



Washington County
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Convention & Visitors Bureau

The Chamber Works

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BRENHAM, TEXAS

2012 Board of Directors
Chairman
BRICE MILLIORN
Edward Jones Investments

First Vice Chair
KURT PODESZWA
Camp For All

Second Vice Chair
LIZ HOPKINS
Hopkins Distributing and
Stella Designs & Solutions

Treasurer
JIM BAKER
Brenham Fitness Centers

Secretary
WENDY YATES
Moorman Tate Urquhart
Haley Upchurch & Yates

Immediate Past Chair
CATHY BOEKER
Blinn College

BARRY BRASS
Parcel Plus

CHRIS CANGELOSI
Washington County Abstract

MARK PATRANELLA
Blue Bell Creameries

JARVIS VAN DYKE
Van Dyke Rankin & Company

JENNIFER BEAUDET
Pure Elegance and
Germania Insurance

CAROL BROOKS
Seidel Schroeder & Co.
and B&C Victorian Antiques

MIKE BAKER
MIC Group

DEBBIE HAVERS
RR Donnelley

DR. SHAWN KHAN
Central Texas Eye Institute

JOEL ROMO
American Heart Association

COY FONTENOT
Kruse Village

MICHAEL WATTS
Brenham ISD —
Brenham High School

RENEE MUELLER
Attorney at Law

MICHAEL HAYWOOD
Mission Brenham

RICKY BOEKER
City of Brenham-Fire Chief

JUDI HOUSTON
Brazos Valley Schools
Credit Union

Members to hear from Texas Land Commissioner at Annual Banquet

The Chamber is pleased to announce that **Jerry Patterson, Texas Land Commissioner**, will be the featured speaker at the **2012 Annual Banquet**. The event will be held on Tuesday, January 31, at Fireman's Training Center in Brenham. The theme of the banquet will be *"Washington County: Celebrating Traditions and Service."*

"We are so pleased to have Jerry Patterson as our banquet speaker, because he is a true Texas leader who will inspire and motivate us in our volunteer service roles," said Cathy Boeker, outgoing Chair of the Chamber's Board of Directors.

Born in Houston in November 1946, Jerry Patterson has served as Texas Land Commissioner since 2003. He graduated from Texas A&M, Class of 1969. He received his commission in the United States Marine Corps and volunteered for duty in Vietnam in 1972 and was later designated as a Naval Flight Officer and served in Marine fighter squadrons until his retirement from the Marine Corps Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1993. Five consecutive generations of Patterson's family have served our nation in time of war.

As a State Senator in Texas for District 11 (Harris, Galveston and Brazoria Counties),



PATTERSON

Patterson's major legislative successes include passage of the historic concealed handgun law, a constitutional amendment allowing home equity lending, the state coastal management plan, and the creation of the Texas State Veterans Home Program. A tireless advocate for his fellow veterans, Patterson chaired the first Veterans Affairs Committee in the Texas Senate.

Patterson resides in Austin and has four children, twins Samantha and Cole, born in 2004, Emily and Travis. His daughter Emily is an attorney working in Kosovo for an agency funded by the U.S. State Department. His son Travis is a graduate of Texas A&M, where he was commissioned as a Marine Lieutenant. He recently returned from serving his 2nd tour of duty in Iraq as a U.S. Marine attack helicopter pilot.

Economic Development Foundation chairman William Krueger said, "We are looking forward to the banquet, because it will give us a chance to hear a great speaker and also recognize two outgoing board members for their volunteer service, David Bockhorn and Steve Haley."

Washington County Chamber board members who ended their term of service in December will also be recognized: Trey Hardy,

Blue Blazers Special Recognition at Banquet

All men and women who have been members of the Blue Blazers Club over the past 40 years will be recognized at the 2012 banquet and will receive a complimentary ticket to the event. Please contact the Chamber office if you do not receive yours in the mail by January 20.

LaVerne Krumrey, Joy Nelson and Lowell Ogle. Cathy Boeker will remain on the board as Immediate Past Chairman, and Mike Baker and Barry Brass will remain on the board to fill the unexpired terms of two directors who recently resigned from the board.

Serving as Master of Ceremonies at the banquet will be Joel Romo, and State Rep. Lois Kolkhorst will deliver a special presentation honoring the 40th anniversary of the Washington County Blue Blazers. Plus, the Blue Blazer of the Year Award will be announced.

Headline sponsors of the banquet include:

Blue Bell Creameries

Bluebonnet Electric

Brenham Chrysler Jeep Dodge

Brenham Clinic

Germania Insurance

Van Dyke Rankin and Company

"We are very grateful to these sponsors," said Page Michel, Chamber president, "because they enable us to host a very special event for our members and guests. There will be complimentary drinks during the social hour, a delicious meal, a compelling speaker and wonderful awards presented. It's going to be a great evening."

Another highlight of the evening will be the announcement of the 2011 Man and Woman of the Year-Lifetime Achievement award winners. Nominations are being accepted for these awards until January 13, and nomination forms are available at the Chamber office. Last year's winners were Joycine Hanath and Clarence Gerke, who will return to this banquet to do the surprise introductions of the 2011 winners.

