



Washington County
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Convention & Visitors Bureau

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BRENHAM, TEXAS

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2011 Banquet: Vision for the Future



Joycine Hanath and Clarence Gerke won the 2010 Woman and Man of the Year-Lifetime Achievement Awards.



Blue Blazers president Pam Green with winner of the 2010 Blue Blazer of the Year Award, Joyce Dickschat, and Jane Hinze, Chamber Member Services Manager.



Randy Weidemann, Master of Ceremonies, presented Texas Comptroller Susan Combs with an appreciation gift.

A packed crowd of over 500 people attended the Annual Banquet held by the Washington County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Foundation on February 1 in Brenham.

The theme was "Washington County: Leading the Vision for the Future" and Texas Comptroller Susan Combs was the keynote speaker. Combs delivered an optimistic speech about Texas' economy and Washington County's.

Randy Weidemann of Van Dyke Rankin & Company, a long-time member of the Washington County Blue Blazers, was Master of Ceremonies for the evening. He led the program smoothly and introduced each speaker during the evening.

Thanks to all the members and guests who attended the 2011 Annual Banquet, and to the following headline sponsors for ensuring the success of the event:

- ★ **Blue Bell Creameries**
- ★ **Bluebonnet Electric**
- ★ **Brenham Chrysler Jeep Dodge**
- ★ **Brenham Clinic**
- ★ **Van Dyke Rankin Insurance Company**

Prior to the banquet, the Career & Technology Class from Brenham High School set up all the tables and chairs inside Fireman's Training Center led by Joe Antkowiak. Brenham Anchor Club students also played an important role in helping to set tables and serve hundreds of banquet guests, led by Judith Finke and Denise Kmiec.

Bluebonnet Garden Club members did another outstanding job this year, creatively decorating all the banquet tables with fresh greenery, pine cones and red berries. Large plants decorated the stage, courtesy of Ellison's Greenhouses and Plants N Things. Special thanks go to Lete Phillips for chairing the Banquet Committee and overseeing all the details.

After MC Randy Weidemann opened the program, Pastor Steve Westbrook led the invocation, the Marine Corps Junior ROTC from Brenham High School presented the colors, and Alicia Wahrmund sang a stirring rendition of the National Anthem.

Susan Combs was introduced by State Rep. Lois Kolkhorst, who told a few personal anecdotes about her friendship with and admiration of Combs as the most "accessible elected official" she has ever known.

"BUSINESS AFTER HOURS"

Hosted by:

Brenham Country Club

4107 Highway 105 East, Brenham

Thursday, Feb. 24 — 5-7 p.m.

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

Learn more about Brenham Country Club at www.BrenhamCC.com

McCoy joins Chamber Staff

Please join us in welcoming Megan McCoy to the Chamber staff. She is the new Communication Coordinator. In this position, she responds to community information requests and provides great customer service to Chamber members, visitors and local residents.

Megan was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. After graduating high school, she moved to Brenham to attend Blinn College. Megan is married to Weston McCoy (of La Grange). The couple currently resides in Round Top. She previously worked at Brenham Mailing Services.

Megan and Weston have three dogs, a "chocolate-covered" Labrador named Drake and two Yorkshire terriers, Sassy and Shelby. In the summer, the couple enjoys taking their boat to the Texas coast to spend the weekends saltwater fishing. In her spare time, Megan enjoys crafts, cooking and spending time with family.



McCOY

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

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- TEXAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES
- TEXAS ASSOC. OF CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAUS
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Washington County Chamber of Commerce

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

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Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager

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Megan McCoy, Communication Coordinator

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New Members

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Washington County Day at the Capitol Set

As our State legislators and officials convene in Austin for the 82nd Legislative Session, the Chamber will hold its biannual Washington County Day at the Capitol Tuesday, Feb. 22. This day presents a great opportunity for Washington County residents to visit their legislators and see them in action.

In the morning, a resolution extolling the virtues of our community will be read in the House of Representatives and visiting dignitaries will be recognized in the Senate chamber.

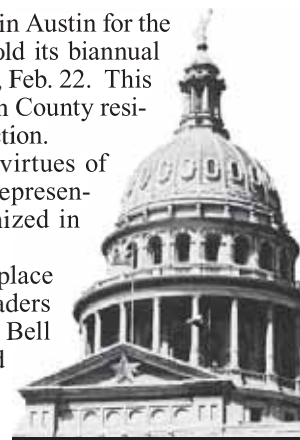
After lunch, continuing a tradition set in place during Lt. Governor Bob Bullock's tenure, leaders from Washington County will hand-dip Blue Bell ice cream for the Senators, Representatives and their staff. The legislators will also receive another taste of Washington County thanks to Del Sol Food Company, who will be present to provide gifts of Briannas Salad Dressings. Ellison's Greenhouses has donated beautiful plants for a prize drawing for the Senators and Representatives.

