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In the Know: Congressman Ron Paul

Volume III, Issue I

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Dear Constituents,

I am honored and privileged to serve as your Congressman.

It is my goal to help each and every person who contacts me. I have four offices and an experienced staff who is eager to help in any way we can.

We can help if you are having problems with a federal entity, if you would like a tour in Washington D.C. or if you would like to apply for a service academy and live in District 14. My offices

offer these services and more.

I hope you will take an opportunity to read *In the Know* to learn more about these services and what my staff and I have been doing over the past few months. Again, thank you for allowing me to serve you! If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Ron Paul

Paul helps service academy hopefuls secure a future

At a time when the economy is troubled and college tuition prices are rising, many young men and women have sought to pursue their education at a federal service academy. Congressman Ron Paul has helped those goals come to fruition for many local teens.

A service academy is a federal educational institution that prepares officers for the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Merchant Marines and Coast Guard. Academy graduates receive a first-rate undergraduate education, equivalent to that provided by a top-tier, Ivy League school and spend a minimum of 5 years on active duty as a military officer.

The full four-year military academy nomination is equal to a scholarship valued at more than \$350,000 which includes tuition, room and board, medical and dental care and a monthly salary. Students learn discipline, moral ethics and teamwork in a structured environment that fosters



Congressman Paul nominated 11 local teens into service academies recently and held a special ceremony for the students and their families in Galveston. Pictured above are: (Front row, kneeling) Travis Guerra, Eric Cody, Kyle Leonard; Back row: Joseph Glywasky, Alexander Clark, Nicholas Capuzzi, Alexander Lovely, Congressman Paul, Nikolas Linton, and James Gregory. Not pictured: Sean Robert Evans, and Antoine Picou.

leadership and character development.

Service academy applicants must be nominated by their Congressman. The nomination process is completely non-political, typically involving essay writing, acquiring letters of recommenda-

tion and a face-to-face interview. If you live in Congressional District 14 and are interested in learning more about the military academy nomination process with Congressman Paul's office, contact Jackie Gloor at (361) 576-1231.

Schedule requests:

Call Congressman Paul's District Scheduler, Tracee Tollett at (979) 285-0231 or send her an email at tracee.tollett@mail.house.gov

Constituent services:

- Assistance in dealing with a federal entity for cases involving Social Security, Medicare, veteran's benefits, etc.
- A letter of support for grants being sought by a non-profit agency or municipality.
- U.S. flags flown over the Capitol in honor of an occasion or for a deserving person
- Appropriations requests for funding for local government projects
- Contact one of the district offices if you would like help with any of the issues listed above.

Mailing List

If you would like to sign up for *Texas Straight Talk*, the congressman's weekly column, log onto: www.house.gov/paul

To add or remove your name from the *In the Know* newsletter email list, please submit your request to Twila.Lindblade@mail.house.gov

Paul helps spread the word on services offered to Ike victims

Congressman Ron Paul and GRACE Community Services Director Ruama Camp, discuss various programs & events that have transpired to help victims of Hurricane Ike. Paul spoke at the GRACE Community Resource and Information Festival on July 10 in Galveston.

More than 1,400 job seekers attend 'opportunities' fair

The next Oceans of Opportunities Job Fair will be held in Feb. 2011. Call Twila Lindblade at (409) 766-7013 for more information.

In an effort to unite job seekers and employers, while boosting the local economy, Congressman Paul jointly hosted the Fifth Annual Oceans of Opportunities Job Fair recently. A total of 1,467 job seekers and 71 employers attended the event.

The job fair was an idea Congressman Ron Paul pursued shortly after Hurricane Rita. The event has transpired into a highly-anticipated event each year.

The job fair has become a joint venture comprised of partners: Congressman Ron Paul, the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, the Galveston Economic Development Partnership, the University of Texas Medical Branch, Workforce Solutions and the City of Galveston.

Official data on how many job seekers were hired from the job fair are still incomplete. However, organizers received positive feedback regarding the fair, immediately.

