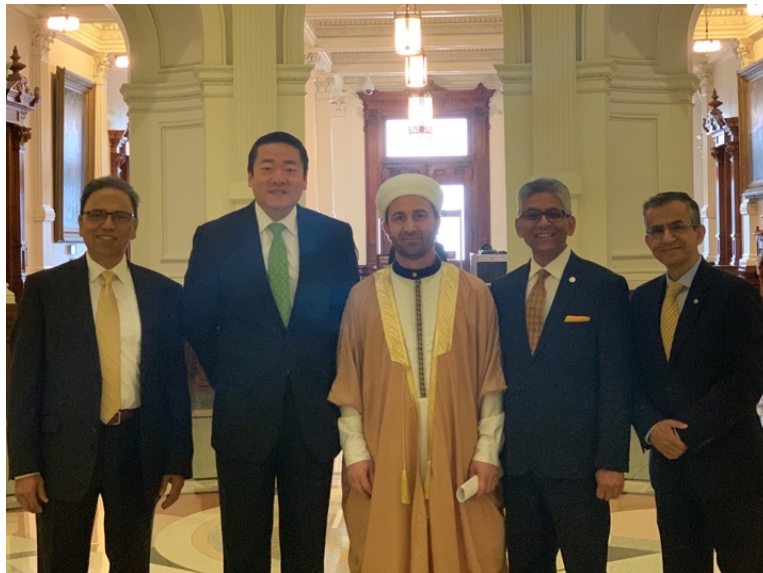
- Congratulations Class of 2019!
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High School Graduation

Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors and their families! Your hard work, time, and dedication have finally resulted in a diploma. Take this moment to reflect and be proud of your accomplishments, then take your next steps into the world confident in your abilities. Listed in the table below are the Valedictorians and Salutatorians from our great schools. District 137 is proud of each and every one of you!

School	Valedictorian	Salutatorian
Jane Long Academy	Rosine Mpozenzi	Jonathan Herrera
Liberty High School	Karla Alejandra Montero Rivero	Mario Enrique Pineda Garcia
Margaret Wisdom High School	Ethan Song	Mauricio Guerrero and Mohammad Javed
Middle College High School at HCC Gulfton	JaDaisha Ryans	Christian Orellana
Sharpstown International School	Juan Venancio	Adriana Badena
Texas Connections Academy	Matthew Whorton	Victoria Loomis

Imam Gives Invocation during Ramadan in the House of Representatives



I had the privilege of hosting the Chaplain of the Day, Imam Dr. Rihabi Mohamed Rihabi from the Islamic Society of Greater Houston, the largest Muslim organization in North America.

Dr. Rihabi was born in Syria where he received his Ph.D. in Islamic and Quranic Studies. He is an author and researcher, and has written many books and research papers which emphasize the values of mercy, tolerance and acceptance of others.

Every member of the House of Representatives may invite a member of faith to the Capitol to lead the invocation as Chaplain of the Day. We

were honored that the Imam was able to come and share his message during Ramadan. I wish everyone in House District 137 Ramadan Mubarak.

Legislative Update

Earlier this year I filed legislation, [HCR 42](#) designating February 26 as Texas Bone Marrow, Blood, and Organ Donation Registry Day. I filed this bill in honor of Dr. Anh Reiss and her family. Dr. Reiss, an obstetrician, was very well known in our district for her professional work, and her advocacy for blood, bone marrow, and organ donation. The bill was sponsored by a bipartisan list of lawmakers, including my fellow Houston legislators. Senator Carol Alvarado sponsored the bill in the Senate. I am pleased to report that the bill passed both chambers of the Texas Legislature and has been sent to the Governor for his signature.

For thousands of critically ill blood cancer patients, there is a cure. And it could be you. Make today the day you [sign up](#) to save someone's life. Or register at a local [donor registry drive](#) in your community where you can join the Be The Match® bone marrow registry.

Summer Programs

As the school year starts to wind down, I wanted to make sure that parents were aware of some of the great summer programs being offered in our community!

On the following pages you will find information about

- METRO'S Summer of Fun Program
- Discovery Green
- Free Museum Days in Houston Museum District
- Camp Stream
- Summer Camp at CHAT Academy
- Chinese Community Center's Summer Camp

For more information, contact Jake Breault at jake.breault@house.texas.gov

METRO's Summer of Fun Program

Take advantage of free METRO rides starting June 1st!