Tickets for the banquet are now on sale at the Washington County Chamber, located at 314 S. Austin Street in Brenham. Individual tickets are \$28 per person, on sale until January 24.

"BUSINESS AFTER HOURS"

WASHINGTON COUNTY'S FAVORITE NETWORKING EVENT

Hosted by:

Scott & White Hospital — Brenham

Board-Education Room

700 Medical Parkway - Brenham

Thursday, Feb. 2, 5-6:30 p.m.

Enjoy great **networking** and **refreshments!**
Bring plenty of business cards and enter for door prize drawings.
Free for Chamber members and all employees

Beverages provided by Mike Hopkins Distributing.

Learn more about Scott & White Hospital — Brenham at www.SWbrenham.org

Ribbon Cutting – NEW PRESIDENTIAL MEMBER –

Emerson/PI Components



Integrity Works – New Location

Owners: Randy & Karen Dean
2103 South Market Street, Brenham
Phone: 979-251-7972



Welcome to the Chamber's newest Presidential Level member, Emerson/PI Components. Chamber president Page Michel and member services manager Jane Hinze presented Emerson plant manager Eric Claggett with a plaque recognizing their new Presidential Membership.

The "Presidential Member" designation is given to those that invest \$1650 or more in annual dues. Presidential level members make a major investment in our community and share the vision and desire to tackle the many issues facing the Washington County area and its business environment.

Chamber Announces New Executive Officers

The Board of Directors formally approved a new slate of executive officers for 2012, elected at the board meeting in December. The following is the new Executive Committee:

- Chairman – **Brice Milliorn**, *Edward Jones Investments*
- First Vice Chairman – **Kurt Podeszwa**, *Camp For All Investments*
- Second Vice Chair – **Liz Hopkins**, *Hopkins Distributing and Stella Designs & Solutions*
- Treasurer – **Jim Baker**, *Brenham Fitness Centers*
- Secretary – **Wendy Yates**, *Moorman Tate Urquhart Haley Upchurch & Yates*
- Immediate Past Chair – **Cathy Boeker**, *Blinn College*

The Chamber's full board consists of 22 directors. The complete list of current board members is included on the front page of this newsletter.

BLUE BLAZERS CLUB SEEKS NEW MEMBER

With 40 years of tradition, the Washington County Chamber's Blue Blazers is a great group to belong to. Club members support the mission of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, acting as official greeters and hosts of our community. Activities include monthly meetings, greeting at Chamber functions, recruiting new Chamber members, and conducting ribbon cuttings and grand openings.

New members are currently being sought. Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact Jane Hinze at the Chamber office. Call 836-3695 or stop by during business hours at 314 S. Austin Street, Brenham. Details can also be sent via email upon request. Please submit interest in joining by Jan. 31, 2012.

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

314 S. Austin Street • Brenham, TX 77833
Phone: 979-836-3695

Page Michel, President & CEO
Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager
Lu Hollander, CVB Adv. & PR Manager
Seneca McAdams, CVB Mktg. & Sales Mgr.
Jenny Mills, Visitor Center Manager
Megan McCoy, Communication Coordinator
Support Staff: *Mindi Vinklerek, Marge Runge, Lanette Pledger and Jeanine Presswood.*

www.brenhamtexas.com

The Washington County Chamber is a Proud Member of ...

- TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS
- TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES
- TEXAS ASSOC. OF CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAUS
- U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

B J ELECTRIC

ONE STOP SERVICE COMPANY
www.bjelectricinc.com
Residential – Commercial
Electrical - Data Cabling

Bill Downs
Owner
TECL 22459

BUS: 1-866-926-6225
FAX: 1-979-826-0111
Email: billyd@bjelectricinc.com

Residential • Farm & Ranch • Commercial

RE/MAX Advantage

Boo Christensen
Broker/Owner

110 East Alamo Street
Brenham, TX 77833
Cell: (979) 277-8426
Office: (979) 251-7500
Fax: (979) 353-4289
Email: booc@remax.net
Web: www.RealtorBoo.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

Chamber Members are Invited to Advertise in this Space

Call or e-mail us for more details!
(979) 836-3695 • news@brenhamtexas.com

Welcome New Members

BRENHAM MOBILITY

Owner: Raymond R. Bennett
5955 Wickel Road
Burton, Texas 77835
Phone: 979-251-1660
raysage7@hotmail.com
Transportation Provider and Services

HOME ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

Owner: Charles Smith
3860 Marshall Lane
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426
Phone: 979-525-1989
csmithjr2003@gmail.com
Audio Systems

STELLA DESIGNS & SOLUTIONS

Owner: Liz Hopkins
2668 HWY 36 South, Suite 260
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 713-823-2377
liz@stelladesigns.com
www.stelladesigns.com
Website Design

TEXAS COUNTRY TITLE

Owner: Mark Humble
204 S. Market Street
Brenham, Texas 77833 (Physical Address)
Phone: 979-251-7064
samantha@texascountrytitle.com
www.texascountrytitle.com
Title Insurance

TOP NAILS

Owners: Catherine & Danny Tran
2624 Hwy. 36 South
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-277-0210
Nails/Spa

ZITHER MUSIC COMPANY

Owner: Tony Meeks
1022 E. Blue Bell Road
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-820-7010
zitherusa@yahoo.com
www.zitherusa.com
Retail Musical Instruments

[www.twitter.com/
VisitBrenham](http://www.twitter.com/VisitBrenham) or
ChamberWashCo

Renewing Members

(December 1-31)

Thanks to the following members for continuing your investment in the Chamber. You are long-term "partners" in our mission to promote and preserve this great community, and we appreciate your confidence in the Chamber's ability to promote your business.

