

# 2015: MUNICIPAL ELECTION YEAR

## 2015: 市选举年

### 聚焦特雷霍特



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### Spotlight on Terre Haute

Terre Haute in western Indiana on the Wabash River has always been an industrial city. Its population today is 60,785 and is home to both Indiana State University and Rose Hulman Institute of Technology. It has traditionally been a Republican stronghold. Yet, its current Mayor for the last eight years is Republican Duke Bennett. First elected in 2007 in a narrow upset over the incumbent one-term Democrat, Bennett broke a long-time Republican losing streak. In fact, Mayor Bennett was the Republican nominee for Mayor in 2003 and his successful bid in 2007 was a re-match with Mayor Kevin Burke.

Bennett was an easy winner for re-election in 2011 and is now seeking a third term. Prior to his election as Mayor, Bennett served as Director of Operations for Hamilton Center, Inc., a community mental health center. He was uncontested in the May primary.

This fall he faces Democratic nominee Mark Bird. Bird is a Vigo County Councilman. He has served on the Council for the past eleven years. He is perhaps better known as the older brother of basketball great Larry Bird. He easily won the May primary over one opponent polling 76 percent of the vote. However, the primary saw many uncontested races and turnout was very low.

There have been allegations that Terre Haute is suffering fiscally as many older industrial cities are. Mayor Bennett has downplayed this and believes his administration is managing well. Whether this will play out as an issue going forward in this year's election and whether Bennett can continue his winning streak remains to be seen.

As of this writing, neither campaign has a website we can refer you to for more information about these two candidates.

坐落于印第安纳州西部，毗邻沃巴什河的特雷霍特市一直以来都是一座工业城市。它现今拥有60,785人，是印第安纳州立大学及罗斯霍曼理工学院的所在地。该市历来都是民主党的大本营。然而，特雷霍特目前的市长是已经在任八年的共和党人杜克贝内特。他在2007年的选举中大爆冷门打败了当时在任市长的民主党人，改变了共和党连败的状况。事实上，市长贝内特在2003年的市政选举中就被共和党提名，2007年的选举是贝内特与前任市长伯克的第二次竞争。

贝内特在2011年的选举中轻易就赢得了连任，而他现在正在寻求第三个任期。在当选为市长之前，贝内特曾在汉密尔顿中心担任运营总监，该公司是一家社区精神卫生中心。他在当年五月初选中的胜利是无争议的。

这个秋天贝内特面对的竞争对手是民主党人马克伯德。伯德是维哥郡议会成员，已为议会服务了十一年。但也许伯德更为人们所知的身份是著名的篮球选手拉里伯德的哥哥。他在今年五月的初选中非常轻松地以百分之七十六的选票取胜于对手沃尔特斯。但是，在初选中选民的投票率非常低。

有言论称特雷霍特像许多其他的老工业城市一样步入低潮。市长贝内特平息了这一点，并认为他的管理非常成功。这一事件是否会成为今年选举中的问题以及贝内特是否能继续他的连胜纪录还有待观察。

在撰写本文时，并没有出现能让我们推荐给您的关于两位候选人的详细信息的网站。



Bennett



Bird

# A WORD ON THE TELAMON SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

by Dr. Benny Ko

First, let us always remember, the Telamon Scholarship Essay Contest, an anticipated annual event of the Chinese-American community for over twenty years, would never have existed if not for the generosity of Telamon Corp's founder, Mr. Albert Chen, and some of his IACA (Indiana Association of Chinese-Americans) friends. The ideal behind the contest is to encourage middle and high school students to develop independent thinking and to put those thoughts down in words.

Since inception, the contest has been handled by a committee of voluntary IACA members, consisting of the year's current president and three additional members serving as judges. Each year, each division is given a new essay title with subjects ranging from the nation's state of affairs to matters of concern in day to day life. The winning essays are chosen for originality, supporting facts of the stated opinion/idea as well as the style of writing. An essay can earn a maximum of 5 points with half points allowed. The essay score is then combined with scoring of the student's volunteering activities, the latter a reflection of their social commitment and altruism. Maximum points for volunteerism is 2. The total point maximum is therefore 7, and the winners are decided by their respective total score earned.

I have served as a judging member on the Telamon Scholarship committee for the last four years and this shall be my last. It has been an honor as well as a pleasure and I thank everyone's support. Let me report on some jubilant developments of the contest.

We have received an all-time high record of entries this year. Anecdotally, many of us on the committee have heard from past participants and parents, thanking us and reporting good progress in their collegiate endeavor. If I may also speak for my fellow committee members, nothing gives us more joy than to hear from you and have your feedbacks on how we are doing. Then, if family names are to be a reflection of ethnicity, the participants are also now more diverse, something Indiana Association of Chinese American, IACA, strongly supports. While we were mostly an ethnic "social club" founded by immigrants 41 years ago, we are now a main-stream civic organization of Indiana, proud of our heritage but celebrate our unity with all other fellow Americans.

Perhaps worth mentioning only in passing, there are a few anomalies among the essays submitted as well. The committee will study these situations and hope to steer future participants from making the same error. For example, we have received one essay that was based on a title from a previous year. Well written as it might be, obviously it could not be considered a contender. To this young friend, I say, don't be discouraged, try again next year. There is one essay submitted in Chinese, the first we received in over twenty years. Chinese is a beautiful language and a cultural heritage to all Chinese as well as Chinese-Americans but we cannot make it an exception. The official language of the contest is English. To this young friend, I look forward to your essay in English and I hope it is as good as the one you have written in Chinese. There is also one essay that has included a paragraph, word for word, from another publication. To this young friend, I like to believe it is an honest mistake (I have made the same once a long time ago), so please remember when you quote another source in your writing, you have to denote it as such plus to give credit to the other author or source, otherwise, you will be suspected for plagiarism. Again, let us see you try again next year.

