

**MAY
2016**



Chamber *Works*

Chairman of the Board
Kurt Alfred
Brenham National Bank

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BREHAM, TEXAS

First Vice Chair
Kyle Merten
Blinn College Foundation

Governor's Small Business Forum June 1

Second Vice Chair
Randy Wells
Faith Mission and Help Center



CASCOS



CRAYMER

On Wednesday, June 1, the Washington County Chamber will host the Governor's Small Business Forum, sponsored by the Office of the Governor, Bluebonnet Electric, Brenham National Bank and Citizens State Bank. This forum is a half-day event designed to provide small business owners and entrepreneurs an opportunity to gain knowledge and contacts to grow in today's changing economy.

and Research Valley Partnership. Headline sponsors include **Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Brenham National Bank and Citizens State Bank**. It will be held at the Fireman's Training Center in Brenham, and attendees will hear from several powerful speakers.

The keynote speaker will be Texas Secretary of State Carlos Cascos. As his first appointment, Governor Greg Abbott nominated Cascos to serve

Secretary
James Pharaon
Germania Insurance

Treasurer
Walter Jackson
Brenham ISD Superintendent

It is being co-hosted by the Navasota-Grimes County Chamber, Burlleson County Chamber

FORUM *continued on page 8*

Immediate Past Chairman
Wesley Brinkmeyer
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative

Administrative Professionals' Day Luncheon a success

Eric Berg
District Attorney's Office

Sharon Brass
Kwik Kopy Business Center

Cathy Cole
*Heritage Texas
Country Properties*

Chad Gerke
Gerke Law Firm

Becky Hanath
Rodney's General Repair

Suzy Hankins
Ant Street Inn

Tammy Jaster
*City of Brenham -
Blue Bell Aquatic Center*

Jeannie Kroll
Brenham Clinic

LaVerne Krumrey
Brenham Monument Co.

Cyndee Smith
Oldham Goodwin Group

Brad Stufflebeam
*Home Sweet Farm
Market & Biergarten*

Jenny Van Dorf
Blue Bell Creameries

Randy Weidemann
Van Dyke Rankin Insurance

Kristie Wensel
*Brenham State
Supported Living Center*

The Chamber would like to thank Premier Sponsors Heritage Texas Country Properties, KTEX/KWHI, along with Superior Sponsor Berkeley Eye Center and Elite Sponsors Appel Ford, Back Lot Gallery, Baylor Scott & White Health, and Here I Am Orphan Ministries.

RIGHT: The turnout for this second annual event was great with almost 150 in attendance.

BELOW: Rebekah Gregory, a 2013 Boston Marathon Bombing survivor, was the keynote speaker.



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

MIX, MINGLE, MAKE CONNECTIONS!

HOSTED BY:

Blinn College Foundation

LaRoche Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Cadillac

Nathan's BBQ

Texas Commercial Waste

Toppers Liquor & Wine

Van Dyke Rankin & Company

Blinn College Foundation - Whigham House

706 College Avenue, Brenham

Thursday, May 19 from 5-7 p.m.

Enjoy great networking and refreshments!

Bring plenty of business cards to share with other members.

Free for Chamber members and all employees!

Special beverages provided by Mike Hopkins Distributing

Ribbon Cuttings



New Member

Texas Truck Outlet

Owners: Michael England & Josh Wing
1501 S. Blue Bell Road, Brenham



New Chairman's Circle Member

DI Truck and Trailer Repair

Owners: David & Amanda Lott
6360 FM 50, Brenham



New Member

Pizzaiolo's Brenham Inc.

Owners: Rene Benitez & Luis Hernandez
675 U.S. 290 West, Brenham



Renaming

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center Brenham

VP Operations: John Hughson
700 Medical Parkway, Brenham



Administrative Professionals' Day Luncheon a success

Rebekah visited with guest Amy Hooge (seated) and gave her special encouragement. Also pictured is Amy's mother Pearlle Wagner.