Volunteers are needed to help deliver information packages to all the legislators' offices. The packs will feature a special invitation to the 175th Texas Independence Day Celebration at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (to be held Feb. 26 & 27). The goal is to increase awareness of this site that was so crucial to Texas' independence and sets Washington County apart from all others in the state.

All residents of Washington County are encouraged to be in Austin on this special day. If you have never been to the Capitol in Austin, this will be an exciting and meaningful day to attend. Even if you have been many times before, participating in Washington County Day at the Capitol is guaranteed to make your pride in this community grow even deeper.

For those interested, guided tours of the Capitol are offered every 20 minutes throughout the day.

Contact the Chamber office for more details on the schedule for the day.



Ribbon Cuttings



Bar B Boutique - New Owners

Owners: Kim & Courtney Rocka, Barbara Morrish
Location: 111 S. Baylor Street, Downtown Brenham
Phone: (979) 836-5454



Sunday House

Owner: Janet Schulze; Manager: Debra Clifton
Location: 3990 Bluebonnet Blvd.
(at entrance of Bluebonnet Hills)
Phone: (979) 251-9300

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Julie R. Tiemann
Financial Associate
Brenham Area Associates
julie.tiemann@thrivent.com

215 E. Main St.
Brenham, TX 77833

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

Pipes joins Blue Blazers

Born in Hempstead, Texas, Linda Pipes grew up in Thibodaux, La., and graduated from Thibodaux HS. She attended Nicholls State College, Lamar Tech in Beaumont, Sam Houston, Blinn and Texas A&M, graduating with a degree in Elementary Education. She obtained a further degree from Neuhaus Education Center in Houston.

Linda taught Pre-K, Kindergarten, 2nd grade, 3rd grade Chapter, and Dyslexia classes for 34 years, on all three elementary campuses in Brenham.

She also worked several years with Tri-d Consultants of Houston and Leiters Designer Fabrics. She is an Independent Business Owner for Amway/Artistry beauty products. She has also been a tour guide at Blue Bell!

Linda is married to Paul Pipes, former Brenham ISD teacher and Washington County Commissioner. They are members of First United Methodist Church in Brenham. They have two daughters: Dana who is married with two children in Newnan, Georgia; and Tricia who is married and has two daughters in San Antonio.



PIPES

Renewing Members

(Jan. 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.

