

APRIL
2017



ChamberWorks

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Blinn College Foundation

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BRENHAM, TEXAS

First Vice Chair
Randy Wells
Faith Mission
and Help Center

Administrative Professionals' Day Event set for April 26 Tickets on sale now

Second Vice Chair
Amanda Stolz
Seidel Schroeder

Reserved tables and individuals tickets are on sale until April 21 for the Administrative Professionals' Appreciation Day Event.

Thank you to these *Superior Sponsors*:

Secretary
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Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union

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Walter Jackson
Brenham ISD
Superintendent

... and to this *Elite Sponsor*:

Personnel Services

Immediate Past Chairman
Kurt Alfred
Brenham National Bank

Celebrate those who make our everyday work lives easier and more organized. Treat your staff and recognize them at this luncheon to thank them for the great work they provide. It's a fun way to boost employee fellowship and morale.

Tickets are \$25 per person for Chamber Members, \$35 for non-members, and \$260 for a Reserved Table for eight. Please contact the Chamber by April 21st to make a reservation: 979-836-3695 or events@brenhamtexas.com.

Entertainment at this luncheon will be corporate magician and comedian Curt Miller. This special event will be held on Wednesday, April 26, from 11:30am – 1:00pm in the Blinn College Student Center-Banquet Room in Brenham.

There will be a delicious lunch buffet plus fun surprises, door prizes and gifts for attendees.

Thank you to these Premier Sponsors for making this event extra special:



"CONNECT AFTER 5"

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER'S
NETWORKING EVENT HAS A NEW NAME!

HOSTED BY:

Brenham National Bank

— and the —

**Washington County
Healthy Living Association**

In the Brenham National Bank Lobby
2211 S. Day St., Brenham

Thursday, April 20 from 5-7 p.m.

Put a face to your business or organization and meet others.

People like doing business with people they know.

Have fun, enjoy food and drinks and exchange business cards & brochures.

Free for Chamber members and employees.

Save the Date – June 7

The Washington County Chamber will co-host this Forum with the Burleson County Chamber and the Navasota-Grimes County Chamber on Wednesday, June 7, at the Fireman's Training Center in Brenham.

Business and civic leaders from throughout the region are invited to attend.

The purpose of the Forum is to provide local businesses with timely and valuable information to succeed in today's economy. Businesses will have the chance to network with others to exchange stories and ideas about how to achieve success and overcome challenges.

Last year, almost 250 were in attendance including small business owners and managers, representatives from state agencies, local elected officials, marketing partners and more.

A key highlight of the event will be the announcement of the 2017 Small Business of the Year awards.

In 2016, Kwik Kopy Business Center took home the award for the 1-25 employee category, while Glasco & Co. Landscaping won in the 26+ employees category. In 2016 Home Sweet Farm Market and Biergarten won, while in 2014, both Brenham National Bank and RE/MAX Advantage were honored with the award.

For more information, contact Shae Janner, Business Programs Manager, at (979) 836-3695 or shae@brenhamtexas.com.

Thank you to our Centennial Sponsors ...



Kristie Wensel
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Supported Living Center

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Jim Kruse
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Edward Smith III
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and The Citadel

Brad Stufflebeam
Home Sweet Farm
Market & Biergarten

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Blue Bell Creameries

Ribbon Cuttings



Groundbreaking

Blinn College RELLIS Campus

President: Dr. Mary Hensley
3100 Riverside Parkway, Bryan



Groundbreaking

Salem Volunteer Fire Department

Contact: Lance Lehmann
251 Salem Rd., Brenham



New Member

Associated Credit

Union of Texas

Branch Manager: Wendy Frazier
2509 Becker Drive, Brenham



New Location

Select Furnishings

Owners: Jody and Pat Johnson
Manager: Tina Heritage
1900 Hwy 290 West, Brenham



New Location

A Compass Plumbing, LLC

Owner: Jason Rees
Phone: 979-481-1727



New Location

Baylor Scott & White Rehabilitation Clinic

VP of Operations: John Hughson
604 Hwy 290 Suite 202, Brenham



New Location

CHI St. Joseph Health Therapy Services

Supervisor: Andrew Shea
2013 S. Market St., Brenham

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Page Michel, President & CEO
Jane Hinze, Member Services Mgr.
Shae Janner, Business Programs Mgr.
Dawn Konieczny, Communications Coordinator
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Contact Will Watson at (979) 345-2988 • will.watson@infintechllc.com
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Spotlight on Education

