

CHAMBER NEWS



THE BASTROP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce is to improve the economy of Bastrop and thereby, the quality of life for all its citizens through economic, community and leadership development.

Chamber president announces retirement

Dear Citizens of Bastrop and Bastrop County:

I believe every good thing must come to an end, and it's time for me to tender my anticipated retirement date from the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce of no later than Aug. 31, 2014. I write this letter with very mixed emotions. On the one hand I am very excited about having the time to do things I have been putting off for years, but also, I am very sad to think that I might not have as close a relationship with the citizens of the city and county. I will still be here; still caring about what hap-

pens in my hometown and watching with pride as incredibly wonderful things unfold.

You all have become my family and helped me through many trying situations over the past 12 years. Please feel free to call on me. I'm not going away. I'm just changing chairs.

I know wonderful things lie ahead for the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce and this town and county that I have adopted and grown to love.

Sincerely,
Susan Weems Wendel,
IOM
President and CEO, for now



Welcome to Interior Solution Services

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New building is opened

Bastrop County held a ribbon cutting for its new Tax Assessor & Development Services Building located at 211 Jackson St. in Bastrop. The festivities were attended by county and city officials, chamber executives, and many of the people who were responsible for designing and constructing the building. CONTRIBUTED



Bluebonnet Trails opens

Bluebonnet Trails Community Services will offer medical and dental health services. Services are available Mondays-Fridays. Call 512-321-7130 for information.



New restaurant opens

Are you looking for a new place to have lunch or dinner? E&M Caribbean Soul recently had a ribbon cutting and grand opening at 1002 College St., Bastrop, Texas 78602. The restaurant is located on the feeder road off HWY 71, between Cedar's Mediterranean Grill and Giggle-N-Jump. E&M Caribbean Soul offers Caribbean and soul food dishes: Chicken and beef stew, jerk chicken, shark, pork ribs, meat loaf, shrimp and more. It is open Tuesdays-Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Career Pathways Conference

Workforce Solutions, along with Community Action, is sponsoring a Career Pathways Conference for local job seekers at the Bastrop Community Outreach Center, 1096 HWY 71 West in Bastrop.

There are three ways that local trade/vocational employers or training

organizations can join in. We are going to have about 6-8 local employers in a panel showcasing their trade/vocation/profession by answering some basic questions about their day-to-day activities.

We also are going to have 6-8 other employers

or human resources representatives available to explain how to apply for positions within their organizations.

We are going to invite local training program coordinators from ACC LVN, ACC Truck Driving, ACC Building Trades, Military & DPS Recruiters,

Job Corps, Victoria College & Austin Goodwill.

Our conference is going to target about 100 recent high school and GED grads, returning veterans and those not interested in the normal 2- to 4-year college experience. But all residents are welcome to attend.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Bastrop Opera House
711 Spring Street

Date	April 2, 2014
Program	Donna Fuller: All I know about customer service I learned in dog training
Sponsor	Acadian Ambulance Service
Caterer	The Grace Miller
Menu	Chicken penne rustica, salad with your choice of dressing, tea and water, and bananas Fosters cake
Cost	\$12 if RSVP by 4 p.m. March 31 \$15 if RSVP by 4 p.m. April 1 No RSVPs accepted on April 2

Please note: Any RSVPs not canceled 24 hours prior to the luncheon will be billed as no-shows.

FROM THE CHAMBER

Content for these pages is provided for your enjoyment by the Bastrop Area Chamber of Commerce.

Wolfdancer gets Golf Magazine's Silver Medal

Wolfdancer Golf Course, at the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa, was awarded the Silver Medal Award

by Golf Magazine. It was named one of the best golf resorts in the country.

Wolfdancer Golf Club

opened in 2006 and immediately earned a place on Golf Magazine's list of Top 10 New Courses You Can Play. It was designed

by Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest and Associates of Toledo, Ohio, and frames a scenic stretch of the Lower Colorado River.

Keep Bastrop County Beautiful finishes third

Keep Bastrop County Beautiful (KBCB) applied for the Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA) for the first time and came in third in the statewide competition.