Brazos Bed & Breakfast — 6 years
Brenham Trophies & Awards — 24 years
Browning Plantation — 14 years
Lil Angels Dolls & Doll Repair — 8 years
MIC Group - *Presidential Level Member* — 33 years
Stylecraft Builders, Inc. — 6 years
Texas Homeplace Mortgage — 1 year
Triple T Refrigeration — 8 years

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Boys & Girls Club of Washington County

The Club Members, Board of Directors and Staff of the Boys & Girls Club of Washington County would like to thank the generosity of local businesses and individuals that supported the 2012 campaign. Thanks to their generosity and support, Boys & Girls Club will continue to provide nationally recognized programs that focus on five core areas: Character & Leadership Development, Education & Career Development, Health & Life Skills, The Arts and Sports, Fitness & Recreation. These programs enhance the quality of life in Washington County by providing children with opportunities to participate in programs that mold them into successful citizens of our community.

Boys & Girls Club also has volunteer opportunities for YOU to help make a difference in a child's life. You may... enjoy helping in a computer lab, enjoy helping during homework hour, be interested in mentoring a child or a group of children, enjoy teaching youth how to cook, enjoy playing a game of pool in the games room, enjoy shooting baskets in the gym, or enjoy sitting down and simply listening. There is a place for YOU. Please call 979-277-9383 or visit the website: www.bgc-brenham.org.

Washington County may have youth at risk, but they are not without hope. Thanks for joining the Boys & Girls Club's commitment to the Children of Washington County!

Be the next member in the "Spotlight!" Send submissions to info@brenhamtexas.com. Your "Spotlight" can be about a recent award, event, business expansion or new employee, or simply a couple paragraphs to increase community awareness about your products/services. (100-150 words maximum)

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER BLUE BLAZER OF THE MONTH



January 2012
Sue Muzzy



January 2012
Don Wilhelm

The Blue Blazers are a group of 15 volunteers who act as official greeters and hosts of our community. Their objectives include promoting Chamber programs and increasing membership, and conducting ribbon cuttings and special ceremonies for local businesses. The Chamber thanks these volunteers for their service and hospitality, and also their employers for allowing them the time to dedicate to the organization. A "Blue Blazer of the Month" is recognized at each club meeting for the highest total of achievements the prior month.

Blue Blazers

DOUG BAKER <i>City of Brenham</i>	TAMMY JASTER <i>City of Brenham- Blue Bell Aquatic Center</i>
DR. HENRY BOEHM JR. <i>AMA Home Care and B&L Tire</i>	FLORENCE JULIAN <i>Blue Bell Creameries</i>
JOLENE CURTIS <i>Texas AgFinance</i>	BRICE MILLIORN <i>Edward Jones Investments</i>
JOYCE DICKSCHAT <i>Brenham National Bank</i>	SUE MUZZY <i>Mike Hopkins Distributing Co.</i>
JOHANNA FATHEREE <i>RE/MAX Advantage</i>	LINDA PIPES <i>Individual Member</i>
PAM GREEN <i>RE/MAX Advantage</i>	JULIE TIEMANN <i>Thrivent Financial</i>
EDDIE HARRISON <i>Individual Member</i>	RANDY WEIDEMANN <i>Van Dyke Rankin & Company</i>
	DON WILHELM <i>Individual Member</i>

Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



Junior Leadership – Fall 2011

Fifteen high school juniors and seniors from across Washington County participated in the Chamber’s highly acclaimed Junior Leadership program this past fall semester.

The program is designed to educate, train and motivate high school juniors to become leaders within their schools and this community. A graduation reception was held in December, and PJ Ellison of Ellison’s Greenhouses was the keynote speaker. The event was hosted in the banquet room at the Holiday Inn Express in Brenham.

This program is made possible by generous donations from local businesses. Junior Leadership 2011 Sponsors include:

- Brenham Clinic**
- Brenham National Bank**
- Home & Ranch Mortgage Company**
- MIC Group**
- Republic Services**
- Seidel Schroeder & Company**

The 15 graduates of 2011 Junior Leadership program (in alpha order): Kylie Antkowiak, Mijha Bolton, Makenzie Coker, Mary Catherine Damon, Elizabeth Eberly, Hannah Edmunds, Kayla Evans, Haley Fender, Jenna Jacobs, Allison Jones, Scott Nies, Katy Nix, Jaimi Reimer, Emily Roper and Aliyah Woodberry.