In parting, I say this to all my young friends, thank you for your enthusiasm and effort, remember: "Participation is the name of the game, there is never a loser when one participates and learns something of yourself in the process."

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### Congratulations to all of the IACA Telamon Scholarship winners!

#### Middle School Category

- First place: Bryant Yau
- Second place: Grace Xu
- Third place: Charles Chiang
- Fourth place: Chelsea Tinsley
- Honorable mention award: Kendal Tinsley, Karen Zhang, Adam Merzoug, Sam Wong, Lily Berry, Erica Song

#### High School Category

- First place: Jeremy Chiang & George Sun
- Second place: Emily Tong and Allen James Zhang
- Third place: Xiaofan Gao and Lauren Wong
- Fourth place: Jaide Hawn and Ritika Mehta
- Honorable mention award: Rachel Hawn, Angela Sun, Grace Zhang



Telamon HS 1st place winner Jeremy Chiang



Telamon MS 1st place winner Bryant Yau



Telamon HS 1st place winner George Sun

# HOMESICKNESS - 鄉愁

"I felt a pang -- a strange and inexplicable pang that I had never felt before. It was homesickness. Now, even more than I had earlier when I'd first glimpsed it, I longed to be transported into that quiet little landscape, to walk up the path, to take a key from my pocket and open the cottage door, to sit down by the fireplace, to wrap my arms around myself, and to stay there forever and ever." ~ Alan Bradley



Dr. Patrick Lau was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to the U.S. after high school. He retired from the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System where he served as Chief Radiologist and moved to Florida with his wife in 2011. He was an active member & contributor of IACA and ICMA while in Indiana. Dr. Lau is also a scholar of art and literature and a prolific writer, he has been a dedicated columnist for Indy Asian American Times since 2010.

月是故鄉明 (杜甫) is the verse of a beautiful Chinese poem depicting that the poet, being far away from home and looking up at the moon, overwhelmingly missed his family 望月思鄉. He was suffering from homesickness; and he emotionally felt that the moon in his hometown was seemingly brighter, no place like home.

The term homesickness was originally created by a physician in 1688, who diagnosed homesickness as a disease suffered by young soldiers away from home for the first time; their symptoms were from mild to severe, such as anxiety, depression, insomnia, and so forth. Homesickness is generally defined as a longing for home, family or familiar surroundings; longing to return to one's home or native country; a feeling one has when missing home; and depressed or melancholy at being away from home and family.

Immigrants depart their homelands arriving in this country in pursuit of their American dreams. They, mostly in their young adulthood, further their education, receive specialty training, take up a new job or seek an opportunity to make a fortune. Not unusually, they leave their parents, siblings, relatives, friends and loved ones behind. From time to time, they would experience homesickness as a feeling of nostalgia, loneliness, anxiety, depression, grief, and sadness. Living in an unfamiliar country and encountering a foreign culture, tradition and people, they would undoubtedly feel lonely and miss their family, relatives and friends as well as loved ones at home; they probably would miss the companionship, friendship, comfort, love, inspirations and support they have been providing for them.

Erich von Stroheim wrote, "It is not because I do not love my adopted land - it is the natural feeling of one far from home, who remembers those happy, carefree days when life flowed at full tide, without responsibility, flashing past one like the drama in a fascinating story of adventure and romance." Somehow, people may associate homesickness with separation-anxiety and loss, disruption of lifestyle, loss of control, and

internal conflict as well. And loneliness can indubitably trigger for intensified homesickness. There is a famous Chinese poem regarding homesickness composed by the legendary poet, Li Bai 李白: 舉頭望明月, 低頭思故鄉. (Looking up the bright full moon I gaze; bowing my head I think of my birth place.)

Holidays irrefutably can evoke homesickness and nostalgia. Holidays also notoriously make people feel solitary and lonesome. Nostalgia can alleviate the negative feelings of being alone; and it helps people feel connected again. It is, indeed, most people's nature wanting to travel home to have a reunion with family, love ones, relatives and good friends during holidays. It is exemplified by the fact that millions and millions of people return home during the Spring Festival in China; and millions of Americans are flying, taking a train or driving home during Christmas holidays. Furthermore, people like to participate in religious traditions and cultural customs as they used to do before parting their homeland. This Chinese poem portrays the feelings and sentiments of people in their foreign lands during holidays. 獨在異鄉為異客, 每逢佳節倍思親. (Alone as a stranger in a foreign land distantly; at the time of festivals I miss my family dearly.)

Once immigrants are familiar with their new milieu, their melancholy feelings of homesickness usually alleviates, especially after they have made friends, purchased homes, settled down, got married and raised a family as well as after assimilating into the culture of the adopted country. Nowadays, the word hometown does not necessarily mean where one was born. The place where one has settled down and got used to live is, in many ways, his hometown. Someone has said that a part of us, whether our feelings, our thoughts or our heart, remains where we have been.

鄉愁-席慕容: 故鄉的歌是一支清遠的笛, 總在有月亮的晚上響起。故鄉的面貌卻是一種模糊的渴望, 彷彿霧裡的揮手別離。離別後, 鄉愁是一棵沒有年輪的樹, 永不老去。



Telamon scholarship winners with Telamon's Stephanie Chen (middle) and IACA's Eileen Tsai (far left)

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SEPT. 19th, 2015 Noon - 5 p.m. Georgia St.
Citizens energy group, Lilly, Westfield OUTDOORS, PNC BANK, NUVO, SUN, IUPUI, GDN INFOTECH, INTERNATIONAL & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, etc.