We had very stiff competition and we are thrilled to have won THIRD. <http://www.ktb.org/assets/2014%20GCAA%20Winners.pdf>

For more than two decades, Keep Texas Beau-

tiful, in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), has awarded the prestigious Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA) to ten Texas communities with the best grassroots environmental programs in the state each year.

The awards recognize a community's environmental program's achievement in seven areas:

- Community Leadership and Coordination
- Public Awareness
- Education
- Beautification and Community Improvement
- Litter Prevention and Cleanup
- Solid Waste Management
- Litter Law and Illegal Dumping Enforcement

The competition distributes \$2 million in funding from TxDOT

across the ten communities, with the amount based on population size. The funds are used for landscaping projects along local rights-of-way.

Thank you to everyone that helped with our application, and next year, hopefully, we'll win first.

Dorothy Skarnulis, president, Keep Bastrop County Beautiful, June 7, 2014 — Heart of Texas Green Expo

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CHAMBER NEWS

Bastrop Area Community Calendar

All events are subject to change of date or location to accommodate holidays and meeting facility requirements. Some organizations do not meet each month due to seasonal concerns. Please call the contact number to confirm before attending any meeting. All maroon text is new to the Community Calendar this month. All phone numbers are Area Code 512 unless otherwise noted.

Recurring Events

Anyone interested in volunteering time and talent to organizations at the heart of Bastrop community life is invited to drop by the Bastrop Community Volunteer Center to learn more. Located in the historic Laake Farmhouse at 1408B Chestnut, the center is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For further information, visit www.BastropVolunteerCenter.org.

Cornerstone High School Open Enrollment

CHS is enrolling eighth grade and high school students for the 2013-2014 school year through the end of August. Courses are available for full-time and part-time students, based on individual family needs. See website for additional information, www.bastropchs.org.

The Splash Pad, located in Fisherman's Park, will open the second week of April and closes the first week in October. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., water restrictions may change the hours of operation. Splash pad includes covered bench swing, game table, and concession stand, gator, geyser, sneaky soaker, mop top, volcano, water o, spray tunnel, fun brella, the wave and the solo spurt.

The Lost Pines Artisans Alliance meets quarterly (March, June, September, December) the



We believe in BISD

Improvements in teaching quality and student achievement levels have prompted local business leaders to embark on a campaign to spread the good news about Bastrop Independent School District.

third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Nichols Art Gallery, 301 Burleson in Smithville. Call (512) 304-8129

Lost Pines Artisans Alliance Mary Nichols Art Center Gallery is open Friday 1-4 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., Sunday 1 - 4 p.m. 301 Burleson at Loop 230, in Smithville. For information contact Cammy Snyder at 304-8129.

Monday

Nurtured Nest, LLC presents a community breast-feeding support group on the first Monday of every month. The support group meets at 10 a.m. at the Bastrop Bible Church, 602 Pecan Street, Bastrop, TX 78602. The meeting is in the little house across the parking lot from the main building. Come and enjoy

friendship and support among other moms. Discussion topics: overcoming breast-feeding habits and development, how to soothe fussy babies, little joys of the motherhood. Breast-feeding moms, babies, expectant moms are all welcome, and there is not a charge to attend. Preregistration is required — call 512-796-4772 or e-mail kellison@nurturednest-birth.com for more information.

The Bastrop Family YMCA Presents Chair Yoga, on Mondays from 11:15 a.m. - noon. Classes are free for YMCA members and \$5 for nonmembers. Classes will be at the Kerr Community Center, at 1308 Walnut Street.

The American Legion Post No. 533 has Pool Tables Open 11 a.m.-7:45 p.m.; 8 p.m. Pool Tournament. Every Monday evening. 3003 Loop 150 E, Bastrop,



Boutique opens doors

OrganiQa Skin Care Boutique, located at 141 Tahitian Drive in Bastrop, uses a holistic healing approach to skin care. Our boutique offers a quiet, soothing atmosphere where your mind, body and soul are allowed to connect, allowing your body to recharge and rejuvenate. If you're needing an idea for a party, inquire about our "SPA PARTIES" — we can tailor design one for any age group; our consultations are free. Call us at 512-718-8440 to book your appointment today.