"I feel the Galveston Job

Fair was the best job fair that I have ever been to. Businesses were taking resumes and allowing people to fill out applications on the spot. All of the other job fairs you had to go online and figure out what to apply for and turn in, just to get an e-mail back that the position is already filled," Mrs. Krishnar Hoffman of Alvin said.

"Thank you for a wonderful job fair and giving those of us out here a glimmer of hope that we will find a career home."

Congressman Paul was equally happy with the success of the job fair. "I was very pleased to participate in the Oceans of Opportunities Job Fair once again this year, and hope that it was beneficial to the many job seekers and employers that were there.

The health of the local economy is one of my main concerns as a congressman and co-hosting this job fair every year is something I always look forward to."

Ron Paul talks with local civic, business groups

Congressman Ron Paul often speaks with business or civic groups regarding issues in Washington or specific to District 14. If your group or organization would like for Congressman Paul to come speak, please contact Tracee Tollett at (979) 285-0231 or email her at Tracee.Tollett@mail.house.gov

Individuals or groups wishing to make an appointment in the Congressman's Washington office are asked to contact

Jennifer Bailey at jennifer.bailey@mail.house.gov.

Another way to stay connected regarding ongoing issues is to become a member of the congressman's mailing list or send him a personal email. To do so, log onto his web site at www.house.gov/paul.

If you would like to receive the Congressman's district newsletter, *In the Know*, contact Twila Lindblade at Twila.Lindblade@mail.house.gov.



Congressman Paul spoke to the League City Lion's Club recently. Pictured above are John Nisbet, member of the club, Congressman Paul and Steve Nicklow, former president of the club.

Congressman Paul honors Eagle Scout recipients with flags



Recently, six Friendswood High School students earned the Eagle Scout ranking. The group has spent more than 10 years Scouting together, each earning a minimum of 21 merit badges, serving many community service hours, holding various leadership roles and completing an Eagle Scout Project for a non profit organization. Only 4 percent of Scouts achieve the rank of Eagle. Pictured from left to right are: Nicholas Taylor Mapp, Christopher Edward Jolibois, John Alex Hart, Norman Addison Thornhill IV or "Tanner", Logan Henry Hodge and Brandon Michael Stockman. Congressman Ron Paul wrote a letter to each of the recipients and provided the students with an American Flag that was flown over the US Capitol in their honor. A representative with Congressman Paul's staff, presented the flags to each of the students during a ceremony for the Friendswood students earlier this year.

Paul introduces legislation to help students, parents & seniors

Education

Congressman Paul has introduced an ambitious education reform agenda to give parents, teachers, and all Americans the tools necessary to ensure children receive a first-class education. The centerpiece of Ron Paul's education agenda is the Family Education Freedom Act (HR 1951). The Family Education Freedom Act provides a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for education expenses to provide a K-12 education in public, private, or home school. Congressman Paul has also introduced the Education Improvement Tax Cut (HR 1952), which provides a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for cash and in-kind donations to a public, private, or home school. Congressman Paul has introduced HR 1953, the Hope Plus Scholarship Act. This bill makes the Hope Scholarship credit available to K-12 education expenses.

Congressman Paul is also dedicated to helping the nation's professional educators. This is why he has introduced the Teacher Tax Cut Act (HR 1949), which proved a \$1,0 tax credit to K-12 teachers and the Professional Educators Tax Relief Act (HR 1950), which expands the tax credit to librarians, counselors and all professionals working in K-12 education.

Senior Citizens

Congressman Paul believes keeping the promise Social Security represents should be among Congress' top priorities. That is why, on the first day of the 111TH Congress he introduced the Social Security Preservation Act (HR 219). This bill mandates that Social Security surplus be invested in interest-generating obligations of the United States or certificates of deposit. Congressman Paul has also introduced HR 161, The Social Security Benefits Tax Reduction Act, which repeals the 1993 increase in the tax on Social Security benefits, and HR 162, the Social Security Tax Elimination Act, which repeals the entire benefits tax. Since Social Security benefits come from the taxes paid by seniors while they were working, the benefits tax represents a form of double taxation.

Congressman Paul is cosponsoring HR 1067, which provides a lump sum payment to the "Notch

babies." Notch babies are persons who, because of a 1977 change in the Social Security laws, receive lower Social Security benefits than other Social Security recipients.