What's Happening in Washington County Schools

Burton ISD reports that students will be recognized at the 18th annual Art & Essay Contest Awards Ceremony on Thursday, April 20, in the Frymire Auditorium of the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center, College Station sponsored by the Education Department and the 41 George Bush Presidential Library and Museum. Rodney Wilson, 6th grade received 1st place, Waylon Hinze, 7th

grade received 3rd place, and 8th graders Lane Chandler and Lane Baker received Honorable Mention. Congratulations!

Brenham Police Chief Craig Goodman and Corporal Todd Ashorn stopped by Burton High School to congratulate Zach Johnson on his Eagle Scout Award. The Eagle Scout is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of Ameri-

ca. The designation "Eagle Scout" was founded over one hundred years ago. Only four percent of Boy Scouts are granted this rank after a lengthy review process.

To discover more about Burton ISD, visit www.BurtonISD.net.

Brenham ISD reports The Brenham High School MCJROTC drill team placed second overall at the MCJROTC Region 5

Championships held in Waco April 8. The team will represent the Region 5 four state area at the National Championships on April 22. Individual team placings are as follows: 1st place Academic Team, 3rd place Armed Exhibition Drill, 2nd place Armed Regulation Drill, 2nd place Unarmed Regulation Drill, and 2nd place Overall Regulation Drill (colorguard, armed, unarmed). The National Championships

will be held in Irving and will consist of 15 schools, 3 from each region in the United States. The team is instructed by Captain Jeffrey Bayse and Gunnery Sergeant George Duplessis.

The Career and Technical Education Department at Brenham High School is happy to announce the details for this year's

Spring Blood Drive. Brenham High School students and the Brenham community are invited to give the gift of life on Friday, April 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Brenham High School ROTC building located on the east side of the BHS campus off of FM 2935. Successful donors will receive a FREE CFL T-Shirt.

Business Spotlight

CASA for Kids of South Central Texas Building Community Involvement

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this month and throughout the year, CASA for Kids of South Central Texas is dedicated to supporting families to reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect.

At any given time, there are 185 children in foster care in this community. The children enter the child welfare system through no fault of their own. CASA for Kids is calling

on members of the community to help serve more of our most vulnerable children.

CASA volunteers are a constant for the child in a time of chaos. A child may have multiple social workers, attorneys, therapists and foster placements throughout their case but only one CASA volunteer, which can make all the difference for the child's future.

Contact CASA at 979-277-0088 or visit www.WeSpeak4kids.org. By working together as a community, we can all play a part in building communities and building hope in children and families.

We invite you to attend Kids Fun Day on Saturday, April 29. It will be held in Hempstead at The Gazebo from 10am-2pm. For more details, contact Deanna Warmke, Exec. Director at (979) 277-0088.

"Wake Up, Washington County!" Networking Breakfast

Sponsored by
Personnel Services

at
Margaret E. Blizzard Senior Activity Center
1301 E. Tom Green St.
Brenham

Tuesday, May 2
Starts at 7:45 a.m.

Enjoy breakfast and a chance to network with other local businesses and organizations. It's a great way to inform them about your products and services and learn what's new in the community.

Everyone gets a chance to give a 30-second commercial about their business/organization. Be sure to bring plenty of business cards and brochures for sharing.

