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**Volunteer of the
Quarter, Spring 2018**



Rick Cedeno

Greetings!

United Way of Brazoria County (UWBC) celebrates all that you and the hundreds of other volunteers, advocates, and donors do everyday to progress the mission of UWBC to promote a higher quality of life in our communities.

We thank you deeply and ask that you become a digital advocate for the UWBC mission just as you are in your daily life.

- Like & Follow UWBC on [FACEBOOK](#)
- Encourage a friend to sign-up for the [NEWSLETTER](#)
- Consider a reoccurring gift to the Community Impact [FUND](#)

We are grateful you have joined the fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Brazoria County.

We couldn't do it without you.

Sincerely,

The United Way of Brazoria County Staff



Salute to Volunteers

UWBC is happy to announce that [Rick Cedeno](#), Building Engineer with SCM Realty Services, Inc. at the [Central Brazoria County Business Park](#) is the [United Way of Brazoria County](#) Volunteer of the Quarter for Spring 2018!

Congratulations and thank you, Rick!

In addition to his ongoing work supporting the needs of the UWBC staff and office, Rick played an integral role in managing the logistics and safety of the Hurricane Harvey relief supplies warehouse in the months following landfall and devastating flooding in [Brazoria County](#). Rick has spent 30+ hours of his time engaged in recovery activities, including lending his hand as a qualified forklift operator, moving thousands of pounds of palatalized water and other relief items as they were received and then prepared for distribution to direct assistance community partners.

We deeply thank Rick and his employers at SCM Realty Services, Inc. for their ongoing support for the UWBC mission and the recovery of Brazoria County Harvey survivors.

Your work for the benefit of the community truly embodies what it means to [#LIVEUNITED](#).

To learn more about volunteering with UWBC, [CLICK HERE](#).

UWBC Welcomes New Board Members



Tonya Visor

There are some new roles and new faces around the table at the UWBC Board of Directors meetings. Please join us in warmly welcoming our new Board of Directors

Last week, we celebrated the annual [United Way of Brazoria County](#) Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. It was a great success thanks to the tremendous work that is accomplished year-round by dedicated volunteers through our corporate and community partnerships.

Thank you to everyone who attended our luncheon and to those who could not be there to celebrate this time around.

Thank you to our speakers: [Tonya Visor](#) of [UTMB Health Angleton Danbury Campus](#), [Kristina Booth](#) of [TDECU](#), and [Halden Smith](#) of [Freeport LNG](#).

Thank you to [Nothing Bundt Cakes](#) for providing our delicious desserts and to [A Family Flower Shop & Keepsakes](#) for providing the beautiful sunflower centerpieces.

And thank you to the additional represented businesses and organizations for supporting a culture of volunteerism in your places of work: The Dow Chemical Company, Freeport LNG, True to Life Ministries, H-E-B Pearland Plus!, First State Bank Clute, Ineos Olefins & Polymers USA, Everything Youth Sports Magazine, EYS, Riviana Foods Inc, Stephen F. Austin Community Health Network, CenterPoint Energy, Olin Corporation, Chevron Phillips Chemical Company, 3M, 20/20 Vision Community Development Corporation, Phillips 66-Sweeny Refinery, Brazoria County Alliance for Children, The Facts, Boys & Girls Club of Brazoria County, Wood Group, Brazosport College, Communities In Schools, The Rose, Pearland ISD, City of Pearland, Zachry Group, Mammot USA, Port Freeport, Congressman Randy Weber's office, Central Brazoria County Business Park, Lyondellbasell Industries, Ascend Performance Materials, City of Alvin, and BASF Corporation.

To view the full album of event photos, [CLICK HERE](#).



Partnering with Local Businesses

United Way of Brazoria County is very happy to introduce the two newest 2018 founding members to the *Small Business | Big Impact* a leadership circle. Please help us to warmly welcome **Urban Eve**, **BlueRoots Salons** and **Events All Around, LLC**.

Small Business | Big Impact is comprised of local business owners dedicated to serving the community where we all live, work, and play.

Small businesses play a critical role in maintaining a thriving local economy, and their partnership is equally critical to the success of UWBC, as we fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in our community.

Small Business | Big Impact focuses on connecting small business

President, Tonya Visor of UTMB Angleton Danbury Campus. Tonya has served on the Board since March of 2014 and is replacing Kerry Drabek who is now Past President.



Dixie Roberts

Dixie Roberts is the City Secretary for the City of Alvin. Last year, she and her colleagues received the United Way of Brazoria County Employee Campaign Leaders of the Year Award for their outstanding accomplishments during their workplace campaign. This is her first year serving on the UWBC Board of Directors.



Yvonne Mintz

Yvonne Mintz is the Editor and Publisher of The Facts newspaper. She served on the UWBC Community Impact Committee for the 2017-2018 funding cycle, and this is her first year serving on the Board of Directors.



Brenda George

Brenda George is a Consultant with CHI St. Luke's Health and Co-Pastor at NewBirth Church. She has been recognized as a UWBC

owners who understand we can find sustaining solutions to our community's toughest challenges through partnerships and the efficient mobilization of resources: time, talent, and treasure.

To learn more about our community-minded local businesses, see their leadership bios below. To find out more information about *Small Business | Big Impact*, [CLICK HERE](#).

To view the photo album of member businesses [CLICK HERE](#).