- A Journey's End Bed & Breakfast — 2 years
- Al Steinbach Electric — 23 years
- Ant Street Inn — 19 years
- Larry J. Arnie, CPA — 28 years
- Austin County Chiropractic — 1 year
- BABE'S Trucking Co. — 16 years
- Bar B Boutique — 2 years
- Bartay Chiropractic — 11 years
- Beadboard Upcountry — 5 years
- Dr. Steven A. Beim, P.A. — 12 years
- Beyers Kitchen — 26 years
- Bites by Anita — 2 years
- BJ Electric — 5 years
- Blue Bell Creameries - Presidential Member** — 28 years
- Bluebonnet Electric Coop. - Presidential Member** — 27 years
- Dot Borchardt, Washington County Tax Assessor — 3 years
- Brazos Valley Food Bank — 6 years
- Brenham Activist Association — 13 years
- Brenham Chrysler Jeep Dodge — 27 years
- Brenham Church of Christ — 2 years
- Brenham Coca-Cola Bottling Company — 30 years
- Brenham Fitness Center — 10 years
- Brenham L-P Gas — 29 years
- Brenham Memorial Chapel — 27 years
- Brenham National Bank - Presidential Member** — 29 years
- Brenham Office Supply Service — 43 years
- Brenham Saddle Shop — 27 years
- Brenham Tire & Auto Center — 11 years
- Brenham Veterinary Hospital — 26 years
- Cape-Tex Painting — 3 years
- Cattleman's Brenham Livestock Auction — 27 years
- Citizens State Bank - Presidential Member** — 12 years
- Cathy Cole - Heritage Texas Country Properties — 8 years
- Community Chiropractic — 1 year
- Crawford Quality Water DBA Culligan Water — 11 years
- Creekside Investment Management, Inc. — 12 years
- Detering Brothers Investments — 29 years
- Don's Appliance Service — 2 years
- Edward Jones Investments - Billy Starnes — 11 years
- Ellison's Greenhouses — 41 years
- Emerson Process Management/PIC — 19 years
- EPCO, Inc./Seminole Pipeline Co. — 19 years
- Farmers Mutual Aid Assoc. of Washington Co. — 16 years
- Fischer Tile & Floor Covering — 27 years
- Germania Insurance - Presidential Member — 33 years
- Grace Lutheran Church — 12 years
- Eddie E. & Margaret D. Harrison — 11 years
- Hermann Furniture Company — 15 years
- Herrmann International — 26 years
- Hodde Real Estate Company — 14 years
- Hollis Energy Resource Services — 4 years
- Hospice Boutique — 9 years
- Hospice Brazos Valley — 13 years
- J & A Roofing — 5 years
- Jones & Carter Engineers — 2 years
- K & S Farm and Ranch Welding Center — 2 years
- Kelling Photography — 6 years
- Kenjura Pharmacy — 26 years
- Kinetics Gymnastics & Cheer — 5 years
- Kountry Boys Sausage — 9 years
- Krause Elementary School — 3 years
- Paul F. La Roche, III, DDS — 26 years
- Lacina & Kenjura, P.C. — 26 years
- Lete Phillips Exercise Program — 21 years
- Lillian Farms Country Estate — 10 years
- Longhofer Home Design & Construction — 11 years
- Lowe's — 7 years
- Maifest Association — 29 years
- Mariposa Ranch Bed & Breakfast — 19 years
- Market Realty — 21 years
- Medi-Care Equipment Specialties — 29 years
- Meier's Garage — 11 years
- Mike Hopkins Distributing Company — 40 years
- Moeller Electric Company — 26 years
- New Beginnings Life Ministries — 9 years
- Parts and More — 7 years
- Jim M. Plummer, CPA — 13 years
- Portable Buildings of Brenham — 1 year
- Preservation Storage — 3 years
- Quebe Farm Bed & Breakfast — 5 years
- Dr. William Reeves, Orthodontist — 15 years
- Senior Activity Center, WCHLA — 4 years
- Sigma Chi Chi Professional Women's Club — 1 year
- Southern Flyer Café — 11 years
- Tegeler Toyota — 20 years
- Texas Commercial Waste - Presidential Member** — 21 years
- TFE Company — 27 years
- The Brenham House Bed & Breakfast — 4 years
- Thielemann Construction/Stegent Plumbing — 26 years
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans — 24 years
- Leon Toubin — 21 years
- Twin Plumbing — 2 years
- Unity Theatre — 16 years
- University Cancer Center — 6 years
- UPS Store — 13 years
- Valmont Industries — 31 years
- Voelter, Dr. Donald — 11 years
- Volunteer Service Council for Brenham State Supported Living Center — 29 years
- Waldie's Pharmacy — 27 years
- Washington County Abstract Company — 46 years
- Washington County Tractor — 26 years
- Wellmann Insurance Agency — 26 years
- Winedale Historical Complex — 2 years
- Woodson Lumber — 26 years

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER BLUE BLAZER OF THE MONTH



**January 2011
Sue Muzzy**

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> |
| JOYCE DICKSCHAT
<i>Brenham National Bank</i> | BRICE MILLIORN
<i>Edward Jones Investments</i> |
| JOHANNA FATHEREE
<i>RE/MAX Advantage</i> | SUE MUZZY
<i>Mike Hopkins Distributing Co.</i> |
| COY FONTENOT
<i>Kruse Village</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> |

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Thank you to our Presidential Level members...





2011 Chamber chair Cathy Boeker (far left) and president Page Michel (far right) thanked the 7 retiring directors from the Chamber Board in 2010: (L to R) Alejandra Ray, Bevers Kitchen; Lete Phillips, Lete Phillips Exercise Studio; Chris Brewster, Brewster LLC; Leslie Harrell, Brenham Abstract & Title Co.; Glenwood Prenzler, retired educator; and (not pictured) Melinda Faubion, Faubion Design; and Karen Morgan, Brenham Clinic.



State Rep. Lois Kolkhorst introduced the keynote speaker for the banquet, Texas Comptroller Susan Combs.



Current Chamber chair Cathy Boeker (far right) presented the 2010 executive officers with plaques in appreciation: Barney Loesch, Immediate Past Chair; Mike Baker, Secretary; Trey Hardy, Treasurer; Julie Renken, Chairwoman; and Brice Milliorn, Second Vice Chair.



Lete Phillips received special thanks for serving as Banquet Committee chair for three consecutive years.



Current president of the Blue Blazers Pam Green (far left) and Chamber Member Services Manager Jane Hinze (far right) presented the 2010 club officers with appreciation plaques: (L to R) Julie Tiemann of Thrivent Financial, Recording Secretary; Sue Muzzy of Mike Hopkins Distributing, Point Secretary; and Brice Milliorn of Edward Jones Investments, President.