Breakfast Sponsor:
Lete Phillips Exercise Studio

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



Washington County Chamber of Commerce

314 S. Austin Street, Brenham | 979-836-3695



New Members

A COMPASS PLUMBING

Owner: Jason D. Rees
PO Box 1777
Brenham, Texas 77834
Phone: 979-481-1727
acompass@yahoo.com
Plumbing-Services & Repairs

BRENHAM ISD- PROJECT SEARCH SHARON MACHAC

700 Medical Parkway (Physical Address)
PO Box 1147 (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77834
Phone: 979-830-3524
smachac@brenhamk-12.net
www.brenhamisd.net
Educational Services

COTTAGE BLUE ON MAIN

Owner: Dan & Karen Sieczkowski
4925 Main Street
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426
Phone: 979-289-1119
cottageblueonmain@gmail.com
www.cottageblueonmain.com
Luxury Vacation Rental

COTTAGE OF WINEDALE

Owners: Eric & Deborah Kolber
8955 Winedale Road
Burton, Texas 77835
Phone: 281-948-5081
ericjkolber@gmail.com
www.cottagesofwinedale.com
Bed & Breakfast

PINNACLE OFFICE SOLUTIONS-KIM BREED

Account Manager: Kim Breed
3004 Shadow Lawn (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-251-0231
kbreed@regencyop.com
www.regencybusinesssolutions.com
Office Equipment/Service/Supplies

RIVERSTONE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

Owner: Jim Jones
1722 Broadmoor Drive, Ste. 100
Bryan, Texas 77802
Phone: 979-431-4400
jim@riverstonecre.com
www.riverstonecre.com
Real Estate

Renewing Members

March 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.

Washington County
Abstract Company — 52 years
Medi-Care Equipment
Specialties — 35 years
Volunteer Services Council
for Brenham SSLC — 35 years
Larry J. Arnie, CPA — 34 years
Antique Rose Emporium — 33 years
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative — 33 years
Brenham Heating
& Air Conditioning — 33 years
Brenham Saddle Shop — 33 years
Faske's Jewelry — 33 years
Fischer Tile & Floor Covering — 33 years
Kohring Monument Company — 33 years
Brenham Wholesale
Grocery Co. — 32 years
Kenjura Pharmacy — 32 years
Phillips Painting Contractor — 28 years
Collier Construction — 27 years
Lete Phillips Exercise Program — 27 years

Texas Commercial Waste — 27 years
Leon Toubin — 27 years
Enterprise Products — 25 years
Farmers Mutual Aid Assoc.
of Washington Co. — 22 years
Eye Associates of Brazos Valley — 18 years
Bartay Chiropractic — 17 years
Edward Jones - Billy Starnes — 17 years
Nathan's BBQ — 17 years
Dr. Donald Voelter — 17 years
KWIK KOPY Business Center — 13 years
Margaret E. Blizzard Senior
Activity Center — 10 years
Don's Appliance Service — 8 years
Prairie Wind Farm — 7 years
Here I Am Orphan Ministries — 4 years
Edward Jones - Katie Matthews — 3 years
PPE — 2 years
LJ'S BBQ — 1 year
RJ3 Enterprise — 1 year
The Errand Lady — 1 year

How A Company Received \$18,000 in Credit Card Savings

Darla Napier, who runs the accounts payable department at Jack's Glass, doesn't like change. Her co-workers feel the same way. And why bother with change? The Midwest glass repair company's business model had been successful since the day it was founded in 1945.

So when a payment processing advisor at Infintech reached out to present an alternative payment processing solution, Darla was a little hesitant, to say the least. "At the time, we were running all of our transactions through our point-of-sale system," Darla explains. It was a process they thought was working well.

But when Infintech started investigating

Jack's Glass' processing environment, she realized they were getting hit with massive upcharges, to the tune of an extra \$18,000 a year. Suddenly, change didn't sound so bad.

How One Simple Change Leads to Big Savings

Infintech implemented Level 2 and 3 processing. It's a solution their previous processor never even brought up. While Darla was nervous about switching to a new system, Infintech alleviated those concerns immediately. "They were hands-on and explained things very well," Darla recalls.

