Can you believe it? 2016 is in the rear view mirror and it’s now time to take on 2017. I hope you are anticipating as much fun and enjoyment as I am during the next 12 months. I often wonder about those that make new year’s resolutions and why the resolve in those efforts seems to fall away after only a couple months or weeks. I think it is because many of the resolutions are too difficult and the individual sets him or herself up for failure. So, this year, I would highly encourage you to set a goal that you can accomplish. The goal shouldn’t be easy, but attainable when you really work for it. Pick one area of your life (personal, professional, spiritual, etc.) that could use some tweaking and go for it. I hope at this time next year, you can look back on 2017 with pride that you improved your life. Happy New Year! Let’s make it a great one!

STATE

The 85th Legislative Session begins this month and continues into May. Texas holds its regular legislative session every two years, in the odd number years. We will be bringing you general news about the session, its history, and FAQs as it progresses.

For up to date information on this year’s session, visit Texas Legislature Online. Note: Select the arrow and scroll to 85R - 2017 in the drop down box, next to the term Legislature in the center column.

This month’s FAQ: What are the key deadlines for the 85th Regular Session?

“Official deadlines will be set when the House and Senate adopt their rules, but until then, the Texas Legislative Council Drafting Manual provides a perpetual calendar (shown below) that can be useful. According to the Manual:

Bill pre-filing begins: Nov 14, 2016
1st day of session: Jan 10, 2017
60-day bill filing deadline: Mar 10, 2017
Adjournment sine die: May 29, 2017
Post-session 20-day deadline for governor to sign or veto: June 18, 2017
Effective date (91st day after adjournment): Aug 28, 2017”

More info at Legislative Reference Library of Texas.
CALENDAR

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is January 16, 2017!

“Intelligence plus character--that is the goal of true education.”
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

HD 93 Chambers of Commerce Events

- **Arlington**: January 20, 2017  [Chamber Orientation Meeting](#)
- **Arlington**: January 26, 2017  [Women's Alliance Health & Wellness Event](#)
- **Fort Worth**: January 12, 2017  [Membership 101: Orientation, Networking](#)
- **Keller**: January 24, 2017  [Monthly Chamber Luncheon](#)
- **Keller**: January 28, 2017  [Dancing Through the Decades Gala & Awards](#)
- **Northwest Metroport**: January 26, 2017  [An Evening in Paris Awards Gala](#)
- **Saginaw**: January 10, 2017  [Monthly Board Meeting](#)
“What topics will the legislature address in the next session?
Topics that will be covered in future sessions are not explicitly stated, however some resources produced by the Legislature can provide insight into issues that are gaining importance for the next session. In the interim between legislative sessions, the Speaker of the House and the Lieutenant Governor (Senate) issue a list of items for members to study, called interim charges. Members are organized into committees to study the interim charges, and committees often issue interim reports based on the charges. The Legislative Library makes current and previous interim reports available in its Legislative Reports system. Reviewing interim charges and interim reports can provide insight into what topics might be covered in the next session. The various news outlets are also good sources of potential topics for legislation since they highlight what is on the minds of legislators and the public.”

“When was the first legislative session?
The first legislative session in the State of Texas began on February 16, 1846, and adjourned May 13, 1846. Start and end dates for all legislative sessions are listed on the library’s Sessions and Years page.”

“What does ‘sine die’ mean?
Literally, ‘without day.’ The term is used to signify the final adjournment of a session of a legislative body. The body adjourns sine die when it adjourns without appointing a day on which to appear or assemble again.”

FAQ from Legislative Reference Library of Texas

SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT-TOURISM

Congratulations to our Cowboys! We’re going to the playoffs!
Living and Working in HD 93

Welcome to our new series on Business in HD 93! We all know HD 93 is a great place to live, but did you know our district is a vital center for business?

A wide array of large, medium and smaller businesses in a variety of industries call HD 93 home. These businesses generate jobs in personnel services, supplies & materials, manufacturing, building, transportation & shipping, local infrastructure of roads, city & county services and development, housing, schools, medical, retail, sports & entertainment, and more.

We will take a look at some of the key industries in HD 93 and the livelihood and support businesses that are generated by them.

Join us for this interesting and fun journey to start off the new year. Invite your student friends and all who are lifetime learners and interested in their community. Look for the first segment in the February issue of this HD 93 Newsletter.

Until then, take a look around your community and see if you can identify types of businesses that employ and serve the day to day life of you and your neighbors. We’ll compare notes beginning in February.

Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo

January 13 - February 4, 2017

“A fun-filled extravaganza rich in Western tradition, the legendary Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, held at the Will Rogers Memorial Center, is the place to be January 13 through February 4. Besides exciting rodeo action, livestock and horse shows there are lots of other awesome things to experience, including:

- Interactive, kid-friendly activities
- Nearly four acres of fun shopping
- The “Moo-seum Experience” presented by Central Market
- The All Western Parade in downtown Fort Worth
- Live music, an exciting carnival, great food and much more!”

More entertainment in Fort Worth at www.fortworth.com/events!
EDUCATION

The Spring Semester is beginning on campuses across HD 93.

Welcome back, students, and all the best to you in your studies and activities this semester!