

**FREEDOM OVER TEXAS WITH FIREWORKS PRESENTED BY SHELL WITH PAT GREEN**  
**SUNDAY, JULY 4 AT 4 P.M. AT ELEANOR TINSLEY PARK**  
 FREE ADMISSION with can of food for Houston Food Bank or \$8 at the Gate.  
 For more information visit: [www.FreedomOverTexas.org](http://www.FreedomOverTexas.org)

Not Logged In [Login](#) / [Sign-up](#)

# ★chron | Viewpoints, Outlook

NOW **90°**

NEWS SPORTS BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT LIFE TRAVEL BLOGS JOBS HOMES CARS CLASSIFIEDS

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

3 Comments 0 Recommend

Search [advanced search](#) | [archives](#)

Chron.com  Web Search by **YAHOO!**

## State grants will bolster cancer fight

By **KENNETH SHINE** and **WILLIAM R. BRINKLEY**  
HOUSTON CHRONICLE  
June 27, 2010, 10:51PM

### Share

- [Del.icio.us](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Email](#)
- [Digg](#)
- [Yahoo! Buzz](#)
- [StumbleUpon](#)

Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

This year, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) awarded nearly \$220 million in grants to a host of Texas cancer fighters and institutions as part of its mission to promote the best science in the prevention, detection and treatment of cancer. It was an opening salvo in a \$3 billion war against the disease that strikes 95,000 of the state's residents annually and kills 37,000.

The final awards for 2010 announced in June totaled \$142 million with \$50 million going to Houston-area institutions.

These awards buttress a leap of faith taken by Texans more than three years ago when they approved Proposition 15, a referendum that authorized the state to issue the necessary bonds to fund the research by many of the state's leading cancer scientists and physicians. CPRIT, a state entity, is charged with distributing the funds that come from the sale of those bonds.

Legislation to authorize the institute and sell the first \$450 million in bonds for the biennium drew support from a host of advocates, most visibly celebrated cyclist Lance Armstrong, whose LiveStrong campaign has captured the hearts and imagination of the public.

What does this money mean for Texans? Texas is already home to the nation's top cancer hospital, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, which is also a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center. The Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine and the Cancer Therapy and Research Center at UT Health Center at San Antonio are NCI-designated cancer centers as well. Many of our other academic institutions represent the cutting edge in research and prevention. Standing shoulder to shoulder with them are private organizations that are on the front line of prevention, outreach and early detection.

Why then do we need a state institute and Texas-specific funds? Perhaps Armstrong, himself a cancer survivor, put it best during his campaign for the program: "We are going to hit the road to urge Texans to vote for Proposition 15 and make an investment in their own lives and the lives of their loved ones. Cancer has touched the life of every single Texan ... We can't wait for Washington. With Proposition 15, Texas is going to lead the fight against cancer."

CPRIT seeks to channel the formidable energies of Texas' scientists, physicians, advocates and patients. Under the leadership of oversight committee chairman Jimmy Mansour, CPRIT executive director Bill Gimson and chief scientific officer Dr. Alfred Gilman, Texas is well on its way to changing the cancer-fighting landscape.

The state's effort provides the boost needed to reduce the toll taken by this killer disease and to forge a new path for better treatment and care.

*Shine is the executive vice chancellor for health affairs of The University of Texas System. Brinkley is senior vice president and dean of the Baylor College of Medicine Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.*

**HOUSTON CHRONICLE**  
 Only \$2 a week

**New student aid you never heard of**  
 If you have been putting off a college education because... [More](#)

**More Articles**

- [\\$500K life insurance, no exam necessary](#)
- [Look 30 when you're 50 without surgery](#)
- [4 things that can hurt your credit](#)
- [Dreaming of a cruise for up to 75 percent less?](#)

Advertising provided by: ARALifestyle.com

**Get TV Weekly for the most complete cable & TV listings**

[Rockets mull pursuit of Johnson as enticement for Bosh](#)  
[1 dead, 3 shot at San Francisco gay pride event](#)  
[Officers: Man kills invader in SE Houston home](#)  
[Mom's trial revisiting tragedy of girl's death](#)  
[5 things to watch for in Kagan confirmation hearings today](#)

[Palin in Tyler: Says Obama falls short on leadership\(288\)](#)  
[Controversial goal helps Argentina eliminate Mexico\(134\)](#)  
[HPD suspects drugs in death of stripping suspect\(60\)](#)  
[Ex-Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe dies at 87\(22\)](#)  
[Oil spill's psychological toll quietly mounts\(14\)](#)

[Failing the whales: Deadlock on limits extends deceitful slaughter](#)  
[Letters to the editor: June 29](#)  
[Leonard Pitts: Waging war on African-Americans](#)  
[Paul Krugman: U.S. approaching a third depression](#)

## Comments

Readers are solely responsible for the content of the comments they post here. Comments are subject to the site's [terms and conditions](#) of use and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or approval of the Houston Chronicle.

Readers whose comments violate the terms of use may have their comments removed or all of their content blocked from viewing by other users without notification.

You must be logged in to comment. [Login](#) | [Sign up](#)

**apmech** wrote:  
 The concept of a 'cure for cancer' is one that we have all heard for years, many years, yet when there actually IS a cure, or in this case a preventative measure, against a specific, but deadly form of cancer, the right wing stood opposed to mandating its use. I, of course, refer to the HPV vaccine. It was the only thing in all of his years as governor that I have agreed with Rick Perry.  
 6/28/2010 9:40:16 AM  
 Recommend: (2) (2) [\[Report abuse\]](#)