

GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Baytown Police Chief Keith Dougherty (left) and Sgt. John Butler (right), program coordinator of the Baytown Crime Stoppers program, present Ross S. Sterling High School Campus Crime Stoppers sponsors Robin Richards (second from left) and Steve Denton with a Visa gift card at the Sponsor Appreciation Banquet in appreciation of their work in developing an exceptional program on the campus.

Baytown Crime Stoppers Honors Campus Sponsors

By: Susan Passmore

The Baytown Crime Stoppers Board recently honored Campus Crime Stoppers sponsors at a Sponsor Appreciation Banquet with a Mardi Gras theme for their work in the schools to help keep the threat of violence, illegal drugs, weapons and other dangerous activities off school campuses. The dinner was held at the Baytown Community Center and was catered by Rooster's of Baytown.

Wayne Hanson, chairman, welcomed guests and facilitated introductions, and Gary Garner, Board member, gave the invocation. Lt. Eric Freed of the Baytown Police Department presented information on the topic, The Active Shooter, making it especially relevant to school personnel.

Sgt. John Butler, Campus Crime Stoppers coordinator, reported on the success of the campus programs and the addition of the Friends for Life component, which allows students to anonymously report bullying, suicidal thoughts or other incidents.

"One reason tips from the campuses have increased is that high school students have an app on their iPads to go



Wayne Hanson (right), chairman of the Baytown Crime Stoppers Board, expresses his appreciation to Sgt. John Butler, Crime Stoppers program coordinator, for his work with the Crime Stoppers Board and the community as well as the Campus Crime Stoppers programs at a recent Sponsor Appreciation Banquet at the Baytown Community Center.

Established two decades ago as part of the Texas Campus Crime Stoppers program, the campus programs are supported by Baytown Crime Stoppers, Inc., the local hosting organization. The program allows students and/or

to for information about Crime Stoppers,” said Butler. “It’s all coming together, and I appreciate each and every one of you that I work with.”

Police Chief Keith Dougherty praised the Crime Stoppers program, and he, Butler and Hanson presented campus sponsors with Visa gift cards, recognizing Community Resource Credit Union for assisting with their purchase. Robert Francis was also recognized as the organizer of the event.

Campus sponsors are Amy Kaminski, Baytown Junior School; Roxie Brown and Stephenie Stults, Cedar Bayou Junior School; Carrie McRay and Michelle George, Gentry Junior School; Shonda Clark, Goose Creek Memorial High School; Margaret Cayton, Lauren Fox and Joann Massony, Highlands Junior School; Clara Hodge, Horace Mann Junior School; Enrique DeLeon and Randy Sprehe, Robert E. Lee High School, and Steve Denton and Robin Richards, Ross S. Sterling High School.

school personnel to provide anonymous tips to the administration and local law enforcement about crimes or violations of school rules. The tipster receives a monetary award for information which leads to an arrest or disciplinary action.

The campus programs are growing as students take an active part in ensuring that campuses are safe. In February, 12 adults and students will attend the Texas Crime Stoppers 21st Annual Campus Conference, hosted by Odessa Crime Stoppers, to gain information to strengthen the campus programs. They will attend sessions on topics including Bullying, Gangs, Sexting and Narcotics/Weapons on Campus and bring information back to their Campus Crime Stoppers Boards.

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