321-5555.

The Healing River Alliance meets every Monday at noon, at 1202 Pecan St. (corner of Farm) in Bastrop. For more info, Cy Labat at 970-3705 or <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/healingriveralliance/>.

Bastrop Public Library Board Meeting, first Monday of each month, 6-7 p.m.. The public is invited — come and get involved with your Public Library! 1100 Church Street, Bastrop, TX 78602. For more info, Mickey Duvall, mickey@bastropilibrary.org, 512-321-5441.

First Assembly of God, Fellowship Hall, Quilting Class. Mondays at 6:15 p.m.. 609 Pecan St, 512-303-5442

Tuesday Bastrop Networking Group

meets Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. at the Texas Grill, 101 Hwy 71 W. For more info, Mark Nix at 923-4760.

Yarnorama! Morning Fiber Group meets Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - noon. Bring a knitting or crochet project and spend the morning with friends. This group often works on Knit-Alongs (KAL's) where everyone in the group who wishes to participate works on the same project to learn new techniques. 130 Gonzales St, Paige, 512-253-0100. Please see its website at www.yarnorama.com for a comprehensive listing of classes, rental equipment (looms, spinning wheels, etc.), events, community projects & Susan's blog!

Join the Bastrop Fine Arts Guild for its monthly meeting and social every first Tuesday, except in December, at 6 p.m.

Heritage Hall, 1020 Main Street, Bastrop, TX 78602. Contact Michelle Adams at 718-1504 or e-mail michelleadams711@yahoo.com.

The American Legion Post No. 533, on Tuesday evenings they have an open mic from 7-10 p.m.. Featured Artist 10-11 p.m.. Jam Session 11 a.m.-noon. 3003 Loop 150 E, Bastrop, 321-5555 or Joe at 629-9105.

The Rotary Club of Bastrop County meets for lunch Tuesdays at Hampton Inn and Suites of Bastrop, 240 S. Hasler Blvd. Fellowships begins at 11:30 a.m., lunch and meeting will begin at noon and will end at 1 p.m.. No reservation required, call 332-2159 for more information.

Bastrop Evening Lions Club meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. in the Kerr Community Center, 1308 Walnut St, Bastrop. For more info, Elroy & Sophia Williams, 512-303-7732, ewilliams7732@att.net

The Bastrop Fine Arts Guild meets the first Tuesday of every month except December at 6:30 p.m. at Heritage Hall, 1020 Main Street, call Jeanette Condray 576-1100.

Bastrop Public Library, Brown Bag Movie, first Tuesday of each month, 6:30-9 p.m. Bring your brown bag meal and enjoy a free feature film appropriate for the whole family, 1100 Church St, Bastrop, TX 78602. For more info, contact Bonnie Ueckert at bonniej@bastropilibrary.org or 512-321-5441.

The Lost Pines Garden Club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Bastrop Public Library, 1100 Church St. Light refreshments, open to the public. No meeting in June, July or August. For more info, Janet Jones, 512-985-5741 or www.lostpinesgardenclub.org

Chamber welcomes new members

The board of directors approved the following new members at its monthly meeting. We appreciate the investment these new members have made in the chamber and we ask that you give them your support.

Alize the Premier Salon, located at 802 Spring Street in historic downtown Bastrop, offers a wide variety of services. Stop by for a trim or a makeover into a band-new you. Look at pictures of our work on Facebook and call 512-581-3999 to book your appointment today.

Karen Derr, Realtor, is an entrepreneur who has been involved for most of her life in real estate. Her high-touch style of service and her on-call attitude when it comes to responding to customers' needs have made her a multimillion dollar pro-

ducing Relator for over 20 years. From country homes to in-town estates, historic homes to beachfront getaways, Karen Derr prides herself in knowing neighborhoods.