Current EDF chairman William Krueger presented Paul Kruse with a framed Texas flag in appreciation of his service as EDF Chairman of the Board in 2010.

Banquet

(Continued from Page 1)

Newly elected Washington County Judge John Brieden was welcomed to the stage to address the crowd, along with Burton Mayor Peggy Felder and Brenham Mayor Milton Tate.

The Chamber board chair for 2011, Cathy Boeker, thanked the retiring directors whose terms ended in 2010.

EDF board chair for 2011 William Krueger thanked Leon Toubin and Luther Hueske for their years of service on the board. He also thanked Paul Kruse who served as board chair in 2010, and he talked about the exciting year the organization just wrapped up.

The Blue Blazer of the Year award was won by Joyce Dick-schat of Brenham National Bank for her outstanding dedication to the Chamber mission and club goals during 2010.

Joycine Hanath won the 2010 Woman of the Year-Lifetime Achievement Award. She was introduced by last year's winner, Sedonia Powell, and was stunned and surprised. In the introduction, Powell described all of Hanath's many volunteer activities and praised all of the contributions Hanath has made to numerous organizations in Washington County.

David Folschinsky did the introduction of the 2010 Man of the Year, and award-winner Clarence Gerke was surprised beyond belief. Gerke made a few very moving comments about the generosity of the people in Washington County and his gratitude about being able to give back. He credited his family, partner Wayne Giese and employ-

ees for such a blessed life.

"The success of the banquet was the result of the time and hard work of many people," said Lete Phillips, chairwoman of the event and retiring member of the Chamber Board of Directors.

"It's a great team effort," said Page Michel, president. "Every one of the volunteers who helped to plan and set up had a role in the success of the program," said Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager.

Plans for next year's banquet are already underway. Any members who have comments or suggestions for future events are encouraged to call the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or write to info@brenhamtexas.com.

Leadership Class Investigates Law Enforcement and State Government

The Washington County Leadership class attended two very timely sessions during January. In the same month our somber nation tried to understand the senseless shootings in Tucson, the 2011 Leadership Class learned about Local Law Enforcement and State Government.

The January 11 session was held at the Brenham Police Department and facilitators were Corporal Chris Jackson of the BPD (LWC Class of 2011) and Washington County Attorney Julie Renken (LWC Class of 2001).

Police Chief Rex Phelps opened the morning with news that the Brenham crime rate had lowered by 16%. He continued with a presentation of the "E4" philosophy he uses with the Brenham Police Department. The four E's are Empathy, Edification, Enthusiasm and Excellence, and by following this philosophy, Chief Phelps creates an environment where good people never want to leave the department.

District Attorney Bill Parham (LWC Class of 2008) and Washington County Attorney Julie Renken shared the prosecutor's perspective with the group. Parham handles adult felonies. He told the group that less than 5% of cases go to trial. Renken is legal advisor to all County departments, in addition to handling CPS, Adult Protective Services, domestic violence, mental commitments, Class A & B misdemeanors for all adults, and all juvenile prosecutions. Current LWC class member Eric Berg is Assistant County Attorney. They each hope to have an impact on juveniles at entry level offenses, and deter them from returning with more serious charges.

The day wasn't comprised only of lectures. The leadership participants were given tours of the county jail facilities and the police department headquarters. Lunch was

generously provided by the Washington County Peace Officers Association.

After lunch, there were breakout sessions and law enforcement scenarios facilitated by Chris Jackson, other police officers, and members of Citizens on Patrol. Brian Fathauer was the high scorer with 25 points in the "Shoot, Don't Shoot" scenario.

On January 25, the group traveled to Austin for State Government Day. Tighter security measures have been implemented at the Capitol following incidents in Austin and the recent shootings in Tucson. The first stop was the gallery of the House of Representatives, followed by a brief visit to the Senate Chamber.

District 13 Representative Lois Kolkhorst (LWC Class of 1995) joined the class in a Public Hearing room for questions and answers and a mock hearing. Rep. Kolkhorst demonstrated the many sides of an issue with help from class members during the mock hearing. She explained that this legislative session will be a difficult one as the legislature addresses the State's budget shortfall. Leadership members were reminded that our state Senators and Representatives listen to their constituents and encouraged everyone to contact her office at any time with their concerns.

Following lunch in the Capitol Grill, the class walked to the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum for the remainder of the session.

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce designed to train and motivate current and future leaders for our community. The next class will form in June & July. For more details and/or an application, please call the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or visit www.BrenhamTexas.com.



The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and the movie "The Story of Texas" brought to life the history of our great state.



Elizabeth Price is "strapped down" and restrained to demonstrate how an out-of-control inmate is subdued at the Washington County Jail.



