

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

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## CCISD Superintendent Greg Smith selected as 2016 Quasar Award honoree

A well-educated workforce is one of the cornerstones of sound economic development. In recognition of this, the leadership of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership has selected Dr. Greg Smith, superintendent of Clear Creek Independent School District, as its recipient of the 2016 Quasar Award for Exceptional Leadership in Economic Development.

“Those who know Greg Smith see how committed he is to the students of Clear Creek ISD. We are honored to recognize him for his long service to our schools, our children, and our community,” stated Bob Mitchell, BAHEP president.

The Quasar Award is presented each year to an outstanding individual who has contributed greatly to the economic wealth and diversity of the Bay Area Houston region. Since 2008, Dr. Smith has

led the Clear Creek ISD and its more than 41,000 students and 5,000 staff members. Under his guidance, student performance has increased in all state indicators as well as college entrance exams. Today, Clear Creek ISD is considered one of the largest high performing school districts in Texas.

Dr. Smith was named the Superintendent of the Year in 2012 by the Texas Association of School Boards, the Top Administrator by the Texas Classroom Teachers Association and the Superintendent of the Year by the Texas PTA, both in 2013.

Prior to joining CCISD, Dr. Smith served as Superintendent in the Alvin Independent School District for seven years. Dr. Smith began his education career in 1981 as an elementary/middle school teacher in Houston ISD. In 1985 Dr. Smith moved south to Galveston ISD where he



Greg Smith, Ph.D.

served as assistant principal at Austin Intermediate School and later served as principal at Ball High School and Pearland High School. In 1996 Dr. Smith joined central administration at Clear Creek ISD as an executive director for the Clear Lake Cluster and in 1998, he was named deputy superintendent of Pearland ISD.

Dr. Smith earned his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Oakland University, master's degree in Education Administration from University of Houston Clear Lake, and his doctorate in Education Administration from Texas A&M University. Dr. Smith and his wife, Kathy, are the parents of two daughters and

grandparents of a CCISD kindergartner.

The Quasar Award will be presented to Dr. Smith during BAHEP's Annual Quasar Award Banquet to be held on January 29, 2016, at South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center.

### Previous award recipients

Prior recipients of BAHEP's Quasar Award include: Texas Governor Ann Richards, 1994; U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay, 1995; U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, 1996; U.S. Rep. Nick Lampson, 1997; NASA Johnson Space Center Director George W.S. Abbey, 1998; Harris County Judge Robert Eckels and Galveston County Judge Jim Yarbrough, 1999; Robert L. Moody, Sr., 2000; Houston Mayor Lee P. Brown, 2001; Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Jim Fonteno, 2002; House

Majority Leader Tom DeLay, 2003; Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia R. Garcia, 2004; Dr. John Stobo, president of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, 2005; Houston Mayor Bill White, 2006; NASA administrator Dr. Michael Griffin, 2007; Dr. William A. Staples, president of the University of Houston-Clear Lake, 2008; Mike Coats, director of NASA Johnson Space Center, 2009; Texas State Representative Craig Eiland, 2010; U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, 2011; U.S. Senator John Cornyn, 2012; Fred B. Griffin, owner and co-chairman, Griffin Partners, 2013; and Dr. Renu Khator, chancellor, University of Houston System, and president, University of Houston, 2014; and Dr. Bill Merrell, the George P. Mitchell '40 chair in Marine Sciences at Texas A&M University at Galveston and president of Merrell Historic Properties, Inc., 2015.

## BAHEP closes out 2015 welcoming Lone Star Flight Museum, NASA Alumni League and Art of the Meal

### Lone Star Flight Museum

Founded in 1987, the Lone Star Flight Museum is a 501 (c)(3) aviation STEM and history museum that promotes and encourages the study of the science and history of aviation through educational programs, historically significant artifacts, interpretive educational exhibits, special events, and publications.

members saying, “So many of us in Bay Area Houston have visited the Lone Star Flight Museum either as children or parents taking their children to the museum or both. We are very excited about the museum's move to Ellington Airport. This central location, in conjunction with the growth that is taking place at Ellington, is ideal for the Lone Star Flight Museum.”

Monica O'Neal represents the museum within BAHEP. She serves as the Education Project management consultant at the Lone Star Flight Museum. O'Neal

commented, “With innovative educational programs using aviation as a motivator, our plan is to inspire a new interest in science, technology, engineering and math that will help make future advances in aviation and space exploration possible. We look forward to working with BAHEP in this initiative.”

### New museum to open in early 2017

The new 35-million-dollar state-of-the-art Lone Star Flight Museum will feature interactive, educational exhibits focusing on the science, technology, engineering, and math concepts essential to flight while allowing visitors to explore Texas' rich aviation heritage. Highlights include the Aviation Learning Center, the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame and hangars full of vintage aircrafts.