From 1994 to 2008, Karen Derr owned a successful brokerage firm. She was the founder and broker for Karen Derr and Associates Realty. The firm was among the top 25 residential real estate companies in the Houston area, according to the Houston Business Journal, with over \$150 million in annual sales.

She and her company of 50+ agents and four offices relocated clients to homes in neighborhoods throughout the Greater Houston/Galveston area.

As an active community volunteer, she has worked and supported community efforts in the areas of education, crime

prevention, business development, hike and bike trails, historic preservation, animal welfare, and the arts.

Karen is also committed to a hometown that recycles on a larger scale and is more energy-efficient. She has achieved her GREEN Realtor designation.

Allow Karen Derr Realty to help you find your next home. Visit the website at www.karenderr.com, which will bring you one step closer to reaching your real estate goals.

You can get to know the Karen Derr Team — where we're dinging, shopping, what we're excited about and the neighborhoods we think are best-kept-secrets.

And, if you choose, this site can also be your connection to professional representation on your next real estate transac-

tion, backed by more than 20 years of experience.

Look around. Interact with Karen Derr. And most of all, please allow Karen to help you achieve the lifestyle you desire.

American Cancer Society: Together with our millions of supporters, the American Cancer Society (ACS) saves lives and creates a world with less cancer and more birthdays by helping people stay well, helping people get well, by finding cures, and by fighting back.

The American Cancer Society is a nationwide, community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service. Headquartered in At-

lanta, Ga., the ACS has regional and local offices throughout the country that support 11 geographical divisions and ensure we have a presence in every community.

Contact the American Cancer Society at 512-919-1867 or visit our web page at www.cancer.org for more information.

Forever Love Antiques: My grandmother was my inspiration for my shop, Forever Love Antiques. I loved to pick unique items for her as gifts, not knowing at the time that they were vintage and antique.

I began my journey after my grandmother passed away. I created a beautiful artificial floral arrangement for my grandmother's service, and continued my dream in her honor, starting Forever Love Antiques,

which is located at 1441 HWY 71 W. in Bastrop.

Forever Love Antiques offers collectibles, antiques, vintage and retro items at great prices.

We offer a wonderful reward system for our frequent customers.

In addition to everything that our shop has to offer, we also carry Krueger Monuments Works, LLC. Offering quality monuments at reasonable prices for anyone who has lost a loved one.

Another aspect of our shop is Forever Thrifty. Our goal is to offer the items that our community needs at thrift-shop prices. Come out and see what we have to offer. We have something for everyone.

Call us at 512-985-6037 or 512-797-2916 for more information about our goods and services.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Thanks to the following renewing members for continuing your investment in the Chamber. We appreciate your confidence in our ability to promote Bastrop and your business.

Wells Fargo
Twin Liquors 18

Lake Bastrop Lodge
Ms. Sam, The Story Lady
LTCI Choices
First United Methodist Church
A+ Federal Credit Union
Greg's Mobile Home Transport
Schlotzsky's/Cinnabon

Kleiber Tractor & Equipment, Inc.
Literacy Volunteers of Bastrop
Bastrop Providence Funeral Home
Aqua Water Supply
Lock Drug
Bastrop Police Department

Sammy Lerma III, M.D.
Lost Pines Bible Church
PHI Air Medical
Ms. Tina Fucile
George Reinemund Real Est.-Sherry Schena
Congressman Michael McCaul
Roscoe State Bank
Tex Propane Company

Bridges Real Estate Group
C.M. Henderson
City of Bastrop
Gaeke Construction Company, Inc.
Old Town Postal Depot
Chartwells School Dining Services
Chili's Grill & Bar

Law Office of Derek Van Gilder
Ms. Rose Marie Eash
The Castle Collection - Larry castle
Ms. Chris Duggan
Children's Advocacy Center Serving Bastrop, Lee & Fayette Countries
Mr. Joe Newman

Welcome to the Lost Pines Where you find the B.E.S.T
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Willie Piña
Bastrop County Commissioner Pct1
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