Member News

Boost Your Visibility By Hosting

Hosting a Chamber event can be a great way to expose your company, your products and/or services, and your staff to the greater Washington County business community.

The Chamber offers two great networking events during the year, “Business After Hours” and “Wake Up, Washington County!” Dates fill up fast for these opportunities, so please give Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager, a call as soon as you read this article if you are interested.

Members who host “Business After Hours” have the event at the venue of their choice, make arrangements for refreshments and entertainment, and sponsor the invitation mailing fee of \$400. This event is held monthly.

The “Wake Up” networking breakfasts are held quarterly. One host site sponsorship is available each quarter for \$75. This promotion is a great value and opportunity to bring 30-50 people through your doors! Breakfast sponsors are needed to cover the cost of food and coffee. There can be up to two sponsors per event and the fee is \$100 each. All sponsors receive valuable exposure on mailed invitations, in the Chamber newsletter, in emails, and at the event.

Mark your calendar now and maybe this will be your New Year’s resolution...to become a great networking partner of the Chamber. You will be surprised at the things you will learn about this community and the connections you will make when you attend Chamber events. Together we can make 2012 great.

Planning an Event? Check the Calendar

Attention: leaders of all Clubs and Organizations! The Chamber wants you to invite you, if you are planning an event in 2012, to post your information on the online “Calendar” at www.BrenhamTexas.com. This community calendar is available for everyone’s use, and it’s a great reference tool for people planning events in our busy town.

Many groups already place their events on here regularly. You can do it yourself online. When viewing the calendar you will see a link to “Submit New Event” on the lower right. It is free exposure! Use the Calendar as a tool when you’re in the planning phase to see what other events may already be scheduled on a date you are considering.

If you have any questions at any time about the online calendar, please call the Chamber office. We are here to help you!



Keep Washington County Beautiful in 2012

Are you tired of litter along the roadways and want to do something for your community? Well, then join forces with Keep Washington County Beautiful.

This local non-profit organization is seeking dedicated individuals who want to help keep our County clean by educating, organizing and participating in events with the overall goal of Keeping Washington County Beautiful.

Four Trash Pick Up dates are planned in 2012: February 18, April 14, September 8, and November 10. They are held early on Saturday mornings, and each clean-up ends with a social event including food and fun awards.

Plan to attend the next informational meeting on April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Washington County Chamber (314 S. Austin Street, Brenham). If you would like to get involved in the February clean-up, please visit www.KWCBTx.org for more details.

Follow us on Twitter @ www.twitter.com/

Visit Brenham or ChamberWashCo

Leadership Explores the County's History

The December session of Leadership took the group back in time in Washington County. The day was planned and facilitated by James Pharaon (LWC class of 2011). The class started their day at the Washington County Courthouse with County Clerk (and LWC Graduate) Beth Rothermel. Beth showed the class the underground room filled with hundreds of years of history, where land deeds, marriage licenses, and birth certificates date back to the 1800's.

The outdoor portion of this chilly day kicked off with a tour of Old Washington. The group watched an informative video and received a detailed tour through the

old school house and historic homes to get a feel for what life was like in the 1800's. They also took in a brief visit to Old Baylor Park and experienced the huge live oak trees growing there.

The next stop was Independence. Nancy Shoup gave the group a wonderful tour of Independence Baptist Church, where Sam Houston was a member. This church is the oldest continuously operating church in Texas. The Texas Baptist Museum, housed beside the historic church, is home to hundreds of artifacts from the 1800's, such as the original 1856 church bell. Afterward, the class gathered for a refreshing lunch

before their trek to "The Birthplace of Texas."

The history session continued as the leadership group traveled to the Star of the Republic Museum. After a brief video introduction, the group took a self-guided tour of this double-decker, star-shaped museum. Several interesting artifacts are available for viewing in this award-winning exhibition. The group took a rich look at the people, places, and events that shaped the character of the Texas we know today.

The final stop of the day was Washington-on-the-Brazos Historic Site. A Texas

Parks & Wildlife tour guide gave the leadership group an amazing tour of the Visitors Center. The site features interactive exhibits in the Gallery of the Republic, which present a timeline of the Texas Revolution and highlight the historic attractions located within the park.

The next Leadership session is Local Government, and is scheduled for Jan. 12.

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce aimed at educating and motivating current and future leaders. The next class will form in June/July and begin in August 2012.



"Chamber of Secrets" County Clerk Beth Rothermel shows the class an underground room at the county courthouse. The room is full with years of documents containing rich Washington County history.



"Religious Experience" The class sits inside the church, where Nancy Shoup gave a detailed history of the building and its members.



"The Back Pew" A group of LWC participants sit on a bench in Independence Baptist Church. The pew marked with a flag is where Sam Houston sat and his name is still visible where he carved it in the wood.



"Visitor's Guide" Texas Parks & Wildlife tour guide Adam Arnold gives the group a detailed indoor tour of the W.O.B. Visitor's Center.