Clint Kolby and Jeanne Luedemann are instructed in proper procedure during a "routine" traffic stop.



Corporal Joseph Merkley takes Julie Renken for a "perp walk."



Rep. Kolkhorst gives an overview of issues facing the 82nd Legislature Regular Session.



The 2011 Class of Leadership Washington County overlooks the floor of the Texas House of Representatives.



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers needed for Junior Achievement Program

This is a unique opportunity for you to participate in Junior Achievement's Elementary School Program, educating and inspiring students to value business and economics to improve the quality of their lives. The 2nd grade Junior Achievement helps students discover what elements are found in a community and increases their understanding of how government works. It develops the students' awareness of what businesses operate in the community. The curriculum is interactive and fun, but Brenham ISD needs the secret ingredient to make it work...YOU!

Community volunteers are needed to teach the JA classes and share their experiences during the regular school day. You will coordinate one 30-minute presentation per week for five weeks. You will be trained and supported throughout the whole process, as well as provided with all the materials and activities. You set up your own schedule with the teacher for your five sessions. You can make it convenient for you.

Junoir Achievement training will be held on Tuesday, February 15, at 12:00 noon in the Career Center at Brenham HS. Lunch will be provided. Second grade Junior Achievement sessions are to begin Feb. 22.

Contact Amanda Thiel, Brenham ISD Career & Technical Education Administrative Assistant, at (979) 277-3800, ext. 1056, or email: athiel@brenhamisd.net.

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)

Celebrate 175 Years of Texas Independence

The 175th anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence will be commemorated during a free two-day festival on February 26 and 27 at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. The festival will be held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days.

This celebration brings to life the Republic of Texas era at the 293-acre park along the Brazos River, where visitors will be transported back in time to when Texas was a sovereign nation. Costumed re-enactors and members of the Texas Army, along with skilled craftsmen and talented musicians, will fill the park as Texas commemorates its inception.

Statesmen of the era, such as Sam Houston, Stephen F. Austin and Anson Jones, will be on hand to explain to visitors the importance of Texas independence.

At the Visitors Center, guests will be able to log on to the Park Association's new web project, "The Spirit of Independence." This interactive web site allows teachers and students access to the wealth of information and primary sources available at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site.

Saturday's activities include Texian Army daily life interpretations; Anson Jones' kitchen in use; Lott's Tavern reenactment; small arms and artillery firing demonstrations; historic crafts demonstrations; craft vendors, musicians; and recreation of key moments that occurred during the Independence Convention.

The Star of the Republic Museum at Washington-on-the-Brazos will open a new exhibit this weekend entitled "Fifty-nine for Freedom." On March 2, 1836, as Santa Anna was approaching San Antonio, the delegates at Washington-on-the-Brazos declared, "Our political connection with the Mexican nation has now forever ended, and the people of Texas do now constitute a free and independent republic." By signing this Declaration, these men were signing their own death warrants, jeopardizing their property and the lives of their families.

But who were these men who put their lives of the line? The new exhibit will explore the life and contributions of each delegate. Numerous artifacts and documents owned or created by many of the 59 signers will be on display. The exhibit will open on February 26, in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

On Sunday, U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, a direct descendant of Texas Declaration of Independence signer Charles Taylor, will be the keynote speaker at this special commemoration. A contingent of the Fighting Texas Ag-

gie Band will start things off at 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon at the Tom & Jane Bullock amphitheater. Sam Houston IV and Senator Hutchison will then recognize other descendants of the 59 signers.

The Star of the Republic Museum, the Brazos Valley Arts Council and the Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park Association will unveil a stunning art piece titled "The Big Picture." Local artists have joined together to paint sections of the Museum's cornerstone exhibit, "The Reading of the Texas Declaration of Independence" by artists Charles and Fanny Normann. More than a dozen artists have divided the painting into sections, and are recreating the painting on a monumental scale. The finished work will measure approximately 18 x 24 feet, and serve as a backdrop at the amphitheater. "The Big Picture" will be revealed Sunday, February 27, at 2 p.m. at the park amphitheater.

At 3 p.m., a Texas-sized birthday cake will be served to audience members, with the help of the Washington County Historical Society Heritage Belles. The afternoon will conclude with a performance of "The Convention of 1836" by the Navasota Theater Alliance.

For more information, visit www.birthplaceoftexas.com or call 936-878-2214.

Macsabal 2011 and a Texas-Sized Kiln

Local potter Doug Peck is hosting 8 internationally known South Korean potters for the 13th annual International Macsabal Woodfire Workshop in Brenham, February 15-22. This is a unique opportunity for the public to view the work of internationally known potters as well as watch demonstrations of pottery being produced and fired in a huge outdoor woodfire kiln.