Have you ever dreamed of traveling to Spain?

The Washington County Chamber is hosting its next group travel tour in Barcelona, Spain in February 2017. Just 10 months away, during the off the peak season when the cost is lower and crowds are smaller. You can really get to know a city and its locals when you travel in February. There is an early booking discount of \$100! This special discount offer ends August 1, 2016.

Thanks to professional tour company, Collette Vacations, and Chamber member Cricket Cruise & Travel, we are able to offer this one-week tour for an amazing price. The tour takes place February 4-11, 2017. (There is also an option to extend your tour another week and explore Madrid!)

Chamber members can enjoy the great tour price, and your friends and relatives are also welcome to join this once-in-a-lifetime experience. Space is limited, so this may sell out quickly. Find complete details on www.BrenhamTexas.com under News and Events.



Networking Happy Hour
on Wednesday, June 15
RE/MAX Advantage
110 E. Alamo St., Downtown Brenham
5-7 p.m.

RSVP to jenniferPphillips@gmail.com or call or text 832-746-2261 or pay via link on YPO Facebook page.

For more information about Washington County YPO, send your contact information to youngpros@brenhamtexas.com or visit online: www.Facebook.com/YPOwashingtoncounty



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Web: www.RealtorBoo.com



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

GROUP BUYING POWER

Chamber members can now get major savings on credit card payment processing. Learn about our new member benefit program.



SMARTER PAYMENT PROCESSING

Contact Will Watson at (979) 345-2988 • will.watson@infintechllc.com

www.infintechllc.com

Business Spotlight

The Errand Lady

The Errand Lady will handle your everyday tasks, while you concentrate on more important things. Owner Cathy Holder created The Errand Lady in December 2015. Many people in the Brenham area have a need for assistance, and previously there were not many options. The Errand Lady will assist busy individuals, families, executives and businesses in the Brenham area.

The goal is to help clients gain more free time, as well as reduce everyday stress involved with running from place to place. Services offered include: pick up and drop off of meals, prescriptions, charitable donations, dry cleaning and much more. Shopping services (including delivery) include: groceries, gifts, and flowers. Personal assistance as well as special event help is also offered. Preparation/selection of invitations, addressing and mailing is provided.

As an Uber partner, The Errand Lady can provide transportation to appointments, the airport, etc. Other miscellaneous services include gift wrapping, home checks while out of town, and waiting services for home repairs, cable/satellite installation and/or deliveries.

Trustworthy; reasonable fees; services by appointment. Visit www.BrenhamErrandLady.com or call (979) 277-5725 for more information.



YPO Lunch and Learn

The Washington County Chamber's Young Professionals Organization was treated to a Lunch & Learn hosted by Katie Matthews-Edward Jones. Charlie Matejowsky was the guest speaker. He spoke on encouragement, priorities and other advice for taking on each day and tasks. Pictured are Matthews and Matejowsky.

BLUE BLAZERS CLUB SEEKING NEW MEMBER

This local service club has over 45 years of tradition. Members support the mission of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, acting as official greeters and hosts of our community. Activities include monthly meetings (first Mondays at noon), greeting at Chamber functions, recruiting new Chamber members, and conducting ribbon cuttings and grand openings.

The club is currently seeking a new member. Anyone who is a Chamber member or affiliated with a Chamber member organization and interested in joining is encouraged to contact Jane Hinze at the Chamber office.

Please call (979) 836-3695 or stop the Chamber at 314 S. Austin Street, Brenham. Details can also be sent via email upon request. Contact jane@brenhamtexas.com. The deadline to apply is May 30.

Get Noticed

The ChamberWorks newsletter is published inside The Banner-Press. 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 call Jane Hinze at 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.

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

Thank you to our Chairman's Circle members ...