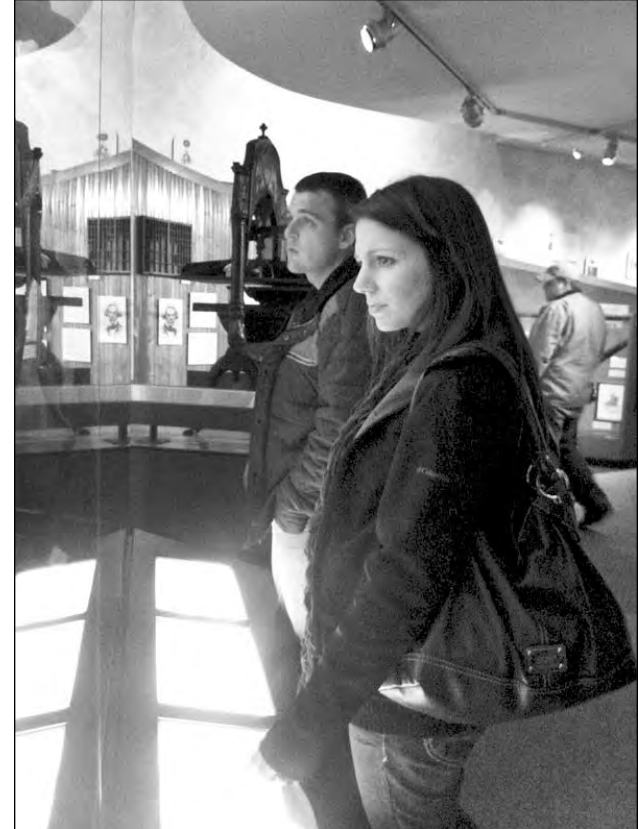
"A Real Davy Crockett" LWC class member Kyle Kmeic tries a coonskin cap on for size at the Star of the Republic Museum. This is just one of the many hands-on activities available to museum-goers.



"Back in Time" Kimberly Behrens examines a painting of the signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence at the Star of the Republic Museum.



"Going Up" LWC participants make their way to the second floor of the star-shaped museum to view exhibits of the social and cultural heritage of the unique people who came together to create the Republic of Texas.



"Texas History" Megan McCoy and Kyle Kmeic check out some artifacts in "The First Texans" exhibit. Through 10,000 square feet of new exhibits, audio-visual presentations, and educational programs, the Museum presents the experiences of ordinary Texans and extraordinary events.

Tourism News

2012 Visitor Guides Available

The 2012 Visitor Guides have arrived and are available at the Washington County Visitor Center located in the Simon Theatre building on Main Street.

While CVB staff members are scheduling deliveries for various areas, if you need Guides now, please drop by and pick some up and begin using them immediately.

Please responsibly recycle Guides with the 2011 date on the front as the Festivals information is out of date.



History Comes Alive at Washington-on-the-Brazos

Sample life in the mid-1800's with two weekends of events demonstrating frontier life at Barrington Living History Farm.

First comes "Butchering and Curing" on January 14-15, 2012. Butchering livestock was a necessary way of life, while pork was preserved by drying, salting and smoking. Join the staff at Barrington and see the different varieties of curing and ways to preserve food to eat later. Learn the fundamentals of this simple, old fashioned way of life. On Saturday, two farm-raised Ossabaw Island hogs will be butchered as it would have been done in the 1850s. On Sunday, the curing process begins. These steps will not be repeated. To see the entire process, don't miss either day.

On the weekend of January 28-29, 2012, learn how to "Make every stitch count." While today we can go to the store and buy ready-made clothing, men and women of the early frontier had to know, by necessity, how to sew and create handmade clothing, linens and even decorations. There will be many hands-on opportunities to observe and learn these various sewing and creating skills.

Also, on Saturday, January 28, learn about the history and symbolism of the many flags that have flown in Texas, with guest speaker and former TSSAR president Tom Green. Try your hand at putting a stitch into a re-creation of an early Texas flag.

For details and fees for these events, call (936) 878-2214 ext. 246, or visit www.BirthplaceOfTexas.com.



Don't miss your chance to see how important the tiny sewing needle was to our past at the "Make Every Stitch Count" event held at Barrington Living History Farm in Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site.

"Uptown Swirl" in Downtown Brenham

Saturday, January 14, 2012, from 2 p.m.-7 p.m., is just the time to shake the after-holidays blues. Kick off the New Year with an afternoon and evening of wine tasting in quaint stores and other locations around Brenham's downtown district.

With the purchase of a beautifully boxed, one-of-a-kind keepsake wine glass, visitors can collect tickets to sample 20 wines, varieties both local and from around the world. Wine glasses may be purchased in advance online at www.BrenhamUptownSwirl.com, at several locations in downtown Brenham or on the day of the event at the downtown Ticket Booth. A map of tasting locations will also be provided.

Funds generated from this event will be utilized for improvements to the downtown historic district. For more information, call 979-337-7384 or visit www.BrenhamUptownSwirl.com.