Congressman Paul is an original cosponsor of HR 235, the Social Security Fairness Act. This act repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, which punishes public school teachers by reducing their Social Security benefits.

Congressman Paul has also introduced the Prescription Drug Availability Act (HR 163). The Prescription Drug Availability Act provides seniors with a tax credit for the costs of prescription drugs. It also repeals government regulations that prevent seniors, and other Americans, from buying safe and effective prescription drugs overseas. HR 163 also prohibits government regulation of any Internet pharmacy that complies with all state laws and regulations governing pharmacies.

Reducing the burden of bureaucracy places on Medicare patients and providers is a priority of Congressman Paul. That is why he has cosponsored HR 43, which makes it easier for Medicare patients to use psychological therapy services.

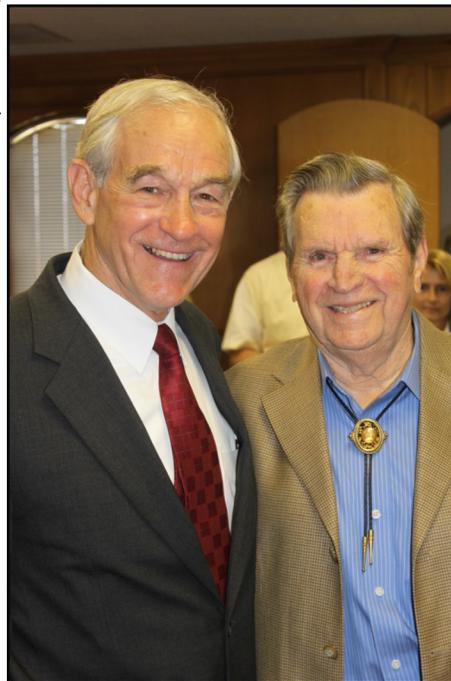
Tax relief

One way government can encourage growth is to reduce the amount it takes from Americans in the form of taxes. To this end, Congressman Paul is cosponsoring over 70 pieces of legislation that reduces tax burden, including HR 143, which suspends the income tax for two months and HR 301, which permanently extends President Bush's 2002 tax cuts.

Congressman Paul has introduced HR 2953, the Evacuees Tax Relief Act. HR 2953 provides a tax credit or a tax deduction, depending on the wishes of the taxpayer, of up to \$5,000 for costs incurred because of a government-ordered mandatory or voluntary evacuation. Evacuees could use the credit to cover travel and lodging expenses associated with the evacuation, lost wages, property damages not otherwise compensated, and any other evacuation-related expenses. The tax credit is retroactive to December 2007, so evacuees from Ike, Gustav, Dolly, and other natural disasters that occurred in 2008 can qualify for the tax credit.

Congressman Paul is also an original cosponsor of HR 4052, the Fair Disaster tax relief act, which makes a verity of tax relief provision for victims of natural disaster permanent, including the casualty loss provision, and the carry back loss provision. The bill also provides extend tax breaks for clean-ups and allows states to issue tax-exempt bonds for disaster relief purposes.

Congressman Paul is also cosponsoring legislation (HR 16) to make the sales tax deduction permanent, thus reducing taxes on those who label in



Congressman Paul has introduced legislation to help senior citizens, students and parents. Pictured above, Congressman Paul poses for a photo with Bob Taylor of Chambers County during a recent visit.

dates, like Texas, that pay state sales taxes instead of income taxes. Congressman

In order to help those who have lost their jobs, Congressman Paul has introduced HR 1311- the Unemployment Assistance Act, allows the unemployed to make penalty-free withdrawals from accounts such as Roth IRAs or 401(K)s, to cover routine living expenses, health care expenses, or to help pay for education and job training. Those who make these penalty-free withdrawals while unemployed will be able to replenish their accounts once they have started a new job. Congressman Paul has also introduced HR 1312, the Unemployed Tax Relief Act, which makes a laid-off worker's last paycheck tax free.