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



New Members

LEDBETTER VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Contact: Wayne Navarro
520 Hwy. 290 West
Ledbetter, Texas 78946
Phone: 979-249-5227
caallen@cvtctx.com
Non Profit Clubs & Organizations

POLISH PARADISE

Owners: Jerry & Victoria Gurka
4200 Nicholson Lake Road (Physical Address)
Chappell Hill, Texas
7471 Kurt Drive (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-551-3230
polishparadisectx@gmail.com
www.polishparadisectx.com
Bed & Breakfast

SPORTCLIPS

Owners: Cody & Veronica Lovins
107 US Hwy. 290 West
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-836-2620
BJ5NRM@aol.com
www.sportclips.com
Barbers

THE BRENHAM MARKET

Owner: Jennifer Clack
1305 E. Blue Bell Road (Physical Address)
Brenham, Texas
7134 Bayou Forest Drive (Mailing Address)
Houston, Texas 77088
Phone: 832-483-3665
Jennicole1979@yahoo.com
Facebook.com/TheBrenhamFleaMarket
Flea Market

THRU THE SEASON INSULATION

Owner: Shelly Schroeder
P O Box 395
Hockley, Texas 77447
Phone: 979-324-9860
shelly@ttsinsulation.com
www.ttsinsulation.com
Energy Conservation Services

XTREME ROOFING

Owner: Travis Askew
P.O. Box 1041
Sealy, Texas 77474
Phone: 979-877-0875
laskew@extremeroofing.com
www.extremeroofingtx.com
Contractors-Roofing

Renewing Chamber Members

April 1-30

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.

Botts Title Company — 44 years
Silver Wings Ballroom — 39 years
Brenham Fine Arts League — 38 years
Harvey's Water Wells — 37 years
Texas Farm Credit — 33 years
Melvin Ehlert, Jr. & Associates — 32 years
Westwood Gifts — 32 years
H. E. B. Grocery Store — 31 years
KTTX 106.1 / KWHI 1280 — 31 years
LaRoche Chevrolet-Cadillac-GMC-Buick — 31 years
Medical Arts Drug Company — 31 years
Creekside Veterinary Service — 30 years
Brenham Monument Company — 29 years
Must Be Heaven — 29 years
Brenham Community Education — 28 years
Coldwell Banker Properties Unlimited — 28 years
Prime Properties-Mary Bonner Ragland — 25 years
Keith Twiggs — 24 years
Bluebonnet Petroleum — 23 years
Chappell Hill Sausage Co. — 23 years
Special Occasions — 23 years
Mayor Milton Tate — 23 years
Capital One — 22 years
Bever's Real Estate — 21 years
Brenham Christian Academy — 21 years
Whataburger Restaurant # 628 — 21 years
Kolkhorst Petroleum Co. — 19 years
Nancy's Antiques — 19 years
Texas Cotton Gin Museum — 19 years
First Baptist Church & School — 17 years
Washington County Real Estate — 16 years
Deans Consulting — 15 years
Independence Historical Society — 15 years
Salem Lutheran Church — 15 years
Faith Mission/Higgins Branch — 14 years
LeRoy Schroeder Contractor — 13 years
Professional Communications — 13 years
Inn at Dos Brisas — 12 years
Pecan Tree Apartments — 12 years
Toy Box Child Development — 12 years
Luther Hueske, County Commissioner — 11 years
Subway Sandwiches & Salads #28476 — 11 years
Edward Jones-Brice Milliorn — 10 years
Joseph H. "Hal" Machat — 10 years
Neal Financial Group — 10 years
Pape Scapes — 10 years
Subway Sandwiches & Salads #36462 — 10 years
First Christian Church of Brenham — 9 years
Lamar Advertising — 9 years
St. John Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill — 9 years
Blinn College - Presidential Member — 8 years