Everything Weddings Expo

Pure Elegance, an event planning company, is sponsoring "Love's True Colors," the Everything Weddings Expo at the Fireman's Training Center on Hwy. 290 in Brenham on Sunday, January 29 from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Admission for pre-registered brides is \$2; general admission is \$5 per person.

Brides and their families can participate in a bridal show that caters to the bride-to-be who is looking for a great destination wedding venue and top-quality vendors in one location - basically everything a bride needs to make her day unforgettable.

Door prizes and a fashion show at 2 p.m. are highlights of the show. In addition, brides can roll up their sleeves and get ready to cake dive for prizes valued at \$300 or more. Brides must be present at 3:15 p.m. for the drawing to participate in the dive. Hourly door prizes will also be drawn.

Featured vendors include Cake Junkie, Spilada Jewelry, Special Occasions fashions, floral presentations by Moosefeathers, hair styles by Mimosa and photography by The K Gallery.

For details, visit www.Pure-EleganceDec.com or www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com.

Bed & Breakfast FAM Tour

Sixteen adventuresome bed & breakfast owners recently gathered on a recent misty, cool morning for a familiarization tour of three local lodging properties.

This type of tour, held on a quarterly basis, included the warm, simple comfort of the rural country home that Richard Goodlett grew up in and named Sophie's Bed & Breakfast for his mother. The next two stops were the sparkling new haciendas just completed on the grounds of The Inn at Dos Brisas and the Thomas Kincaid ambiance of Lady Kassie's Rose Cottage on the grounds of Lillian Farms Country Estate.

Three such diverse settings contrasted quite well with each other, and the tour concluded with lunch at Lillian Farms followed by a short business meeting. The group shared their various experiences and CVB staff members updated everyone about their tourism-related activities. The next B&B Owners meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2012.

The Washington County Chamber is a Proud Member of ...

- TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS
- TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES
- TEXAS ASSOC. OF CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAUS
- U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Enjoying the fresh morning air on the back deck of Sophie's B & B are Margaret Dominy, Ken Lawrence, Carol Montgomery and Charlotte Von Rosenberg.



Wonny Rengersen (back to camera), general manager of The Inn at Dos Brisas, describes the elegant facility to B&B owners Carol Montgomery, Charlotte Von Rosenberg, Susan Lopez, Richard and Dorothy Goodlett, Patsy Klusmann and Diane Hunter.



The touring group's last stop is Lady Kassie's Rose Cottage, a charming, secluded hideaway on the grounds of Lillian Farms Country Estate. This is the first of several isolated cottages planned for the "enchanted forest" area.

Working for YOU!

As a Chamber member, your promotional information is seen by thousands of people every month.

WALK-IN'S

Visitor Center December 2011 — 622 HQ Building December 2011 — 684

WEBSITE

www.BrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors December 2011 — 6,739 Total Pages December 2011 — n/a

WEBSITE

www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors December 2011 — 1,895 Total Pages December 2011 — 2,255



KEEP OUR LOCAL ECONOMY STRONG
WWW.BRENHAMTEXAS.COM

Calendar

(Continued from Page 8)

Feb 13-25

Winedale Annual Quilt Exhibit

Features historic quilts dating to the 1700s, part of the Winedale Quilt Collection, free, Winedale Historical Complex, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top (winedale@austin.utexas.edu, www.cah.utexas.edu).

Feb 22-25

Fortnightly Club Annual Used Book Sale

Thousands of used books, cd's and movies for sale, benefits the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library, 9am-6pm daily, \$10 on Weds 9am-2pm, \$1 Friday and Saturday, free parking, Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham (979-421-6252).

Be the next member in the "Spotlight!"

Send submissions to news@brenhamtexas.com

Your "Spotlight" can be about a recent award, event, business expansion or new employee, or simply a couple paragraphs to increase community awareness about your products/services. (150 words maximum)

Member News

Get Noticed...

The ChamberWorks newsletter is published inside The Banner-Press on the first Thursday of the month. Chamber members have the opportunity to advertise in this newsletter. Rates start at only \$25 per month.

If you are looking for a new opportunity to advertise, just give Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager, a call at the Chamber: (979) 836-3695.

Another great way to promote your organization is through targeted emails. The Chamber will forward your "e-message" to all members, as long as it meets certain criteria. For non-profits, it should not have a strong-sell for sponsorships or donations. The message should be newsworthy, typically about an upcoming event. For regular businesses, it should also be about upcoming special events, as long as there is no purchase required for the reader to experience the event.

E-messages are sent a maximum of once per quarter per member during each calendar year.



Hot Deals Online!

Another great tool is the "Hot Deals" feature on the Chamber website. These are designed to promote special offers provided by member businesses and organizations.

The Hot Deal must promote something that is not available on a year-round basis, such as a sale or discount price on a product or service, an open house event, a free tour, free refreshments, etc.

The offer may only be promoted for a limited time. Therefore, an expiration date must be included on the Hot Deal. The maximum length of time for a Hot Deal is 3 months (12 weeks). Call if we can help you set up a Hot Deal!



Did You Know?

