



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



**LEFT**– Dr. Ron Wyatt (second from left), principal of Alamo Elementary School, receives a trophy from Congressman Ted Poe (center) as the elementary school contributing the most Christmas cards for the troops. Pictured are (back, l to r) Dr. Salvador Cavazos, GCCISD superintendent; Dr. Wyatt; Poe; Judy Jirrels, Alamo teacher; Donna Woolsey, ExxonMobil public affairs and Partners In Education chair; (front, l to r) Jared Cardenas; Angel Davis, Autumn Grevenberg; Ivan Valencia and Violet Mendoza. **TOP RIGHT** – Congressman Ted Poe gives a “thumbs up” to Horace Mann Junior School assistant principal Terry Coy, presenting her with a special Outstanding Contribution award for helping to inspire Horace Mann staff and students to collect Christmas cards for the troops. Horace Mann Junior received the trophy this year for contributing 42,997 cards. **BOTTOM RIGHT** – Congressman Ted Poe (third from left) presents a trophy to Ross S. Sterling High School for being the high school that collected the most Christmas cards for the troops. Pictured are (l to r) Kevin Foxworth, RSS principal; Laurie Terry, vice president, San Jacinto Methodist Hospital; Poe; Haley Moreau, 11 grade; Erin Kelly, 10th grade, Aaron Miles, 12th grade; Donna Woolsey, ExxonMobil public affairs and Partners In Education chair and Rikki Wheeler, executive vice president of the Baytown Chamber of Commerce.

## Schools Receive Awards from Congressman Ted Poe

Nearly a month after Christmas, many U.S. service people stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan, far from home, are still feeling the joy of being remembered with a card made by Goose Creek CISD students and contributors from other districts and businesses. For the past eight years, Congressman Ted Poe has sent or personally delivered these Christmas cards to the troops, who are unable to celebrate the holiday with their families.

Once again, Rikki Wheeler, executive vice president of the Baytown Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the Partners In Education program, spearheaded the activity, which resulted in 111,000 Christmas cards for the troops. Poe expressed his appreciation and presented trophies to the elementary, junior, and high school that contributed the most cards.

Alamo Elementary collected 7,611 cards, an increase from the 5,125 that won the school the first place trophy last year. This was 7.66% of the total cards collected in 2013.

Horace Mann Junior School received the first place trophy again this year. Last year, the school turned in 15,864 Christmas cards, but the faculty and students outdid themselves this year, contributing 42,997 cards, which made up 43 % of the total cards collected.

In honor of her efforts in encouraging the faculty and students to make the cards, Terry Coy, assistant principal, received a special Outstanding Contribution award from Poe.

Ross S. Sterling High School once again received the Most Collected trophy. Sterling contributed 24,429 cards last year and 24,775 this year, representing 25% of the total cards collected.

“One out of every nine people in uniform in Iraq and Afghanistan is from Texas,” said Poe. “They are emotional when they receive the cards. Some have the cards taped up in their tents, and one had cards taped up inside his tank. They are all very appreciative.”

Dr. Salvador Cavazos, Goose Creek CISD superintendent, Ken Martin, GCCISD Board of Trustees member; Wheeler; Donna Woolsey, ExxonMobil Public Affairs and Partners In Education chair; Horacio Trevino, HMJ’s Partner In Education from SNC Lavalin; Laurie Terry, vice president, San Jacinto Methodist Hospital and Kim Brode, Poe’s community liaison, also helped to honor the schools for their outstanding contributions.

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