Sealand Seafood & Steak — 8 years
Wolff Companies — 8 years
Brenham Home Rental — 7 years
Creatively Yours — 7 years
Cutright & Allen, Inc. - Architects — 7 years
G & L Services — 7 years
Giddings Stone Mansion — 7 years
Redeemer Church — 7 years
St. Mary's Catholic Church — 7 years
Philips Veterinary Hospital — 6 years
Republican Club of Washington County — 6 years
Stanpac USA — 6 years
Tim Walther — 6 years
Hempstead Country Inn & Suites — 5 years
Quality Glass — 5 years
St. Joseph Health Primary Care
- *Presidential Member* — 5 years
Super 8 Brenham Inn — 5 years
The Gerke Law Firm, PLLC — 4 years
Hodde Real Estate Company-Tiffany Abram — 4 years
Keep Washington County Beautiful — 4 years
Max Mini Storage — 4 years
Ram Optical — 4 years
Westbrook Storage — 4 years
Nails Creek State Park - TPWD — 3 years
Texas Baptist Historical Museum — 3 years
America's Best Value Inn-Somerville — 2 years
Blahuta Advertising — 2 years
Terry & Robyn Luedtke — 2 years
Print Duo — 2 years
Rocky Creek RV Rentals — 2 years
American Overhead Door Co. — 1 year
Back Lot Gallery — 1 year
Dominos Pizza — 1 year
Golden Imperial Restaurant — 1 year
Red Fern Woodwork & Renovations — 1 year
Sassafras Boutique — 1 year
The Vault — 1 year
Vincent's Roofing — 1 year

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.

Washington County Blue Blazers

The Blue Blazers is a club with 15 members and 40 years of tradition. They support the mission of the Washington County Chamber. The volunteers in the club act as official greeters and hosts of our community. Their activities include monthly meetings, greeting at Chamber functions, recruiting new Chamber members, and conducting ribbon cuttings and grand openings.

Darlene Denman

Washington County Chamber

Joyce Dickschat

Brenham National Bank

Wendy Frazier

BBVA Compass Bank

Eddie Harrison

Retired-Brenham Municipal Judge

Chris Jackson

City of Brenham Police Department

Tammy Jaster

City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Florence Julian

Retired-Individual

Brice Milliorn

Edward Jones Investments

Michelle Panko

Barking Ranch Pet Resort

Linda Pipes

Retired-School Teacher

Kathy Randermann

KTTX 106.1/KWHI 1280

Christy Schlottmann

Allstate Insurance

Randy Weidemann

Van Dyke Rankin & Company)

Barbara Wilganowski

Spherion Staffing)

Kristie Wensel

Brenham State Supported Living Center

Civics Lessons for Leaders

Leadership Washington County held its Civic Day session on April 14 with a day full of information on the civic activities in the city and county, hearing from local government speakers and non-profit managers.

The class gathered at The Cannery Kitchen, where they were hosted for breakfast by Faith Mission. Kirk Hanath spoke about his duties as County Commissioner of Precinct 3. He talked about how he became interested in politics and recounted some interesting stories of incidents he has had to address. He elaborated on different types of leadership by comparing the styles of Donald Trump, Nelson Mandela and Jesus.

Faith Mission Executive Director Randy Wells then greeted the class and CEO J.D. Young shared a video

demonstrating all the important services Faith Mission offers the community.

The group traveled to the City of Brenham Recycling Center on Market Street where they were greeted by the center's Superintendent Bobby Branham who showed the drop off process and what items can be recycled at the location.

The session continued at the Brenham State Supported Living Center, where Kristie Wensel (LWC Class of 2015) Terry Boeker and Bonnie Schulte toured everyone across the outstanding campus. The group visited one of the cottages, the wheelchair fabrication shop, and also observed residents making crafts for the art store that showcases and sells their products. These items are available for sale at Hermann's General Store

in downtown Brenham.

Next the class traveled toward the Independence area to Miracle Farm where they got to meet some of the resident boys and dine with them for lunch. They observed a video about how Miracle Farms has changed these young men's lives. A tour of one of the homes was given, followed by a trailer ride through the scenic property and then to the horse pavilion to watch the students rope and ride.

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 July. For more details and/or an application, please call the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or visit www.BrenhamTexas.com.