This summer, METRO will be offering K-12 and college students the opportunity to join their METRO Summer of Fun Program. Students can ride the bus for free by presenting a Student METRO Q® Fare Card, and METRO will take you to wherever the fun is!

Don't have a Student METRO Q® Fare Card? You can apply three ways.

- [Apply online.](#)
- Apply in Person by visiting one of these METRO RideStore locations:
 - 1900 Main Street
 - 1001 Travis Street



For more information about this opportunity, please visit <https://www.ridemetro.org/Pages/SummerFun.aspx>.

Discovery Green

[Discovery Green](#) will be offering a variety of free special events ranging from writing workshops, to parkour lessons.

The Houston Public Library (HPL) will also be at Discovery Green hosting fun programming on most Tuesday afternoons!



Free Museum Days in Houston Museum District

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum	3816 Caroline St Houston, TX 77004 (713) 482-4735	Thursday 1 pm – 5 pm
Houston Museum of Natural Science	5555 Hermann Park Dr. Houston, Texas 77030 (713) 639-4629	Thursday 2 pm – 5 pm
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston	1001 Bissonnet Houston, Texas 77005 (713) 639-7300	Thursday 10 am – 9 pm Children 12 & under free every day
Children’s Museum of Houston	1500 Binz Houston, TX 77004 (713) 522-1138	Thursday 5 pm – 8 pm
The Health Museum	1515 Hermann Drive Houston, TX 77004 (713) 521-1515	Thursday 2 pm – 7 pm
Holocaust Museum Houston	9220 Kirby Drive Houston, TX 77054 (713) 942-8000	Thursday 2 pm – 5 pm
Houston Museum of African-American Culture	4807 Caroline Houston, Texas 77004 (713) 526-1015	Thursday 6 pm – 8 pm
Czech Center Museum Houston	4920 San Jacinto Houston, TX, 77004 (713) 528-2060	Last Monday each month, 12-4 pm

A few of the summer camps in District 137!

Camp STREAM



The Southwest Express Library is hosting Camp STREAM. A free, fun-filled summer program for kids and teens of all ages. Kids participate in interactive STREAM activities each day of the week. (Let's STREAM for Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Math!)

[Click here to register!](#)

Summer Camp at CHAT Academy

Sign-up for fun summer camp at CHAT Academy.

Week by week sign-up or sign-up for the entire summer.

July 8 to August 9.

9:00 am to 3:00 pm



[Click here to register!](#)



Chinese Community Center's Summer Camp

2019 Summer Camp

June 3 – August 16, 2019
(closed July 4)

Monday – Friday
7:30 AM – 6:30 PM

[Click here to register!](#)

Community Youth Development



In 1995, the 74th Legislature approved funds for the creation and implementation of the Community Youth Development (CYD) Program. Communities identified as needing special attention to address the conditions that lead to juvenile crime were identified as target areas for youth to receive CYD services.

Services are provided to youth 17 years of age and under who reside or attend school in the **77081** zip code and to family members of eligible youth. **There are no income eligibility requirements to receive services, participation is completely voluntary and all services are offered free of charge.**

The Alliance Kijana Teens Program

The program provides after school & summer camp programs to Gulfton youth ages 10-17 at the Saint Cloud Apartment Complex.

Contact: Nnenna Amugo
(713)776-4700 Ext. 201

City of Houston Campo Del Sol Program

Summer recreational program: sports, games, arts & crafts to youth ages 10 – 17 at Burnett Bayland Park during the summer.

Contact: Jesse Gutierrez
(713) 492-5560

Redeemed Youth Empowerment Program

Provides academic support, tutoring, life skills and youth leadership services to youth ages 10-17.

Contact: Christina Rodriguez
(832)457-2880

Equip 24/7

For youth ages 10–17, the program offers leadership & life skills by developing positive education strategies, self-esteem and positive peer, family & community interaction skills

Contact: Tyrone Smith
(713) 571 – 9121

Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

Youth group that meets weekly and participates in monthly service learning projects and field trips. Provides youth leadership services to middle school & high school age youth.

Contact: Cristal Atilano
(832)526-3596

PAIR Mentoring

Provides one-to-one and group mentoring services to middle school youth

Contact: Lauren West
(713)771-1111

For more information contact Cristal Atilano, CYD Program Coordinator at (832)526-3596 or cristal.atilano@cps.hctx.net To contact Cristal in person or by mail:

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