It has taken Peck most of 2010 to construct the large wood fire kiln on his property at the edge of Brenham on Hwy. 105. Once completed, the kiln will take 7 days to fire the pottery. Teams of potters will monitor the fire 24 hours a day to ensure temperatures reach 2400 degrees Fahrenheit. They will use 7 to 10 cords of oak, cedar and pine in the process.

This festival originated in Osan, South Korea. Macsabal is the Korean term for a simple utilitarian vessel. The workshop focuses on producing these vessels and firing them in a wood burning kiln. Doug Peck was invited by South Korean artist Young Moon Kim to participate in the workshop in 2009. In September 2010, Peck traveled to Zibo, China, to participate in the festival again. It was at this time that he decided to host the festival for 2011. This will be the first time the workshop has been held in the United States.

The workshop will include an opening ceremony, scheduled demonstrations on throwing pottery, viewing the firing of the kiln and artists exhibition. All events are free and open to the public.

Doug Peck holds a MFA in ceramics from the University of North Texas, studied ceramics in Hawaii and China, and teaches full time at Blinn College in Brenham, Texas. For further information or a schedule of events, contact Cindy Klahn at Renew Art Studio in Brenham, Texas. 979-836-1620 or www.RenewArtStudio.com.



Potter Doug Peck works on completing the large kiln that will be used to fire pottery during the 13th annual International Macsabal Woodfire Workshop 2011 taking place Feb. 15-22 in Brenham.

January = Travel Shows, Conference

Chamber-CVB staff Lu Hollander and Seneca McAdams attended the Texas Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus Mid-Winter Conference in Lewisville January 18-20 where the consistent focus revolved around technology.

Discussion about social media in its various forms was included as part or all of several sessions. Tips for CVBs regarding managing Facebook interactions with visitors and prospective visitors included: listen more than you talk; remember, it's about them, not you; provide value, be helpful.

Another topic of interest involved differentiating between branding a destination and marketing a destination. Branding was defined as leaving an indelible mark that is obvious, significant, meaningful, different and powerful. Marketing then creates interest in and awareness of a brand.

Branding is how a person feels about the destination, product or service; it's an emotional, intuitive reaction. Dr. Robert Deutsch stated, "When you have a belief, facts don't matter. People tend to base their buying choices on trust; if the logo is a trademark, then the brand should be thought of as a 'trustmark.'"

Creating an effective brand requires differentiation (standing out from your competition), relevance (demonstrating how your brand connects to consumers' lives), self-image (how you sense others experience the brand) and knowledge (consumers really understanding the brand).

Wrapping up a busy January, the CVB staff marketed the area at a Harris County Precinct Show and an AAA travel show in south Houston.

See **TOURISM**, Page 7

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)

Working for YOU!

As a Chamber member, your promotional information is seen by thousands of people every month ... both on display in the Visitor Center and also on the Chamber website. Here are totals from two ways we track the exposure:

Walk-In Visitors	Website Unique Visitors	Website Total Hits
2011	2011	2011
January — 1,409	January — 6,221	January — 26,145

Tourism

(Continued from Page 6)



Jenny Lambert of Brenham Olde Towne Bakery puts the Texas flag on top of the Texas birthday cake, the centerpiece for recent Texian Rally held at Washington-on-the-Brazos.



The 11th Annual Texas Independence Trail Region's Texian Rally workshop was held at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. Attendees were treated to special tours of Independence Hall, behind-the-scenes tour of Star of the Republic Museum and Barrington Living History Farm.

VIP@S Orientation



From winter weather warnings to wildflowers, you gotta love our Texas weather. Groundhog Day brought predictions of an early spring and our peak tourist season will be upon us before we know it.

An orientation for VIP@S (Volunteer Initiative Program at the Simon)

will be held on Monday, February 14, at 10:30 a.m.. Volunteer packets and application forms will be available at this meeting. It will be held at the Washington County Visitor Center inside the Simon Theatre (115 W. Main Street, Downtown Brenham). To RSVP, please call 979-836-3696 or

email jeanne@brenhamtexas.com.

The Visitor Center is a beautiful addition to downtown and our visitors are so much fun to meet! Please do not hesitate to contact Jeanne Luedemann if you have any questions about getting involved in this fun program.

Calendar

(Continued from Page 8)

Feb 26

Texas Medical Center Orchestra

With Libi Lebel conducting, Abbey Simon on piano, 3pm, \$25 adults, \$10 students, Round Top Festival Institute, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

A few March highlights...

March 4

Crawfish Boil

4th Annual event, Burton Community Center, 6pm social, 7pm meal, \$30/person, \$400/table for 8 (451-9138)

March 4

Pancake Supper at Brenham HS

Benefiting the Brenham HS Band program. Dine in or drive-thru, tickets \$7 each, contact any Cub Band student or call 277-3826.