Randy Wells speaks to the class about the services of Faith Mission.



Bobby Branham walked the class through the City's recycling center on Market Street.



Bonnie Schulte points out some of the art in the BSSLC Bistro, where residents' arts & crafts are sold. The Bistro is open to the public, so if you're looking for a unique gift, this is the place to go!



Boys at Miracle Farm are gathered for prayer before their roping and riding exhibition.



The class was escorted around the BSSLC campus by Terry Boeker.



One hidden treasure at the BSSLC is the Wheelchair Fabrication shop, where wheelchairs are custom-designed for each specific resident's needs.



Alex Hamilton shows inside one of the homes at Miracle Farm and explains the daily routine of the boys.



The class is loaded on a trailer and ready to tour Miracle Farm's gorgeous property.

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.BRENHAMTEXAS.COM

Tourism News

Another Movie Crew Coming to Town

In addition to the upcoming film project on the “Burning of Brenham,” another production company, Harvest Moon Motion Pictures & Television, is planning to shoot a movie at a few locations in Brenham.

The movie will be a “supernatural thriller” and production will begin around May 25. The actors and crew will be in Brenham for 15-18 days. They can use some extras and are happy to utilize locals. Those interested are asked to contact the Chamber by May 20 for more details.



Actor Amanda Marie, Producer/Director Shawn Anthony and TnT Talent Management Representative Tamela Ehlinger gather for a photo after meeting with City and Chamber representatives.

Valuable Publicity Results from Geiger Press Tour

“Brenham Texas: Spring Has Sprung in the Birthplace of Texas” is the headline for a lengthy article that recently appeared in USA Today via their coveted email blitz edition that records a circulation of more than 900,000 recipients.

The 14-photo essay was the work of travel journalist and scenic photographer Joanne DiBona, who participated in the March 2015 Geiger PR Press Tour. Her photos includ-

ed several images from the downtown Brenham area: BT Longhorn Saloon exterior, Today & Yesterday building and wall of doors, one of the bedrooms at Ant Street Inn and Must Be Heaven pies.

Additional photos in the series included the Bluebonnet Wine Trail, Antique Rose Emporium, a cowboy dinner at Texas Ranch Life, Chappell Hill Lavender & Berry Farm, Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site, Bush Library and Museum, Festival Hill, the Texas Cotton Gin and Blue Bell ice cream.

According to Geiger PR’s calculations, the advertising equivalency for this article is \$48,564. This demonstrates the immense return on investment generated by the project that has been hosted in the community for the past 12 years to boost tourism.



This scenic image of cattle in a pasture with bluebonnets was the lead image in the USA Today article.

Travel Fair

The Texas Travel Industry Association’s (TTIA) Travel Fair is an annual trade show for TTIA members, held as part of the Texas Travel Counselors Conference sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation-Travel Information Division.

The travel counselors who attend this event work at Travel Information Centers, city visitor centers, Texas Parks & Wildlife offices, and Texas Highways magazine. These professionals give guidance to millions of travelers to Texas each year. As part of the training for travel counselors, TTIA members are invited to discuss their destina-

tions, attractions and events during the conference and at the Texas Travel Fair.

Chamber-CVB staff Jenny Mills and Courtney Powell attended the conference in San Marcos. It was a great opportunity to meet face-to-face with the travel counselors and educate them about the new things happening in Brenham/Washington County. They talked with over 75 attendees, in addition to representatives from other areas around Texas, and handed out Visitor Guides and a promo sheet about our wonderful county.



Courtney Powell greets representatives from 11 Travel Information Centers during the “Travel Fair” conference.

Did You Know?

... that the La Bahia Road (FM 390) was first traveled by French explorer La Salle in 1685?

...that Washington (the Washington County town) was the capital of Texas from 1842-1845?

... that the Brenham Independent School District was established in 1875 as the first free public high school in the state?

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

It’s All About Being Connected

The Chamber of Commerce is the only organization in town that makes all of these connections...