That the Chamber provides hundreds of "Relocation Info" packages every year to individuals and businesses who are considering moving to this community. As a member, you are eligible to include your promotional material and reach this targeted audience for a nominal annual fee (\$75). Contact the Chamber office to be included.

Marketing Our Community Across the State of Texas

The Washington County CVB is a proud and active member of the following state and regional tourism industry associations:

- Texas Travel Industry Association
- Texas Assoc. of Convention & Visitors Bureaus
- Texas Hotel & Lodging Association
- Texas Society of Association Executives
- Texas Independence Trail Region
- I-10 Corridor Association
- Presidential Texas
- Central Texas Bluebonnet Travel Council
- American Bus Association
- South Central Motorcoach Association

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Swell Printing

Swell Printing has been producing unique and creative note cards, invitations, announcements, gift tags, notepads, label and a lot more for more than ten years. Brenham native and owner Sissi Wellmann creates one-of-a-kind printed items that are personable and perfect for any special gift or occasion.

The Birth of Swell Printing: Sissi says that she has always loved creating things with paper. As a small child, she enjoyed drawing, doodling and creating fun things for others. She began making simple note cards and stationery for herself and friends and later invitations and more.

View samples of her designs at www.swellprinting.com. She offers Personal and Commercial printed items including business cards and special one-of-a-kind invitations of all occasions — Weddings, Graduation, Birthday, Anniversary, Baptism, Confirmation, etc.

Contact Sissi Wellmann at Swell Printing at www.swellprinting.com or 979-836-7781.

Be the next member in the "Spotlight!" Send submissions to info@brenhamtexas.com. Your "Spotlight" can be about a recent award, event, business expansion or new employee, or simply a couple paragraphs to increase community awareness about your products/services. (100-150 words maximum)

WASHINGTON COUNTY "ADOPT-A-SIGN" PARTNERS

To ensure the long-term care of the Welcome Sign monuments at the five entry points to Washington County, four landscaping companies from our community have volunteered to oversee their maintenance.

Precision Lawn Management
— U.S. 290 West Sign

Designing Landscapes — U.S. 290 East Sign

Glasco & Company Landscaping
— Hwy. 36 North and South Signs

Wise Landscaping — Hwy. 105 Sign

What's Happening in January

Jan 12

Zumba Classes

Register for this evening exercise class, held 5:30-6:30pm Tues and Thurs, \$35/month (979-277-3895, www.brenhamcommunityed.com)

Jan 13, 20, 27

Live Music at Pig and Whistle

Gene Hackemack performs every Friday at Pig and Whistle of Burton, 12607 W. Washington (979-289-2319, www.pigandwhistleofburtontexas.com).

Jan 14-15

Butchering and Curing

On Saturday, two farm-raised Ossabaw Island hogs will be butchered as it was done in the 1850s, on Sunday, the curing process of drying, salting and smoking the meat begins, 10am-4:30pm, \$5 adults, \$3 students, State Park pass holders free, Barrington Living History Farm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (936-878-2214, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

Jan 14

Zumba Classes

Register for this weekend morning class held 8-9am Saturdays, \$25/month (979-277-3895, www.brenhamcommunityed.com)

Uptown Swirl

Wine tasting throughout historic Downtown Brenham, 2-7pm, \$25 for 20 tickets for tasty wine sampling and a collectible wine glass, tickets available at the Brenham/Washington County Visitor Center, by contacting Main Street Brenham or online (979-337-7384, www.brenhamuptownswirl.com).

Jan 16

Yoga

Register today for this weekly class held on Mon & Weds 5:30-6:30pm, \$112 (979-277-3895, www.brenhamcommunityed.com).

Adult Acting Class

Register for an 8-week adult acting class, culminating in a showcase performance, held Mondays 6-8pm, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Downtown Brenham (979-830-1460, www.unitybrenham.org).

Jan 17

Monthly Grief Luncheon

Join others who have experienced the death of a loved one, learn healthy grieving methods, share how grief affects you and what helps during this monthly pot-luck

luncheon, bring a covered dish, beverages provided, 3rd Tuesday of the month, 11am-1pm, free, please RSVP (979-277-9525, www.hospicebrazosvalley.org).

Jan 18

Adult Musical Theatre Dance

Register now for this class, dance to music from American musical theatre, disco, jazz, and hip-hop, 12 classes through Apr 4, Wednesdays 6-7pm, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Brenham (979-830-1460, www.unitybrenham.org).

Musical Theatre Dance**Class for Children**

Register by today for this class for grades 1-8, simple Broadway-style choreography, Wednesdays 4-5pm. Showcase held on April 4 at 5pm, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Brenham (979-830-1460, www.unitybrenham.org).

Pet Wellness Wednesday

Specials on select products and services, discounts on vaccinations, 3rd Weds of every month, call for appointment or drop-off, 8am-5pm, Creekside Veterinary Service (979-836-6519).

Jan 19

Senior Citizen Discount Day

Receive a 15% discount on all wellness, vaccinations, dental, spays/neuters at Brenham Veterinary Hospital for pets with owners over 50, call for appointment. Senior Discount Day is held the 3rd Thursday of every month! (979-836-2472, www.brenhamvethospital.com).

