

BAHEP extends its sincere appreciation for the continued support of the *Houston Community Newspapers* through this monthly supplement.

## IN BRIEF

### Speakers enhance BAHEP membership

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership has successfully served the economic development needs of the region for 35 years. It has worked with individuals, businesses, member cities and elected officials from Nassau Bay to the Netherlands to facilitate growth in Bay Area Houston.

BAHEP frequently hosts industry and community leaders who present current, accurate information relevant to its members. Often this is accomplished through BAHEP's general membership meetings. Guest speakers at the meetings have included John Hofmeister, former CEO of Shell Oil Company, who captivated his audience as you can read in the adjoining article. The Honorable Annise Parker, mayor of Houston; Port of Houston Authority Executive Director Alec Dreyer; and Drayton McLane, Jr., former CEO of the Astros, have all informed, and often delighted, BAHEP's members.

### SATOP provides help for small businesses

The Space Alliance Technology Outreach Program, administered by the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, is a NASA and State of Texas funded initiative designed to transfer the knowledge and technology of the U.S. Space Program to small businesses to solve technical challenges they are unable to solve themselves. Any type of

# Hofmeister pulls no punches when discussing America's energy crisis

At an August luncheon, John Hofmeister, former CEO of Shell Oil Company, faced a roomful of members of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and kept them spellbound as he expertly delivered a speech about America's energy crisis.

Hofmeister, never reticent about making his opinions known, has founded Citizens for Affordable Energy. He stated, "My mission, and the reason I started Citizens for Affordable Energy, is to make sure every person in America, by reaching out, by social networking, knows what we face in the future of our energy supply, our energy infrastructure, our environmental threats, and the potential of what's possible without a Republican slant, without a Democratic slant, because I don't trust either or we wouldn't be where we are."

#### Where are we?

The United States needs 20 million barrels of oil every day. It also uses 60 billion cubic feet of natural gas daily and 1,200 coal cars every hour of every day. That doesn't include energy produced from 104 nuclear plants. Hofmeister warned, "We are neither keeping up with the maintenance and the sustenance of the 20th century system nor are we replacing it with a 21st century energy system. We are getting closer by the year, and this decade is the tipping point, to the 20th century energy sys-

tem not supporting our liquid fuel requirements."

Hofmeister also believes that America is "facing the prospect in just a few years or any day in certain parts of the country" to intermittent blackouts, which would take us into a new age in our history, the age of the energy abyss.

Shell's former CEO also does not hesitate to declare that the biggest threat to this nation is the current dysfunction of the federal government, seconded only by the dysfunction of many state governments. He stated, "We have tolerated the evolution of a government structure, a government process that is dysfunctional, broken, and unfixable in its current form. Thirteen Cabinet officers, 26 committee chairs and ranking members of Congress, and hundreds of federal judges create chaos when determining an energy policy, and chaos doesn't get things done."

#### Reality of where we're going

Without major changes in America's energy policy, Hofmeister believes that America is headed for gas lines within three years, along with brownouts and blackouts, because power plants are not being built. He said, "The reality is the Gulf of Mexico is all but shut down for deepwater drilling, and it's not coming back. The consequence of this is one million less barrels per day of domestic production by

2015. Worldwide, the demand for oil in four years will increase from 86 million barrels per day to 96 million barrels per day, and no one knows where the extra production is going to come from."

#### Opportunity exists

In the 1970s and 1980s, according to Hofmeister, the United States produced around 10 million barrels per day of crude oil compared to the 7 million barrels being produced now. He firmly believes if crude oil production were to return to that level, three million new American jobs at oil industry pay and benefit rates would be created.

This would also produce an estimated \$30 billion per year in new revenues from oil royalties. The tax take on three million new jobs would also be significant, and the corporations would be paying more taxes due to their increase in revenue.

Hofmeister declared, "The energy system needs of the 21st century would create investment in the amount of trillions of dollars of private capital and enough employment that the economy of this country would experience a growth surge unlike anything we've experienced since before the 1970s."

#### In conclusion

Eight presidents and 19 congresses, Hofmeister declared, have promised America energy security, but energy securi-



Following his Aug. 4 speech, John Hofmeister autographed copies of his book, "Why We Hate the Oil Companies -- Straight Talk From an Energy Insider." BAHEP's membership luncheon was held at the Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake.

ty is decreasing by the year. He supports establishment of an independent regulatory commission, which can operate outside of Congress and political partisanship, to create a 21st century energy system. Hofmeister concluded, "It is my belief that we can pull ourselves up by our socks and do what Americans

do - go to work, enjoy life, raise our families, and keep our country free. That, to me, is a pretty good objective for the 21st century." (For more information, visit [www.citizensforaffordableenergy.org](http://www.citizensforaffordableenergy.org). For an audio version of Hofmeister's speech, visit [www.bayareahouston.com/news-room/press-releases](http://www.bayareahouston.com/news-room/press-releases).)

## NASA's Executive on Loan to BAHEP brings extensive background to position

Linda Ham, NASA's first female flight director, has been selected as Johnson Space Center's Executive on Loan to the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. In this position, she will work with BAHEP as the organization establishes and leads the Bay Area Houston Advanced Technology Consortium, BayTech.

