



HOUSTON INTERNATIONAL STAR

EMPOWERING SMALL BUSINESS

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WORKFORCE SUMMIT IDENTIFIES WORKFORCE NEEDS

For the second time this year, Houston Community College (HCC) Trustee Neeta Sane, District VII, hosted a Workforce Summit, bringing together elected officials, business and community leaders to continue the dialogue about the workforce needs and growth opportunities in Southwest Houston. The event was hosted in joint partnership with Brays Oaks Management District, the Greater Sharpstown Management District and the International Management District of Alief. The purpose of the Summit was to dialogue with stakeholders on how to better align the HCC's educational offerings with the regional needs for workforce development and economic growth.



Hon. Neeta Sane, Houston Community College Trustee, District VII

"We are committed to meeting the business needs of the community through education and training, and we look forward to hearing from industry leaders and other stakeholders to help build an even stronger economy in Southwest Houston," said Neeta Sane. See Workforce Summit, Page 6



President Barak Obama

President Signs Small Business Jobs Bill

By Simi Adetutu

The Small Business Jobs Bill that finally passed in the Senate, after months of delay by filibusters, promises to help the nation's small businesses expand by giving tax breaks and creating over \$30Billion in loans.

See **Small Business Job Bill**, pg11

Bank on Houston Fall Campaign Kicks Off!

By Marty Gomes

The Bank on Houston Program is a collaborative effort of the City of Houston, the FDIC, the National League of Cities, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Houston Branch, 20 banks and credit unions and numerous community organizations to bring Houston's unbanked individuals into the financial mainstream. Although the "Bank On" programs exist in cities all over the country, Houston was the first city in Texas to participate. The program, which was established under former Controller Parker, is now headed by Controller Ronald Green.



Fall campaign Kickoff: City controller Ronald Green center) with Council Member Ed Gonzalez (L) and Mayor Annise Parker (R)

With 195 non bank check cashing establishments, 237 payday lenders and 174 pawn shops, Houstonians paid a total of over \$82,713,653 in fees and payments to non-banking institutions in 2006. After the establishment of the Bank On Houston program, 40,000 non-banking Houstonians have taken advantage of the low, or no cost banking program to date. In doing so these individuals will save thousands of dollars in exorbitant fees and fines.

Indian Delegation Seeks Business Opportunities

By E. Godwill

A delegation of companies belonging to one of the oldest and most prominent business organizations in India travelled to Houston, seeking opportunities to expand their product lines and form strategic partnerships with U.S. companies.

See Indian delegation, page 10

PROFILE



SBA Director, Manuel Gonzalez

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

By Tina Edebor

Founded 57 years ago, the Small Business Association was established as an advocate for small businesses. The organization assists small businesses in getting access to capital, providing surety bonding for performance and bid bonds and assisting small businesses in getting government contracts. Its two primary programs are: the flagship 7A program, and the 504 program which helps with the acquisition of commercial real estate. Under President Obama, the 7A program had an additional \$400M which SBA was able to leverage to See **SBA** continued on page 4



Wea Lea, Chairman ITC, "Our small businesses are hurting and we are trying to provide them with opportunities to create new markets, increase exports and find investment for project development."

HOUSTON HOSTS TEXAS CHINA SUMMIT

By Willie Godfrey

The Texas China Business Summit 2010, organized by the International Trade Center (ITC) in collaboration with the Texas Governor's Division of Economic Development and Tourism, the City of Houston, Rice University's Jones Graduate School of Business, the University of Houston Asian American Studies Center along with the support of leading American and Chinese business corporations will be held in Houston from October 25-27 and in Washington, DC from October 28-29, 2010.

The theme of the Summit is "Important Issues in Texas-China Relations: Energy, Finance, Trade Investment, Health, Education and Communication." The event will offer critical insights for Chinese business leaders seeking to penetrate or expand in the Texas market. In addition, key government officials and business leaders will discuss the opportunities, strategies and perspectives necessary to be successful

See **Texas-China Summit**, page 10

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Workforce Summit Continued from Page 1

In an increasingly competitive world economy, our city's economic strength and future depends upon the education and skills of its workers. In the coming years, jobs requiring an associate degree are projected to grow twice as fast as those requiring no college experience. And over the next decade, nearly 8 out of 10 new jobs will require higher education and workforce training.



Dr. Mary Spangler, HCC Chancellor

Summit participants had the opportunity to provide suggestions on ways that the college can team up with companies to help expand local businesses through education and training. These Summits have started to yield results already. As a result of the previous summit and the need expressed by local businesses, HCC will introduce a new course, "The Logistics and Global Supply Chain Management" AAS degree in January 2011, at the Stafford Campus. This course will provide students with the knowledge and ability to pursue a career in importing and exporting, materials handling, global transportation, warehouse and distribution center management, purchasing management and traffic

management. At the recent Houston Community College annual State of the College Address, HCC Chancellor Dr. Mary S. Spangler, while recognizing the progress and accomplishments of the college, assured the audience that HCC is looking to the future: "We are operating at the leading edge of change to move beyond relevance. To be a twenty-first century community college, we must now be innovative, enterprising and collaborative if we are to maintain our reputation as one of our nation's leading community colleges. It's time to set the bar higher again!"



Dr. Fena Garza, President, HCC Southwest (Center) with Martha Berrera, HCC Director of PR and Michael Sanouni (L) and Lina Sabouni (R)



(L-R) Missouri City Council Member At Large-Position 2, Danny Nguyen and C C Lee



Fort Bent County Commissioner- Precinct 2 Grade Presatage (L) and Chatina De Rousselle (R)



Gretchan Larson, International District and Richard Rodriguez, Brays Oaks Management District



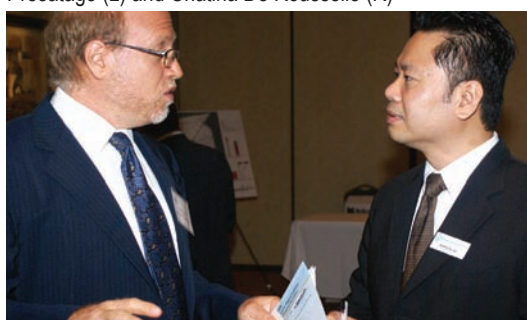
Alice Lee, Greater Sharpstown District



Dr. Joe Little, HCC Corporate College and Soniah Jones, Workforce Solutions



Dr. Arnold Goldber, Dean HCC Southwest



(L-R) Etan Mirwis, Brays Oaks Management District and Anthony Lee, International District



(L-R) Jean Kegler and Toni Franklin, President & CEO of Greater Southwest Houston Chamber of Commerce

Here's How To Make Your Business Succeed

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