Payment Processing Now Efficient and Secure

Not only is Jack's Glass saving nearly \$18,000 annually, they can securely save a customer's credit card information. "That was a huge deal for them," Infintech explains. "They can now ask for a customer's payment information up front and then charge the full amount later, once the project is complete. Not only is this process secure, it's more efficient."

Savings aside, Infintech's willingness to go the extra mile – from set-up to training – is what solidified Darla's decision to choose Infintech. "Changing our process was one of our biggest fears. We didn't

want to switch for the fear of it being crazy and cumbersome," Darla explains. "No one likes change, but Infintech made it easy."

Learn More about Level 2 and Level 3 Savings

Infintech is the endorsed credit card processing partner of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. See what your chamber membership can do for you as your business could be the next one seeing these significant savings! Contact Will Watson at will.watson@agent.infintechllc.com or call 979-345-2988 for a free, no-obligation consultation.

Washington County Blue Blazers

The Blue Blazers is a club with 15-20 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.

Michael Branton
Seidel Schroeder

Darlene Denman
Washington County Chamber

Joyce Dickschat
Brenham National Bank

Wendy Frazier
Associated Credit Union of Texas

Eddie Harrison
Retired-Brenham Municipal Judge

Tammy Jaster
City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Florence Julian
Retired-Individual

Crystal Locke
City of Brenham

Brice Milliorn
Edward Jones Investments

Michelle Panko
Barking Ranch Pet Resort

Linda Pipes
Retired-School Teacher

Kathy Randermann
KTTX 106.1/KWHI 1280

Debra Wenckens
Brenham State Supported Living Center

Christy Schlottmann
Christy Schlottmann Farmers Agency

Randy Weidemann
Van Dyke Rankin & Company

Matt Wellmann
Wellmann Insurance

Barbara Wilganowski
Spherion Staffing

Kristie Wensel
Brenham State Supported Living Center

Leadership Explores Agri-Business in Washington County

The March session of Leadership Washington County was all about Agriculture and Agri-Business, which is the commercial aspect of running an agriculture business and the skills and technology required.

The day started with the group boarding a bus and heading out to tour Kieke Egg Farm located near Burton among the beautiful rolling hills of Washington County. Owners Ricky Kieke and Abby Majewski took the group on a tour of the facilities and answered many questions about their impressive family-owned egg farm.

This amazing operation is completely automated with each egg moving from

chicken to carton without being touched by human hands. A worker's only contact with the egg happens after they have all been cleaned, sorted and placed in cartons.

Next, the group traveled to Miracle Farm to hear a presentation from Charles Seely, County Extension Agent, and Kendall Smidovec of Washington County 4-H. The Bee Team's Michael Kelling then brought out his bee observation hive to demonstrate to the class how bees function and what their benefits are to our world.

Miracle Farm provided a delicious meal for the class. During lunch, several of the boys who are residents at Miracle Farm sat

with Leadership participants, talked about their lives, and asked about the adults' lives. Alex Hamilton, Executive Director of Miracle Farm, spoke to the group giving an overview of the organization. After some question and answer time, the group enjoyed a tour of the scenic property, led by Cheri Baker (LWC Class of 2014). At the horse arena, the group learned about the importance of the horse program at Miracle Farm. The tour concluded at the arena where several boys demonstrated what they have learned about horsemanship and team roping while at Miracle Farm.

Big thanks go to all of the individuals

and businesses who have spoken to, inspired, and motivated the Leadership class members over the past several months. The program is a great success because of all the community support that is received. The next Leadership session will cover Emergency Management in our county.

Plans are underway for the next LWC class to form this summer, and all alumni in the community are invited to get involved and help plan and coordinate sessions. Please contact Page Michel or Jane Hinze if you are interested in being a session facilitator for the August 2017- May 2018 program.



Ricky Kieke and Abby (Kieke) Majewski speak to the class about their family business.



Chief Craig Goodman and Ryan Rapylye watch the eggs feed through the conveyor.



County Extension Agent Charles Seely gives an overview of what he does.



Kendall Smidovec explains how 4-H has benefited her for the future.