The BayTech consortium will create mutually beneficial partnerships among NASA JSC, other federal agencies, businesses, universities, and the State of Texas. BayTech's goals include development of partnerships that leverage and utilize JSC's technical capabilities, core competencies, expertise, and facilities.

Ham commented on this newest challenge in her career stating, "With NASA's emphasis on innovation and technology development, I'm very excited about this opportunity to partner with other industries, federal agencies, and academia to advance technology, not only for the benefit of the aerospace industry but for the benefit of this nation and humankind. I've wanted to branch out and help to create an entity like BayTech for years."

BAHEP President Bob Mitchell stated, "When I first spoke with Linda about the importance of the BayTech project and its far-reaching implications for the region, the state, and NASA, she was immediately interested in making a contribution. Her extensive educational background and noted accomplishments within NASA

make her the ideal person to take the BayTech consortium from conception to reality and beyond."

Ham holds a Master of Science in Astronautical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, an MBA



Linda Ham  
NASA Executive on Loan

from Rice University, a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science from the University of Wisconsin, Parkside. She began her career at NASA in 1982 and served as flight director from 1991 to 2000. Ham joined the Space Shuttle Program in 2000 and has held increasingly responsible positions including: manager, Space Shuttle Program Integration, Space Shuttle Program; assistant to the director, Engineering Directorate; and manager for Technology Integration, Constellation Program.

Ham will serve as NASA's Executive on Loan to the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership for one year with the option of extending her commitment to BAHEP for an additional six to 12 months.

## BAHEP welcomes Jamail & Smith

Jamail & Smith Construction has become the newest member of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. The company headquarters at 16875 Diana Lane in the Bay Area and has additional Texas offices in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Killeen, and San Antonio.

Bob Mitchell, BAHEP president, stated, "Over the past few years, Jamail & Smith Construction has experienced outstanding growth while maintaining its excellent reputation. We look forward to partnering with them as we work together to further economic growth in the region."

Jim Jamail, president, founded Jamail Construction in 1982. It underwent a name change in January 2007 when Greg Smith, P.E., who joined the company in 1998, became

a partner. He currently serves as executive vice president.

Employing 180 people, the company's services include new-build construction, renovations and repair, green building applications, program management, design-build, and Job Order Contracting. Jamail & Smith Construction's JOC client roster includes rural and urban school districts, purchasing cooperatives and public institutions, as well



as county, state, and federal government entities.

Jamail & Smith Construction has a long history of a commitment to safety, which has led to numerous

awards from clients and leading industry organizations for outstanding safety performance and best practices including: Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. Gold Medal of Safety Excellence in 2005 and STEP Platinum Achievement Award for Safety Excellence from 2006 - 2011.

Kristi Kelly-Lowery, director of Business Development, represents Jamail & Smith Construction within BAHEP. She commented, "We are very excited about renewing our relationship with BAHEP and its members. We look forward to working with them in advancing our community and contributing further to this outstanding organization."

For additional information, visit [www.jamailsmith.com](http://www.jamailsmith.com) or call 832.628.4181.

## Lukee plays vital role at BAHEP

The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership is a member-driven organization. Its 265 members are a unique mix hailing from numerous industry sectors throughout Bay Area Houston, and it requires a unique person to provide the services required to sustain their interest and membership.

Harriet Lukee, BAHEP's membership director, will celebrate her 11th anniversary with the organization in December. She said, "I look at my role as connecting the dots. I identify areas of possible collaboration within our membership and facilitate introductions. I want to make sure that everyone gets the most benefit from their membership."

One of the most important responsibilities of several

BAHEP staff members is serving as liaisons to the organization's member cities. Lukee has worked with the City of Kemah for more than five years.

BAHEP members are encouraged to join one or more of over a dozen BAHEP committees, which work to promote economic growth and improve the quality of life within the region. The committees provide interesting networking opportunities, and BAHEP staff members act as liaisons on each of them. Lukee serves as staff liaison to the Annual Banquet Committee and the Small Business Committee. She also shares liaison duties on the Political Protocol Committee. Lukee coordinates all of BAHEP's general

membership meetings, as well. She recently collaborated closely with BAHEP's Small Business Committee to publish a "Service Provider Suppliers Guide." The guide improves the visibility of these businesses to everyone within BAHEP. It is one of many vehicles that Lukee utilizes to successfully retain membership in a growing and dynamic organization.



Harriet Lukee



small business is encouraged to submit a technical challenge to SATOP. If SATOP is able to assist, the small business is provided with up to 40 hours of FREE technical assistance.

SATOP publishes 1-2-3 SATOP, a quarterly newsletter. Each newsletter focuses on SATOP events, success stories, economic development organizations, and Alliance Partners. To download a pdf newsletter, visit [www.spacetechnologies.com](http://www.spacetechnologies.com).

Call Bob Payne, program director, at 832.536.3252 for more information.

*BUSINESS to BUSINESS* is a monthly Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership publication in partnership with the *Houston Community Newspapers*. BAHEP is a member-driven organization that provides the leadership to stimulate regional economic development and employment in southeast Texas. Its members include over 260 business partners encompassing 13 cities, Galveston and Harris counties, and the Port of Houston Authority.

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