

Harris County - Houston Sports Authority Newsletter

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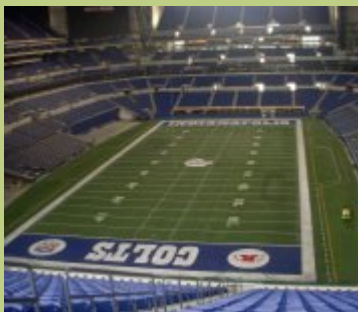
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HCHSA Staff toured Lucas Oil Stadium with other NASC Members in Indianapolis.

Dear Friends & Community Partners,

Our hearts were saddened last month when we heard the news that **Dr. Myles Brand, NCAA President** since 2003, passed away on September 17 at the age of 67. Dr. Brand was a friend to many in our Houston community and traveled here often to attend the various NCAA sporting events being hosted in our area. Pictured is Dr. Brand in Houston last year for a press conference surrounding the Fall Festival.



On another note we'd like to congratulate our **Board Member, Tom Sprague**, for his induction into the American Youth Baseball Hall of Fame for his years of umpiring. Tom has a heart for children and a love for life that is unmeasured... this is an honor well deserved.

You can now follow HCHSA or individual staff members on Facebook or Twitter to find out the newest Houston sports happenings. It's fast and easy so click either symbol to sign up today!



Also last month, staff traveled to Indianapolis to attend a meeting connected with the **National Association of Sports Commissions (NASC)**. In addition, they attended a reception at the NCAA headquarters and had a "behind the scenes" tour of Lucas Oil Stadium. Pictured at the NCAA



Kenny Friedman has been re-elected by the City of Houston and Harris County to serve another two year term as Chairman of the Board of HCHSA.



HCHSA Board members, Jess Fields and Tom Sprague, on a tour of Toyota Center during Rockets training camp.

reception are **Beth Hecquet, NASC** and Janis Schmees, as well as Emily Yates and the **NCAA mascot**.

Lastly, we are in need of volunteers this month to assist with the **Texas Senior Games**... see detailed information below. This is one of the most inspiring group of athletes you'll ever meet, and we know you won't want to miss the opportunity to serve them.

Sincerely,

Janis Schmees
HCHSA Executive Director

Calling all Volunteers!

The Jewish Community Center of Houston is hosting the Texas Senior Games, and HCHSA is partnering with them to help with volunteers. The Texas Senior Games, beginning on October 18 and ending on November 1, are an opportunity for adults aged 50 and over to test their strength, skill and spirit. There is a separate website for this particular event where you will be able to browse available shifts and select those you'd like to work. Please see <http://tssg2009.theregistrationsystem.com> for more information.



Houston participates in USOC Flame Program

Samuel Sok, a student at Rice University, was nominated by HCHSA to participate in the USOC F.L.A.M.E. (Finding Leaders Among Minorities Everywhere) program in Denver, Colorado. He had this to say about his experience:

"FLAME was an amazing experience. Meeting past, present, and future Olympians such as **Billy Mills, April Holmes, John Register, Joe Betterman**, and many more was thrilling. Aside from that, simply being able to be in a group of people who all share the same goals of unity and excellence provided much needed bonding as well as networking.



"All in all, I had a lot of fun, learned a lot, and would recommend this trip to anyone who is looking to succeed and is not afraid of working hard."

Thanks to Samuel for reporting back to us on his FLAME experience. HCHSA was happy to facilitate his participation in this wonderful program.

AAU Junior Olympic Games Report!

Members of the Houston Local Organizing Committee for the 2012 Games were



Rice University student Samuel Sok participated in the USOC F.L.A.M.E. program in Colorado Springs, CO.



HCHSA Executive Director Janis Schmees at the Houston Rockets fundraiser for Clutch City Sports. Also pictured are Nerida Zwaan, fiancé of Rockets player David Andersen, and Ye Li, wife of Rockets player Yao Ming. Photo by Kim Coffman.

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able to visit the 2009 AAU Junior Olympic Games in Des Moines, Iowa to observe the execution of the games. Des Moines hosted close to 14,000 athletes. Trampoline and Tumbling in particular boasted record numbers of over 1000 participants!

With renovations well underway at **Turner Stadium in Humble, Texas**, athletes are sure to enjoy many of the same luxuries observed in Des Moines this year.

Congratulations to all the participating athletes in the Junior Olympic Games and the staff in Des Moines for such a successful event. We look forward to hosting the event here in Houston in 2012.



Houston Rockets Ladies Launch Season at Tory Burch

Houston Rockets wives, fiancés and friends gathered at Tory Burch on September 24th to shop for a cause and launch the Rockets season in style. Guests enjoyed mimosas and perused Tory must-haves for fall featuring pop colors, military influences and a touch of eclectic French style. Chic Tory bags and clutches were a favorite with Rockets special guests from Memorial Hermann, Northwestern Mutual, Capital One, ODS International and the Harris County - Houston Sports Authority. Tory donated 15% of proceeds from the event to the Clutch City Foundation for underserved children in the Houston area.

HCHSA Executive Director, Janis Schmees, was able to attend this wonderful event. Pictured below are Louise Turner, wife of Rockets Coach Elston Turner, Sharon Dawson, wife of Rockets former General Manager Caroll Dawson, Nerida Zwaan, fiancé of Rockets player David Andersen, and Ye Li, wife of Rockets Center Yao Ming.



Photo by Kim Coffman

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[Houston Dynamo](#)
[Houston Rockets](#)
[Houston Texans](#)
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[Texas Southern University](#)
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