Michael Kelling of The Bee Team displays his Observation Hive and honey products.



The class toured Miracle Farm's property before watching the residents showcase their horsemanship in the arena.

WASHINGTON COUNTY "ADOPT-A-SIGN" PARTNERS

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

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.

Tourism News

Easter Egg Fun for Kids at Antique Rose Emporium

Friday, April 14, and Saturday, April 16, head out to the Antique Rose Emporium for Easter fun with the kids. Friday and Saturday will be an Easter egg hunt at 11am, a ladybug release at 11:30 and free Blue Bell ice cream at noon. Arrive early and be ready, because the hunt doesn't last long!

Rob Landes in Concert

Rob Landes will be performing at St. John's United Church of Christ in Burton on Friday, April 21 from 7-9 pm. An amazing pianist returning to the area for another wonderful concert. Coffee & desserts will be offered after the concert; a free will offering benefits International Justice Mission.

16th Annual Poetry at Round Top

On April 21 - 23 experience Poetry at Round Top, an annual festival presenting the nation's most exciting and prominent poets over three days of readings, workshops, and conversations on craft. Featured Poets include Vijay Seshadri, Cornelius Eady, Natalie Diaz, Octavio Quintanilla, Wendy Barker, J. Scott Brownlee, Barbara Crooker, Lisa Olstein and Sheila Fiona Black. Musical Program by John Mills. For more information visit www.poetryatroundtop.org, or email poetryatroundtop@gmail.com.

Burton Cotton Gin Festival



Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 22, for Burton's annual family-fun festival. Gin tours, parade, auctions, live music, folk life demonstrations, tractor pull, petting zoo, crafts, and much more. Free admission and parking. 9am - 6pm. You can also enjoy the Friday night all-you-can-eat shrimp boil from 6-9pm. Call 979-289-3378 for tickets in advance.

Crawfish Boil in Chappell Hill

It's time for the 2nd annual Crawfish Boil benefiting the Washington County EMS Chappell Hill Station, and various other projects. Head over to 291 Icehouse in Chappell Hill on Saturday, April 22, from Noon - 5pm.

Sundown Social

The annual Sundown Social fundraiser will take place on April 22 to benefit Washington on the Brazos State Park Association. The evening will include a gourmet chuck wagon steak dinner by Jimmy Detro and musical entertainment by the 2016 Texas State Musician recipient Joe Ely. A preview of auction items to be featured in the event's "Texan Treasures Auction and Raffle" can be found on the Washington on the Brazos website at www.wheretexasbecametexas.org under the Events tab. Tickets to the Sundown Social should be purchased before April 15. Call 979-830-1824 or contact office@wheretexasbecametexas.org.

Cajun Fest at The Kenney Store

On Sunday, April 30, enjoy live music by Bayou Roux from 2-6pm with free general admission. There will also be a crawfish boil served 12:30-3:30pm (advance tickets only). The Kenney Store kitchen will be open as usual noon-5pm with a full menu.

Brenham Maifest



Experience the authentic tastes and sounds of Brenham's German heritage with a colorful parade, quality arts and crafts booths, a carnival, and live music during Maifest, May 5-6. The parade will be in Downtown Brenham on Saturday at 10:30am. All other activities take place at Fireman's Park Friday & Saturday. See the website for a full schedule of events, www.maifest.org. Admission, parking, shopping & live music is free. There are fees for carnival rides, food & drink, and the Junior & Senior Coronations.

Working for YOU!

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

WALK-INS

Visitor Center *HQ Building*
March 2017 — 1,201 March 2017 — 823

WEBSITE

www.BrenhamTexas.com
Unique Visitors *Total Pages*
March 2017 — 12,039 March 2017 — 21,182

WEBSITE

www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com
Unique Visitors *Total Pages*
March 2017 — 37,835 March 2017 — 102,616

Burton Farmers Market

Drive over to Burton on Saturday, May 6, with your friends, family, your dog, and don't forget your market bags for the Burton Farmers & Artisans market. Stock up on fresh baked bread from the Brazos Belle Restaurant, mini pies from Prima Vera Farms and organic produce, jams, pickles, jewelry and maybe even local honey and eggs. Farmers Market is 9am-1pm. The Cotton Gin Museum is open 10-4 with tours of the gin at 10 and 2. The Train Depot is also open 10-4pm.