- Connects its members with other members.
- Connects its members to customers.
- Connects the business community with government agencies.
- Connects businesses with community organizations.
- Connects job seekers with job opportunities.
- Connects community leaders with leadership opportunities.
- Connects current generations with new generations.
- Connects citizens with information.
- Connects tourists with the region’s attractions.
- Connects members with educational opportunities.

Working for YOU!

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

WALK-INS

Visitor Center April 2016 — 595
 HQ Building April 2016 — 658

WEBSITE

www.BrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors April 2016 — 11,213
 Total Pages April 2016 — 20,825

WEBSITE

www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors April 2016 — 22,099
 Total Pages April 2016 — 56,986

What's Happening in May

May 12, 19, 26
Craft Beer Night
 Craft beer and pint specials, Home Sweet Farm Market & Biergarten, 5-8pm, 307 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham (www.HomeSweetFarm.com).

May 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 30
Play in the Clay
 One night make your own pieces then return a second night to decorate/glaze, \$80 per person for 2 classes, includes clay, decorating/glazes and two firings. Tuesdays and Thursdays 7-9pm at Bluebonnet Pottery, 12341 LBJ Drive (www.BluebonnetPottery.com, 979-289-3765).

May 13-June 27
I Come From Hog Branch — Art Show
 Lloyd Mays makes his debut with a solo show, Back Lot Gallery, 308 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham. Gallery hours are Friday and Saturday noon-7pm, Sunday 11am-4pm. Artist reception May 20 from 5-7pm (www.facebook.com/backlotgallery).

May 13, 20, 27
Wine Down on the Deck
 Pleasant Hill Winery invites you to "Wine Down" on the Deck and Watch the Sun Set each Friday, 3pm until sunset (www.PleasantHillWinery.com, 979-830-8463).

May 13-15, 20-22, 27-29
Brewery Patio Open
 Enjoy craft beer with friends, Friday 5-10pm, Saturday 12-8pm, Sunday 1-6pm, Brazos Valley Brewery, 201 W. First St., Downtown Brenham (www.BrazosValleyBrewery.com).

May 13, 20, 27
Live Music in the Biergarten
 Largest selection of craft beer in Washington County, wine, local food and live music, Home Sweet Farm Market and Biergarten, 6-11pm, live music starts at 8pm, 307 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham (www.HomeSweetFarm.com).

May 13
"Pretty Woman" at the Simon
 Starring Richard Gere and Julia Roberts, doors open at 6pm, show starts at 7pm, \$10+fees, The Barnhill Center, 111 West Main St. (www.TheBarnhillCenter.com).

May 14
Wood Fired Pizza at Saddlehorn Winery
 Pair newly added wood fired pizzas with award winning wines on Saturdays from 11am-5pm, weather permitting, while supplies last (www.saddlehornwinery.com).

May 14
Concealed Handgun Class
 Washington County Shooting Club sponsors a one day class. Call for reservations, held at Salem VFD, 251 Salem Rd., Brenham, 7:45am-noon, \$110 (Finney Clay 979-836-0986).

May 14
"Step Into the Past" Tours
 Multiple historic sites open on Saturdays 10am-5pm, full details are online (www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com/step-into-the-past).

May 14
Ribbon Cutting - The Brenham Market
 Join in welcoming this new member, Washington County Fairgrounds, 10:30am.

May 14-15
Brenham Market & Food Truck Festival
 Shopping, food, fun and music at the Washington County Fairgrounds, rain or shine. Free admission, free parking, Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 10am-3pm, 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham (www.facebook.com/thebrenhamfleamarket).

May 14-15
Brenham Children's Chorus Annual Spring Concert
 Featuring choristers from age 5 through 18, 7-8:30pm, Brenham First Baptist Church, adults \$15, children 5 and under \$5 (www.BrenhamChildrensChorus.com, 979-277-3897).