March 5-20

The Tree, A Living Icon

Celebrating the strength, beauty and symbolism of the tree, The Gallery at Round Top (979-249-4119, www.thegalleryatroundtop.com).

March 5

CASA for Kids Casino Night

Marchdi Gras-themed casino night with buffet dinner, blackjack, poker, craps, roulette and slots, prize drawings, 6-10pm, \$30/person, \$50/couple, Expo Center, Austin County Fairgrounds, Bellville (979-277-0088, www.wespeak4kids.org).

March 12

7th Annual International Guitar Festival

Performances at 1:30pm, 4pm, and 8pm at Festival Hill Concert Hall, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top, call for admis-

sion and reservations (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

March 18-19

16th Annual Herbal Forum

Getting Down to the Roots: Herbal Roots and Organic Gardening, 2 days of presentations, workshops and shopping, Festival Hill, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

March 25-26

Country Cajun Festival

Huge fun at Big Creek Marchina on Lake Somerville, starts Friday at 6pm and all day Saturday. Zydeco music, Cajun and creole food, gumbo cook-off and more (979-830-8221, www.bigcreekcountrycajunfestival.com).

March 26-April 2

La Bahia Spring Antiques Show & Sale

Browse among 70+ booths of antiques and collectibles, free admission and parking, LaBahia Hall, Burton (979-289-2684, www.labahiaantiques.com).

March 26-27

Pleasant Hill Winery's 14th Anniversary

Tour, taste and celebrate Pleasant Hill Winery's 14th anniversary, relax and share a bottle with family and friends, Sat 11am-6pm, Sun 12-5pm, Pleasant Hill Winery, 1441 Salem Rd, Brenham (979-830-VINE, www.pleasanthillwinery.com).

March 31-April 17

Unity Theatre presents "Charley's Aunt"

Delicious fun and romance ensues in this enduring comedy, performances Thurs 7:30pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm, call for prices and reservations, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St, Downtown Brenham (979-830-8358, www.unitybrenham.org).

What's Happening in February

Feb 8–March 13

The Art in Fiber 2011

The popular Art in Fiber show returns with 22 juried fiber artists with the theme of "Interpretation", free admission, Copper Shade Tree, 206 E. Mill, Round Top (979-249-4127, www.coppershadetree.com).

Feb 10-13, 17-20

Unity Theatre presents "Souvenir"

The life of Florence Foster Jenkins, who had wealth, social standing, a burning desire to sing, and no talent, is told through the eyes of her accompanist, whose strange partnership caused him to revise his first impression of her and the very meaning of music itself. Performances Thu 7:30pm, Fri & Sat 8:00pm, Sun 4:00pm, call for ticket info, Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Downtown Brenham (979-836-8358, www.unitybrenham.org).

Feb 10

Ribbon Cutting in Round Top

Celebrate with 5 new Chamber members around Bybee Square! Beth Anderson Art, The Gallery at Round Top, Pandora De Bathazar, The Stone Cellar at Round Top, Wild Women Wise Women, and Farmhouse A La Carte, 10am.

10th Annual Valentine's Day Library Fundraiser Concert

Music from the Romantic Cities of the World, Dick Smith and Friends, 2pm, Round Top Festival-Institute, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

Feb 11, 18, 25

Live Music at Pig and Whistle

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

Feb 11

Ribbon Cutting: Verizon Wireless

Located at 270 Hwy 290 West, Brenham, 10am.

President's Day Gala

Honoring Richard Stadelmann, Washington County Events Center, 6pm (979-836-7351, 979-830-8507).

Feb 12-13

Wine and Chocolate Trail

Enjoy delicious tastings. Part of the Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail! Saddlehorn Winery, 958 FM 1948, Burton (713-569-8114, info@saddlehornwinery.com).

Feb 12

Brenham Activist Black History Breakfast

With speaker Octavia Jones-Reed, 8:30am, \$10, Blinn College (979-661-6666).

Stagecoach Day

Ride a red replica stagecoach, tour the 1850s inn, enjoy cowboys, musicians and period characters, listen to Star of Republic Mountain Dulcimers and cowboy poetry of Kenny Lewis, 11am-3pm, Fanthorp Inn, Anderson (936-873-2663, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

Feb 14, 21, 28

Adult Drawing Class

Learn the basics of drawing including contour, texture, shading and composition, Mondays, 10am-12pm, \$150 + \$20 non-refundable supplies fee, Renew Art Studio, 707 S. Austin, Brenham (979-836-1620, www.renewartstudio.com).