Shimmer Flute Choir Concert

On the Chappell Hill Museum's newly renovated stage Saturday, May 6, from 2-4pm, hear a wide range of flute sounds from piccolo to the bass flute. For more than 10 years, Shimmer has performed across the Houston area. For more information visit www.chappellhillmuseum.org.

Carnival at the Dog Park

Saturday, May 13, leash up your canine kids (and your human ones!) and head out to the Animal Friends dog park (on Hwy. 36 North) for a day of fun. There will be plenty of play time, demonstrations, contests, food & drinks and fun for all, including a pet costume parade at 11am.

Wine Down Fridays

"Wine Down" on the relaxing deck of Pleasant Hill Winery every Friday in March, April and May. Watch the sun set over a bottle of your favorite wine and a cheese board. Great way to end the week and catch up with friends. Open 3pm until sunset. Admission is free but tastings, bottles and food have a charge.

Antique Carousel Rides

Enjoy a piece of history! Brenham's Antique Carousel at Fireman's Park is open on weekends March through October (excluding Easter weekend). Rides are only \$1 per rider on Saturdays 11am - 4pm and Sundays 1pm - 4pm.

Chamber News Get Noticed...

The ChamberWorks newsletter is published inside The Banner-Press on the second 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 call Jane Hinze, Member Services Manager, 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.

What's Happening in April

Until May 31

Art Exhibit: Maritime Impressions

Arts for Rural Texas presents this exhibit by Sam Longoria, longtime Houston resident and Texas native, Ross Gallery, 114 N. Live Oak St., Fayetteville, Tues – Sat 10am-3pm, free admission.

April 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29

Live Music at The Kenney Store

Varying artists, go early for dinner, stay late for dancing. Grill opens at 3pm during the week and noon on weekends. Music starts around 8:30pm, 811 S. Loop 497 (www.TheKenneyStore.com).

April 14-15

Easter Egg Fun

Antique Rose Emporium Easter fun with the kids, egg hut 11am, ladybug release 11:30am, free Blue Bell Ice Cream at noon. Arrive early, hunt does not last long!

April 14-16

Photography - Yosemite

Tim Herschback of Houston shows off nature photography, "Exploring Yosemite and Death Valley", Back Lot Gallery, 309 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham, noon-7pm.

April 14

Live Music at Home Sweet Farm

Music, craft beer, wine and fun in the bi-ergarten. Artists change weekly. Doors open at noon; music starts around 8pm, occasional cover charge (www.HomeSweetFarm.com).

April 14

Wine Down Fridays

Relax on the deck at Pleasant Hill Winery with wine, cheese tray, and friends to watch the end of the day disappear, 3pm-sunset, 1441 Salem Rd. (www.PleasantHillWinery.com).

April 14-17, 21-23, 28-30

Brazos Valley Brewery Patio Open

Enjoy craft beer with friends, Friday 5-10pm, Saturday 12-8pm, Sunday 1-6pm, 201 W. First St., Downtown Brenham (www.BrazosValleyBrewery.com).

April 15

Easter Egg Hunt

Jersey Barnyard's Annual Easter Egg Hunt, rain or shine, egg hunt begins at 10:30am, guided tours start at 12:30pm, hamburger stand open for lunch, other activities such as calf bottling, goat feeding, hayrides, games, glass blower on site, Rohan Meadery will have honey and mead to sample, 9am-5pm, Jersey Barnyard in La Grange (www.texasjersey.com).