May 14, 21, 28
Texas Critter Program
 This program is designed to help educate our youth on the different wildlife species they may experience while in the park. Nails Creek Park every Saturday in May at 11am. Entrance is \$4 for ages 13 and over, 12 and under are free (979-289-2392).

May 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
Antique Carousel Rides
 At Fireman's Park, open to the public weekends March-October. Only \$1 per rider to enjoy a piece of Brenham's history with the family. Saturdays 11-4, Sundays 1-4.

May 15
Citizen Kane at the Simon
 Starring Orson Wells, Joseph Cotton and Dorothy Comingore, 4-6pm, \$10+fees (www.TheBarnhillCenter.com).

May 19
Business After Hours - Blinn College Foundation
 Hosted at the Blinn Foundtion-Whigham House, 706 College Avenue, Brenham, 5-7pm.

May 19
Friends of Bluebonnet Opry
 Spring Polka Show featuring Alfred Vrazel, Chris Rybak, Shane Lala, and the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$5 admission (www.FriendsOfBluebonnetOpry.com).

May 19
Friendship Quilt Guild Meeting
 Third Thursdays of the month, 7-9pm, Brenham Church of Christ, 2800 Victory Ln. (www.friendshipquiltguild.weebly.com, 979-830-1950).

May 20
Drive to Be Great Golf Tournament
 Valmont Industries hosts on behalf of Boys & Girls Club of Washington County. 100% of net proceeds goes to those attending Boys & Girls Club and community outreach. Includes lunch, dinner, door prizes, contests and more. Registration is limited, deadline is May 16 (www.BGC-Brenham.org/golf).

May 21
Walk With a Doc
 Program for everyone interested in taking steps for a healthier lifestyle. Featuring two speakers. Dr. Christy Woodruff will discuss "sun protection and skin cancer" and Dr. Cassandra Bryant will speak on summer safety tips for kids. Discussion is followed by 30 minute walk. Water, refreshments and dri-fit shirts available (979-337-7254).

May 22
Handel's "Messiah"
 Brenham Choral Society presents Handel's "Messiah", Parts 2 & 3 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 2310 Airline Dr., Brenham, 4-5pm, free admission (www.stpetersbrenham.org).

May 22
"The Wizard of Oz" at the Simon
 Dorothy and Toto are whisked by a tornado into the magical land of Oz in this much loved musical adaptation of L. Frank Baum's classic novel, 4-7pm, The Barnhill Center, 111 W. Main St., Brenham, \$10+fees (www.TheBarnhillCenter.com).

May 27
Ray Wylie Hubbard Concert
 Doors open at 6pm, Q&A Interview before the concert with Ray Wylie Hubbard by Darden Smith at 7pm, concert begins at 8pm, \$25 plus fees (www.TheBarnhillCenter.com).

May 28
Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association Formal Ball
 Formal Ball to be held at 8pm, KC Hall, FM 577, Brenham (979-525-3801).

May 30
Memorial Day Celebration
 Chappell Hill Cultural Heritage Group hosts this 8th annual event. Includes musical tributes, keynote and guest speakers, student essay reading, ending with Taps, 9am-10:30am, Chappell Hill Community Cemetery, 5455 Sample Lane, Chappell Hill, free admission.

June highlights...

June 1
Governors Small Business Forum
 For business owners, managers and civic leaders featuring Secretary of State Cascos and presentation of Small Business of the Year award, 8am-1:30pm, Fireman's Training Center, Brenham. Purchase tickets online at www.BrenhamTexas.com under "News & Events."

June 2
Floats n Flicks "Hotel Transylvania 2"
 City of Brenham Community Services department hosts this event with presenting partners: Progressive Waste Solutions, KTEX 106/KWHI 1280, City of Brenham, and movie sponsor Mystan Gurkin, MD-General Surgery. Bring floats and lawn chairs, gates open at 7pm, movie begins 10 minutes after sunset. Concessions available. Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham, free admission (www.cityofbrenham.org/parks).