Monday Art After School for Kids

Students 7-12 years old learn the basics of drawing, painting, sculpture, clay and mixed media, \$80, supplies included, 4:30-6pm, Renew Art Studio, 707 S. Austin, Brenham (979-836-1620, www.renewartstudio.com).

Texas Master Naturalists Certification

Certification program, Mondays through May, 6-9pm, Winedale Historic Complex, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top (www.gideonlincecum.org).

Feb 14

Valentine's Dinner

Romantic Valentine's dinner, by reservation only, call for menu and details, 6:30-8pm, Funky Art Café, Downtown Brenham (979-836-5220, www.funkyartcafe.com).

Feb 15, 22

Adult Jazz Exercise

Adult jazz classes at the new Dance Institute, 12 classes \$120, 4:30-5:30, 5:45-6:45pm, Round Top Festival Institute, 248 Jaster Rd., Service Bldg. 9, Round Top (979-249-3129, www.festivalhill.org).

Adult Painting Class

Learn the basics of painting, focusing on scale, proportion, balance, shading and color, acrylic paints recommended, 10am-12noon, \$150+supplies, Renew Art Studio, 707 S. Austin (979-836-1620, www.renewartstudio.com).

Feb 15-22

Macsabab Texas 2011

Workshop and exhibition of woodfired pottery from South Korean artists, events include demonstrations, pottery exhibition, artists happy hour, lectures and more, free, contact Renew Art Studio for schedule of events (979-836-1620, www.renewartstudio.com).

Feb 15

Preschool Story Time at Star of the Republic Museum

"Texas Tots" is a monthly story time on the 3rd Tuesday of the month for children ages 3-5, cost \$3 per child, 10am-11:30am, reservations required, seating limited, Star of the Republic Museum at Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (936-878-2461, www.starmuseum.org).

Feb. 16

Ribbon Cutting: Mission Brenham

Mike Haywood, Executive Director. 1003 Hasskarl Street, Suite D, Brenham, 3pm.

Feb 16-19, 23-26

Winedale Annual Quilt Exhibit

19th-20th century floral quilts from the Winedale Quilt Collection on exhibit, 9am-4pm, Winedale Historical Complex, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top (979-278-3530, www.cah.utexas.edu).

Feb 16, 23

Wednesday Art After School for Kids

Students 7-12 years old learn the basics of drawing, painting, sculpture, clay and mixed media, \$80, supplies included, 4-5:30pm, Renew Art Studio, 707 S. Austin, Brenham (979-836-1620, www.renewartstudio.com).

Growing Old Garden Roses 101

Learn about planting, fertilizing and pruning old garden roses, find out what varieties do well in the Washington County area, Weds 6-6:45pm, \$80, Community Ed, 1301 S. Marchket (979-277-3895, www.brenhamcommunityed.com).

Tai Chi

Relax, renew energy, and improve balance and strength with this low-impact exercise, and gentle stretching and deep breathing, six Weds sessions, \$40, Lete's Fitness Studio (979-277-3895, www.brenhamcommunityed.com).

Feb 17

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Food and music every 3rd Thursday of the

month, food 6pm, show 7:30pm, \$5 admission donated to Hospice, Silver Wings Ballroom, 4100 Hwy 105, Brenham (979-836-4347).

Feb 20

Kimono, The Art

Fine kimono and wearable art garments, plus raku pieces, paintings, sculpture and jewelry of Japanese influence, The Gallery at Round Top (979-249-4119, www.thegaleryatroundtop.com).

Feb. 21

Brenham HS CTE Open House

Explore the classes in the Career & Technology Education department at Brenham High School, for students, families and local businesses interested in these programs, free refreshments, 5:30 - 7:30pm.

Feb 22

Washington County Day at the Capitol

Austin, Texas.

Feb 24

Business After Hours

Hosted at Brenham Country Club, 4107 Hwy. 105 East, 5-7pm.

Feb 24-27

"Blithe Spirit"

Blinn College Theatre Arts presents this play at 7pm Thurs-Sat, 2pm on Sun, tickets \$5, MRW Studio Theatre, Blinn College, Brenham (979-830-4024, gvierus@blinn.edu).

Feb 24-26

Annual Used Book Sale

Thousands of used books, cd's and movies for sale to benefit the Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library, 9am-5pm daily, \$10 on Thursday, \$1 Friday and Saturday, free parking, Washington County Fairgrounds, 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham (979-337-7201).

Feb 26-27

175th Texas Independence Day Celebration

Celebrate 175 years of Texas Independence with historical re-enactors, period craft demonstrations, military encampments and Texas tunes, free admission, 10am-5pm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site (936-878-2214, www.birthplaceoftexas.com).

See CALENDAR, Page 7

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