Urban Eve, BleuRoots Salons



Jennifer Culverhouse, owner of Urban Eve, BleuRoots Salons, moved with her family to Brazoria County in 2001. Her husband, Jason Culverhouse, originally transferred to the area to work in the Houston oil industry, but their family wanted to build a life outside of the city. They found a little spot on the map called Lake Jackson, and it ended up being a great fit. Her favorite things about living in this area are the people, the relationships, and the generosity.

Jennifer cannot remember a time in her life when she was not involved in entrepreneurial activities. She vividly remembers organizing her Grandmother's garage sales were the highlight of her childhood summers. "I have also always been so passionate about the bursary industry and fashion... I can't think of anything in the entire world I would have done differently with my career choice," says Jennifer. The most rewarding aspects of being an entrepreneur for her are the people and the relationships. She thoroughly enjoys watching her team grow, developing into successful business leaders themselves.

Giving back is one of the top 3 core values of Urban Eve, BleuRoots Salons. The salons donate 1% of gross sales to local and global causes. In addition to running a fleet of salons, Jennifer is the founder of the nonprofit, FreeRoots. FreeRoots provides vocational training for women who are at risk of or have been rescued from sex trafficking. Teams of stylists from Urban Eve, BleuRoots Salons travel to Mumbai, India twice a year and serve at Freedom Place in Houston monthly to support the vocational education of women.

This new partnership with United Way of Brazoria County through membership with *Small Business | Big Impact* is a natural extension of the cause-driven work already ingrained in the Urban Eve, BleuRoots culture. Jennifer explains, "The impact United Way

Vunteer of the Quarter and served on the Community Impact Committee for the 2018-2019 funding cycle. This is her first year serving on the UWBC Board of Directors.



Sharon Barnes

Sharon Barnes is a Sr. HR Business Partner at Freeport LNG Development L.P. in Freeport. She is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management and the American Chemical Society and a board member of the Boys & Girls Club of Brazoria County. Additionally, she is a member and board secretary of the National Organization of Black Chemists and Engineers and the CHI Brazosport Regional Health Care Foundation and has just been appointed to the Texas Medical Board of Directors by Governor Greg Abbott. This is her first year serving on the UWBC Board of Directors.



Jeffrey Spoor

Jeffrey Spoor is the Assistant Vice President of First State Bank. This is his first year serving on the UWBC Board of Directors.



is making is huge, and we are so grateful to get to be a part of that."

Events All Around, LLC



A United Way of Brazoria County Community Partner

Jessica Haviland, owner of Events All Around, LLC, is a life-long Brazoria County resident. She was born and raised here and loves how her work touches many lives across our community. Her business, Events All Around, LLC, was established in 2008 and is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year.

Jessica is driven to support community needs. Events All Around typically sponsors 15-20 nonprofit events each year. Additionally, they offer 10% off to nonprofit organizations in need of event supplies and donate 4-5 Cinema Packages to live-auction charitable events annually.

This year has been even more active for Jessica and her business because of the effects of Hurricane Harvey on our community. Events All Around, LLC was a key sponsor of Rayzur's 9th Annual Best Batch Crawfish Cookoff just a few weekends ago. This year, this beloved local event is donating the proceeds of the event to the Brazoria County Long-Term Recovery Committee to support the survivors of Hurricane Harvey through the Brazoria County Hurricane Harvey Recovery Fund. Events All Around LLC was also a key sponsor of the Harvey Relief Donations Drop-off Site at the Brazos Mall last September, providing the tents, tables, and other supplies needed to host the event. That donation site brought in 13,552 donated relief items and over \$10,000 in recovery donations that went out to local nonprofits working directly with survivors.

Jessica and Events All Around, LLC have a long-standing relationship with United Way of Brazoria County. Just last year the two organizations partnered to produce The Big Bounce, an Inflatables 5K Fun Run at the Freeport Municipal Park in Freeport, Texas. When asked about what she anticipates as a new *Small Business | Big Impact* member, Jessica says, "United Way of Brazoria County will be the vehicle we use moving forward to focus our charitable efforts and community impact."

Supporting Emerging Leadership

Kristina Booth

Kristina Booth is an Indirect Credit Analyst with TDECU. She is a past recipient of the UWBC Volunteer of the Quarter award and the current Volunteer of the Year, as well as, a recipient of The Facts' Unsung Heros award. She is also the chairperson of the Unmet Needs Committee within the Brazoria County Long-Term Recovery Committee (BCL-TRC). This is her first year serving on the UWBC Board of Directors.

Campaign Awards



Some of UWBC's most dedicated volunteers are our Employee Campaign Leaders (ECLs), and we love recognizing their advocacy in the workplace.

To view the full album of 2017-2018 Workplace Campaign Awards, [CLICK HERE](#).



Every year, The Facts newspaper opens up nominations for 20 leaders under 40 years of age to receive special recognition for their outstanding leadership, service and commitment to the community. UWBC is proud to announce Communications Manager, Andrea Raiff, has been recognized this year as one of The Facts' Leaders Under 40 honorees.

UWBC proudly supports the work of all of Brazoria County's emerging leaders.

To view The Facts' Special Edition bios of Andrea Raiff and the other Leaders Under 40 recipients this year, [CLICK HERE](#).

United, We Win

You aren't a volunteer. You are someone's hero.

[United, We Win](#) is a new Facebook group dedicated to connecting you with the local causes and volunteer opportunities that you are passionate about. Join this group to stay informed about the great work happening in Brazoria County and to learn how you can be a part of it.

When you join the fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community, we all win.

To join the United, We Win Facebook group, [CLICK HERE](#).



Join us on our website



Engage with us on Twitter



View our impact on Flickr



Join the conversation on Facebook