April 15

Living History Saturday

Staff and volunteers dressed in period clothing bring to life the people and events of Old Washington providing a unique opportunity to discover vari-

ous aspects of life surrounding the birth of the Republic of Texas (www.WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

April 15

"Step Into the Past" Tours

Multiple historic sites throughout Washington County are open for you to explore from 10am-5pm, full details online (www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com/step-into-the-past).

April 17

Ribbon Cutting: THYME Day Spa & Salon

Attend a Ribbon Cutting to celebrate the new owner, 11am, 706 Seelhorst St., Brenham.

April 17

Brenham Fine Arts League

Luncheon and general meeting 11:30am, followed by free art demo by gourd artist Merlene Schumacher at 1pm, Downtown Art Gallery, 113 W. Alamo, Brenham.

April 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 27

PiYo For Everyone

PiYo combines Pilates with Yoga, on Mondays free nutritional information and meal plans courtesy of PVAMU/CEP Extension Agent Mary Sanders. Bring yoga mat, water, towel and wear comfortable clothes. Old Alton Gym, 304 Kerr St., Brenham, 5:30-6:30pm, \$40, registration begins every six weeks. Register thru www.brenhamcommunityed.com.

April 18-May 23

Better Choices Better Health

Class meets six consecutive Tuesdays for those with ongoing health conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic pain. Hosted by Baylor Scott & White Wellness Center at Senior Activity Center, 1301 E. Tom Green St., Brenham, 9-11am (979-830-5017).

April 18

Ribbon Cutting: Independence Community Events

Please join in welcoming this new Member, 9325 FM 390 East in Independence, 4:00pm.

April 18, 20, 25, 27

Play in the Clay

One night make your own pieces, return a second night to decorate/glaze. \$80 per person for 2 classes, Tuesday and Thursdays from 7-9 pm. Arrangements can be made for other nights. Reserve seats (979-289-3765, www.BluebonnetPottery.com).

April 19

Ribbon Cutting: Modern Air Solutions

Join in welcoming this New Member in the Washington County Chamber Conference Room, 314 S. Austin St., Brenham, 4:00pm.

April 20

"Connect After 5"

Hosted by Brenham National Bank and Washington County Healthy Living Association, 5-7pm, in the Brenham National Bank Lobby, 2211 S. Day St., Brenham, 5-7pm.

April 20

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Darrell McCall and Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$5 admission (www.FriendsOfBluebonnetOpry.com).

April 20

Open Mic Poetry Night

April is National Poetry Month, read one of your poems aloud. Open to youth and adult poets, emerging and established writers, free to the public, Round Top Family Library, 206 W. Mill St., Round Top. Poets contact Laura Guidry 713-408-6411 or email: lguidry@hotmail.com to sign up (www.ilovetoread.org).

April 21-22

Burton Cotton Gin Festival

Cotton era comes alive with gin tours, parades, auctions, live music, folk-life demonstrations, arts and crafts, tractor pull, petting zoo, contests, much more. Contests throughout the day: Bubble Gum Blowing, Pie Eating, Cotton Seed Pulling! Friday enjoy All You Can Eat Shrimp from 6-9pm (with Tickets in advance); Saturday enjoy 9 acres of free family fun. The historic bale will be ginned and baled at 3 pm. (www.cottonginmuseum.org).

April 21

Live Music at Emery's Buffalo Creek

Restaurant is open with great food 5-10pm, Heath Childs performs at 7pm, 10827 Hwy. 36, Bellville, (www.emerysbuffalocreekwinery.com, 979-865-0702).

April 21

Ribbon Cutting: Citizens State Bank-Brenham

Join in celebrating as the bank unveils its newly expanded facility, 2007 S. Day St., Brenham, 10:30am.

April 21

Grand Opening: Blinn College Doyle Coatney Center

New addition to the Blinn-Brenham campus features indoor batting cages for Blinn's baseball and softball teams, a weight room and a meeting room, 1105 College Ave., Brenham, 2pm.

April 22

Here I Am Orphan Ministries Project HOPE

Annual golf tournament to raise funds to continue the ministry to orphans through missions, Brenham Country Club, 8am, \$400 team of four, (http://orphanministries.com/project-hope, brittany@orphanministries.com).