Congressman Paul has also introduced HR 779, the Tax Free Tips Act, which, as its name suggests makes tips take free. As Congressman Paul said upon introducing the bill: "Tips often compose a substantial portion of the earnings of waiters, waitresses, and other service-sector employees. However, unlike regular wages, a service-sector employee usually has no guarantee of, or legal right to, a tip. Instead, the amount of a tip usually depends on how well an employee satisfies a client. Since the amount of taxes one pays increases along with the size of tip, taxing tips punishes workers for doing a superior job!"



Taylor Johnston of League City met with Congressman Paul in his Galveston office in June to discuss proposed legislation. Paul is always willing to listen to the needs & views of his constituents.

Congressman Paul listens to & addresses constituent needs



Congressman Paul spoke with Galveston County Commissioner Ken Clark (center) and BAHEP president Bob Mitchell (right) at the Webster Business Alliance meeting. Paul discussed NASA, the economy & other related issues when he served as the guest speaker in April.



Paul poses for a quick photo with West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce president Missy Malechek. Paul spoke to the chamber's members at a luncheon recently.



In the Pictures:

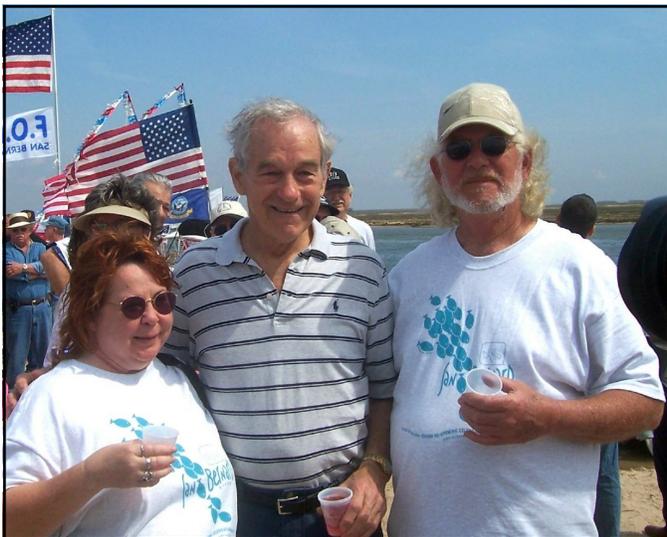
(above) 90-year old Albin Pribyl was presented his medals of honor by Congressman Paul recently in Victoria. Pribyl earned the medals during his years of service during World War II.

Pictured top right: Congressman Paul nominated Ethan Gann (left) and Stuart Sayes (right) to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. The students, both of Lake Jackson, each received appointments to the academy as well.

Congressman Paul posed for a photo with State Rep. Larry Taylor and Julie Johnson, City of Dickinson City Administrator at the North Galveston County Chamber of Commerce luncheon.



Congressman Paul is *In the Know*



Congressman Paul attended a ceremony for the Grand Reopening of the San Bernard River recently. Pictured with the congressman are Jan and Roy Edwards. A new cut of the river was named the Edwards Cut, in their honor.



Jennifer Vogel with YourTownTV interviewed Congressman Paul recently regarding several local issues. If you are a member of the media and would like to interview Congressman Paul, contact Rachel Mills at (202) 225-2831 or Rachel.Mills@mail.house.gov.



In the Photos:

Pictured above: New Galveston Mayor Joe Jaworski and his son Lee Jaworski, visited with Congressman Paul last month at the GRACE Community Services festival held in Galveston. Paul congratulated Jaworski on his victory as new mayor and hopes to continue to work together to help the citizens.

Pictured left: Congressman Ron Paul recently presented a flag to Gina Spagnola, president of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce. The Galveston organization, which works to help area businesses, lost everything when Hurricane Ike hit the Gulf, including their flag. Fred Raschke, chairman of the chamber is also pictured.



Students can learn how the government operates via internships

Students who have an interest in politics are encouraged to apply for an internship with Congressman Paul's office. High school students may consider applying for the Congressional Page program as well. Both programs offer unique opportunities.

Participants of the page program will have an opportunity to spend time sitting in the galleries of Congress, work alongside Capitol Hill staff members and attend various committee hearings.

Students who wish to intern are given a chance to work with constituents, help with district projects, attend functions and learn how the district offices operate.