June 11-July 16
46th Round Top Music Festival
 The summer concert season opens on Saturday, June 11, and closes on Saturday, July 16. Tickets available online, free parking, picnic areas. Drinks available on Saturdays (www.festivalhill.org).

Guess who's turning
100.

You are!

In 2017 your Washington County Chamber of Commerce will celebrate 100 years ... and we need your help!

We're looking for:

- Chamber historical tales and lore
- Stories and memories of local businesses
- Photos and memorabilia
- Testimonials to share

Please call 979-836-3695 or email centennial@brenhamtexas.com

Thanks for your help!

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

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314 S. Austin Street, Brenham

979-836-3695

www.brenhamtexas.com



Governor's Small Business Forum

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

8:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Fireman's Training Center,

1101 US Hwy. 290, Brenham, TX 77833

A high-impact half-day for business owners, managers and civic leaders.

Co-hosted by the Washington County Chamber, Burleson County Chamber, Navasota Grimes County Chamber & Research Valley Partnership.

Hear informative speakers with updates on fiscal issues, taxes and its impacts, Oil & Gas industry activity, and trending social media topics.

Presenters include: State Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Workforce Solutions and the Office of Governor.

Special presentation of State of Texas Small Business of the Year Awards.

Featured Speakers: State Secretary Carlos Cascos and Texas Workforce Commissioner Ruth Hughes

Full details at www.BrenhamTexas.com. Register and pay online!

Tickets: \$49 (until May 27)

Corporate Table Sponsorships available. See details on website.

Contact for more information: 979-836-3695, events@brenhamtexas.com

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Washington County
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BURLESON COUNTY
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Research Valley Impact

Forum

Continued from page 1

as Texas Secretary of State. He is the 110th Texas Secretary of State. Not new to public service, Secretary Cascos was elected as Cameron County Judge in 2006 and was re-elected in 2010 and again in 2014. Previously, Secretary Cascos served on the Texas Public Safety Commission and as a Cameron County Commissioner from 1991 through 2002. As county judge, Cascos served in a number of statewide roles including chairman of the Texas Border Security Council, vice-chair of the Panama Canal Stakeholder Workgroup, and vice-chair of the state's Freight Advising Committee.

A Certified Public Accountant, Secretary Cascos is a partner in the regional accounting firm of Pattillo, Brown & Hill, LLP. Born in Mexico and becoming a U.S. citizen in adolescence, Secretary Cascos attended Brownsville public schools and is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. He is married with two daughters.

Another featured speaker will be Dale Craymer of Texas Taxpayers and Research Association. Craymer is TTARA's president and chief spokesperson. He is an expert on state business tax, particularly the franchise or "margin" tax, as well as the state budget and the economy. He is a frequent advisor to public officials and is often asked to provide expert testimony on fiscal issues.

Before joining TTARA, Craymer served as the Director of Budget and Planning for the Governor's Office, Chief Fiscal Analyst for the House of Representatives, and as Chief Revenue Estimator for the Texas Comptroller's Office. He is an honors graduate of the University of Texas with a B.A. (Plan II) and M.A. in Economics.

Sen. Lois Kolkhorst will be on the program along with Texas Workforce Commissioner Ruth Hughes. Other speakers will cover topics including an oil & gas industry update, social

media and leadership practices. The forum will be moderated by Brice Milliorn of Edward Jones in Brenham.

A major highlight of the event will be the presentation of the Small Business of the Year Award for 2016. Last year, the 2015 honor was awarded to Home Sweet Farm & Biergarten, and in 2014 Brenham National Bank and RE/MAX Advantage were the winners.

Doors will open at 8 a.m. Lunch is included, and the forum will conclude by 1:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$49 until May 27 (\$59 after). Corporate Sponsor tables are available for \$499, which includes tickets for 8 people plus your company name will be displayed at the event, online and included on the printed program.

For more information call (979) 836-3695 or email events@brenhamtexas.com. Tickets can be purchased online at www.BrenhamTexas.com.



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