Jan 20

Car Seat Distribution Class

A one-hour class to learn how to install a car seat and ensure your child is properly restrained, 2-3pm, call Loretta or Bryan at Washington County EMS (979-277-6267).

Jan 21

19th Century Hunting

Interpreters in period costume tell of hunting adventures in the 19th century, examine tools of the hunter's trade and more, 11am-3pm, \$5 adults, \$3 children, State Parks pass holders free, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

Jan 24

Master Naturalists Class

Master Naturalists can be certified with this class now through May, 6-9pm, Wine-

dale Historical Complex, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top (Winedale@austin.utexas.edu, www.cah.utexas.edu).

Jan 26

Lifetime Learning Luncheon

Diana Untermeyer, wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Qatar, will present a program based on her new book "Qatar: Sand, Sea and Sky," 11:30am-1:00pm, \$22, Janis Sneed Banquet Room, Blinn College Student Center (979-2-337-4928, www.lifetimelearningbrenham.org).

Jan 28-29

Making Every Stitch Count

Learn sewing and stitching, enjoy hands-on activities and experience life in the early frontier at Barrington Living History Farm, 10am-4:30pm, \$9 adults, \$6 students, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (936-878-2214 x246, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

Jan 28

Flags of Texas

Learn about the history of the many flags that have flown in Texas, with guest speaker and former TSSAR president, Tom Green, 11am-3pm, \$5 adults, \$3 children, State Park pass holders free, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (936-878-2214, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

Houston Brass Band

The Houston Brass Band performs, 3pm, \$20 adults, \$10 students, Festival Concert Hall, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

Jan 29

Everything Weddings Expo

Dozens of vendors, fashion show, compete for prizes at this bridal show for the Greater Washington County bride, 1-5pm, \$5, or \$2 for pre-registered brides, Fireman's Training Center, Brenham (979-830-3479, www.pure-elegancedec.com).

Chicken Stew Lunch

Chicken Stew Lunch, 11:30am-1pm, St. James Lutheran of New Wehdem, 10362 New Wehdem Rd., Brenham, \$8 adults, \$4 kids (979-836-2795, stjames@broadwaves.net).

Jan 31

Chamber & EDF Annual Banquet

5:30 Social Hour, 6pm Dinner & Program, Fireman's Training Center (979-836-3595)

February highlights...

Feb 2

Business After Hours

Hosted by Scott & White Hospital-Brenham, in Board-Education Room from 5-6:30pm, 700 Medical Pkwy., Brenham.

Feb 4-March 4

The Art in Fiber 2012

Features works from 21 fiber artists from across Texas, Copper Shade Tree, 102 Schumann Ln, Henkel Square Market, Round Top (979-249-4127, www.coppershadetree.com).

Feb 4

Yonder Way Farm Day

Visit the Farm Store at Yonder Way Farm for grass-fed beef, whole & half calves, pastured pork, eggs and poultry, 1st Saturday of the month, 5500 Hwy 105, Brenham, contact for fees (979-530-4444, www.yonderwayfarm.com).

Feb 9-26

Unity Theatre presents**"Billy Bishop Goes to War"**

The story of the greatest allied ace of the "Great War," Billy tells his own story with music and poignancy about a failing student, accident prone cavalryman and poor pilot who finds his glory in the sky and becomes the first Canadian to receive the Military Cross, the Victoria Cross and Distinguished Service Medal. Performances Thu 7:30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, and Sun 4pm, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Downtown Brenham (979-830-8358 or www.unitybrenham.org).

Feb 9

Valentine's Day Library**Fundraiser Concert**

The Art of the American Song with Dick Smith & Friends, 2pm, \$20, Round Top Festival-Institute (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

Feb 11-12

Beasts of Burden

See draught animals work a field to prepare it for planting, using a plow, cultivator and harrow of 1850s Texas, 10am-4:30pm, \$5 adults, \$3 students, State Park pass holders free, Barrington Living History Farm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historical Site (936-878-2214 x 246, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

See CALENDAR, Page 7



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®



Ray L. Weiss, FIC
Financial Consultant
Million Dollar Round Table
Member - NAIFA
ray.weiss@thrivent.com

215 E. Main St.
Brenham, TX 77834

Office: 979-836-0693
Fax: 979-836-8582

Must Be
Heaven

A franchise of Must Be Heaven Franchise Corp.,
Brenham, Texas

Charlie & Traci Pyle
Owners

OPEN ON SUNDAYS!
MON.-SAT. 8:00am - 5:00pm
SUN. 11:00am - 3:00pm

107 W. ALAMO ST.
DOWNTOWN BRENHAM
(979) 830-8536
(979) 836-9913 fax
e-mail pieguy_mbh@yahoo.com

Home of the
HEAVENLY
SPECIALS

REPUBLIC
SERVICES

Paul Wheeler
Division Manager

1709 Hwy. 36 North
Brenham, TX 77833
979.277.0811 • Fax 979.277.9001 • Cell 337.319.0558
pwheeler@republicservices.com
www.republicservices.com