This 21st century flight museum is being designed and constructed by a consortium of leading experts including: Transition CEO Ralph Bufano, Webb Architects, DG Studios,

Judson Design and The Sarrazin Group. It is anticipated that the new museum will be open for business in early 2017.

“We are honored to have the opportunity to bring an improved and expanded Lone Star Flight Museum to Ellington Airport,” said Scott Rozzell, chairman, Lone Star Flight Museum Board of Directors. “This state-of-the-art facility will provide a remarkable educational experience for students, teachers and other visitors interested in flight and the contribution of Texas and Texans to the development of aviation and aerospace.”

For additional information about the Lone Star Flight Museum, visit [www.lonestarflight.org](http://www.lonestarflight.org) or call 409.740.7722.

### NAS Alumni League—JSC Chapter

The Johnson Space Center (JSC) Chapter of the NASA Alumni League has joined the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. BAHEP President Bob Mitchell commented, “The NASA Alumni League – JSC Chapter provides many services for the community throughout the year. It's good to have their expertise readily available in support of our ongoing advocacy for NASA and human space exploration.”

Norman Chaffee is the JSC Chapter's president for 2014-2016 and will represent the organization within BAHEP. He said, “The NASA Alumni League – JSC Chapter is well aware of the great work that BAHEP does to support this nation's space policy. We'll do whatever we can on behalf of BAHEP's important efforts in this regard.”

Members of the JSC Chapter of the NASA Alumni League are retired NASA employees or military personnel who served



at NASA. The chapter provides several services:

- Ongoing updates of JSC and NASA activities, as well as of national and global aerospace activities,
- Monthly technical programs and periodic dinner programs featuring significant aerospace speakers,
- A variety of monthly social gatherings,
- A robust education outreach program supporting local and area school districts; Space Center Houston; the Museum of Fine Arts Exploration Center; JSC Education Office; NASA College Scholarship Program; the AIAA STEM Grant program; the Science National Honor Society; and the KIPP Private Charter School System,
- Expert technical input to local and national political representatives in support of NASA,
- Robust partnership with Johnson Space Center in many areas,
- Cooperation with AIAA (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) and IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) and other societies in joint activities and programs,
- Community-level support as requested and appropriate.

For additional information on the NASA Alumni League – JSC Chapter, visit [www.nal-jsc.org](http://www.nal-jsc.org) or call 713.944.2461.

### Art of the Meal

A well-cooked meal served beautifully is definitely an art, and Ginger Sprouse,

owner of Art of the Meal, firmly believes that bringing people together over food and wine is the recipe for success.

Art of the Meal has recently become a member of Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership. BAHEP President Bob Mitchell stated, “There is certainly no shortage of dining options in our region, but Art of the Meal offers not only great food but the venue for great culinary experiences, as well. BAHEP's committees have used Art of the Meal for luncheon meetings, and they have been very pleased.”

Sprouse noted, “The community has been very supportive since we opened our doors for business last year. I look forward to continuing our

decorated open kitchen classroom space provides an ideal venue for groups from 10 to 50.

Culinary instructors are available to prepare a customized gourmet meal in a demonstration class. For those who prefer to get their own aprons dirty, an intensive hands-on class geared toward team building and culinary creativity is another popular option. Art of the Meal can also support an event by catering a meal or cocktail party in their facility. A wine tasting component within an event is an additional option.

Art of the Meal's corporate team building events focus on the group becoming a better team and create an environment where everyone is an equal player. The end result is a delicious meal and the satisfaction of a new and challenging task completed as a team. Corporate events range from a structured cooking class to a “chopped” style or “cupcake wars” event. Events can be customized to fit specific needs.

Children can also try new foods while they learn about food science and how to work safely in the kitchen during hands-on classes offered for birthday parties or kids camps. Art of the Meal can accommodate up to 24 participants in its child-friendly kitchen where kids can prepare a fun, delicious, and age appropriate menu.

Art of the Meal also offers date night cooking classes, bridal showers, gluten free cooking classes, vegetarian and vegan cooking classes, and sushi rolling. Find out more by calling 713.933.8241 or visiting [www.artofthemeal.net](http://www.artofthemeal.net). Art of the Meal is located at 1354 NASA Parkway, Suite F, in Nassau Bay, Texas.



relationship with BAHEP and getting to know and serve those in the organization who work so hard to make this area such a great place to live.”

Art of the Meal offers a wide variety of services from team building, hands-on cooking classes, to interactive birthday parties for all ages, to a relaxed and fresh atmosphere to hold a cocktail reception. The company's beautifully



Bob Mitchell, president of Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, welcomed the Lone Star Flight Museum as one of BAHEP's newest mem-

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