One local intern said intern- ing with Congressman Paul's office was a memorable ex-

perience he would never forget.

"I learned about looking at each bill and comparing it to the constitution. I also learned a lot about the general way things work on the Hill, and that there are politicians out there who are concerned only with getting re-elected. It was definitely a very rewarding experience, and something I would do again if I could. I'll never forget it."

Intern applicants do not need to be a resident of the 14th district of Texas, though residents do receive higher priority.

Interns are accepted year round, but as the summer is usually the most preferred time for most students who look for an internship, it is recommended that you send



Daniel Erickson of League City was an intern in Congressman Paul's Galveston office last summer. Students can contact their local office for more information on available opportunities.

your application in as early as possible.

Daily and weekly schedules can be flexible as well as the length of the internship. Paid and non-paid internships are available in the D.C. office as well as the three Texas offices.

For an internship or page program application, please contact Jennifer Bailey in the Congressman's Washington office at (202) 225-2831.



In the Photo:

Congressman Paul waves to parade on-lookers in the Independence Day parade in Friendswood on July 5. If you would like for Ron Paul to attend your local event, contact Tracee Tollett in the Congressman's Lake Jackson office. -Photo Courtesy of Jessica Schmale .

What counties does Congressman Paul represent ?

The 14th congressional district of Texas stretches from the Gulf Coast in Galveston and Chambers counties almost to Corpus Christi; north through Victoria; and east through Jackson and Wharton counties toward Houston. It includes parts of Fort Bend county, then slopes south through Brazoria County. Congressman Ron Paul has several offices to meet the needs of constituents. Those offices are:

Washington D.C.
203 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C.
20515
(202) 225-2831

Lake Jackson
122 West Way, Suite 301
Lake Jackson, TX 77566
(979) 285-0231



Galveston
601 25th Street, Suite 501 (*note the new suite number)
Galveston, TX 77550
(409) 766-7013

Victoria
1501 Mockingbird Lane
Suite 229
Victoria, TX 77904
(361) 576-1231

How can I get help from my Congressman?

If you live in Congressional District 14 and would like assistance dealing with a federal entity, Congressman Paul encourages you to contact one of his district offices (addresses listed above). He has casework specialists who are trained to meet the needs of constituents.

Congressman Paul and his staff have helped thousands of constituents get help for cases involving:

- FEMA
- Social Security
- Immigration
- Passports
- Medicare
- Veterans Administration
- Internal Revenue Service
- Any other federal agency

Once you have contacted one of the above offices, you will need to fill out a Privacy Act form, which authorizes Ron Paul's staff to contact the federal agency on your behalf. By law and professional courtesy, our office is unable to assist with issues dealing at the state

or local level. In addition, we cannot assist constituents who live outside of District 14 (see map above).

If you are not certain what congressional district you live in, please contact our office and we will be happy to provide that information for you.

Congressman Paul also has dedicated and informed legislative staff members in his Washington D.C. office who research each piece of legislation that is introduced. If a piece of legislation is not supported by the U.S. Constitution, then Congressman Paul will not vote for it. For more information on legislation, log onto www.house.gov/paul.

How to reach Ron Paul's Staff:
Chief of Staff: Jeff Deist; Washington D.C.

Legislative Specialists: Norman Singleton, Daniel McAdams, Paul-Martin Foss & Adam Dick; Washington D.C.

Capitol Tours & Flag Requests: Holly Johnson; Washington D.C.

Schedule Requests outside of Texas: Jennifer Bailey; Washington D.C.

Schedule Requests in District 14: Tracee Tollett; Lake Jackson

Media Communications/Texas Straight Talk: Rachel Mills; Washington D.C.

District Casework Director: Jackie Gloor, Victoria

District Deputy Casework Director: Dianna Kile; Lake Jackson

Field Communications/In the Know: Twila Lindblade; Galveston

Casework Specialists: Linda Sullivan; Lake Jackson; John Watts; Lake Jackson; Michelle Gloor; Victoria; Dallas Chambless; Victoria

Administrative Specialists: Dodie Armstrong; Lake Jackson & Brenda Roell; Victoria