April 22

Walk With A Doc

A walking program for everyone interested in taking steps for a healthier lifestyle, held the fourth Saturday of each month. Event begins with a 5-10 minute "health talk" followed by 30 minute walk. Bring friends and family and take part in one walk or the entire series. Water, refreshments and t-shirts available, Hohlt Park Amphitheatre, 2425 N. Park St., Brenham, 9:00am (979-337-7254).

April 22

Earth Day Clean-up Event

Young Professionals of Washington County will be cleaning up the roads of Washington County, all are welcome to help, 8am-11am, contact Hope in advance for details and the meet-up location (979-203-5285, hopesburkhart@gmail.com).

April 22

Flying Horses Antique Carousel Rides

Carousel open in Brenham's Fireman's Park, Saturdays through October, 11am-4pm, Sunday 1-4pm, enjoy a ride for \$1.

April 22

Chappell Hill EMS Crawfish Boil

Chappell Hill Chamber's 2nd annual benefiting Washington County EMS Chappell Hill Station and various projects and the promotion of businesses throughout the Chappell Hill Community, noon-5pm at 291 Ice House/Brown Eyed Girl, Downtown Chappell Hill.

April 22

Henkel Square Market Crawfish Boil

Prepared by Houston's Rajin' Cajun, the Fayetteville Pickers will be in The Grove performing and Wild River Band will play throughout the day. All shops open 10am-5pm. Beer Sales to benefit The Round Top Area Chamber. Henkel Square Market, 201 N. Live Oak Street, 11:30am-2:30pm (www.henkelsquareroundtop.com, events@henkelsquareroundtop.com).

April 22

Antique Rose Emporium Tour

Tour of the scenic Antique Rose Emporium, 10000 FM 50, Brenham, 1-2pm.

April 22

Sundown Social

Benefiting Washington on the Brazos State Park Association at Rockin' Star Ranch, 8002 Fuelberg Pease Lane, Brenham, 6-10pm. Ticket information contact Ginger Moreland (979-830-1824, office@wheretexasbecametexas.org).

April 23

Independence School House Open House

Enjoy this Open House, refreshments will be served, hosted by Independence Community Events, 4-6pm come and go, 9328 FM 390 E., Downtown Independence.

Centennial Celebration Picnic Scenes



Calendar

Continued from page 7

April 24, 26

Exercise

Statewide fitness program by the Department of Aging and Disability Services to educate and involve Texans in physical activities and proper nutrition, Baylor Scott & White Wellness Center, 2111 S. Day St., Brenham, 1:00-2:30pm (Suzanne Vickers or Gail Cole 979-830-5017).

April 24

Ribbon Cutting: Hair Illusions

Join in welcoming this new Member Hair, 103 E. Commerce St., Downtown Brenham, 2:00pm.

April 26

Basic QuickBooks

At Hodde Technical Education Center, 2910 South Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, 9am-5pm. Class size is limited (www.blinncollege.sbdcnetwork.net, layla.barrett@blinn.edu).

April 26

Administrative Professionals Appreciation Banquet

Special luncheon for your key staff at Blinn College Banquet Room, professional magician Curt Miller will provide live entertainment, door prizes, fun surprises. \$25 for Chamber Members, \$35 for non-members, reserved corporate tables for \$260 (shae@brenhamtexas.com, 979-836-3695).

April 28

Friday Night Music at Nathan's BBQ
"Rock of Ages" Pat, Charlie and Peyton Kelm, 6-9pm. Cajun food, hamburgers, bbq in a family atmosphere, 1309 Prairie Lea, Brenham (www.nathansbbq.com).

April 29

In Style 2017 Luncheon

Style show & silent auction benefiting Hospice Brazos Valley. Be a Table Hostess or donate to silent auction, 11am-1:30pm, Brenham Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 900 S. Jackson St. (www.hospicebrazosvalley.org, 979-277-9525).

April 30

Cajun Fest at The Kenney Store

Crawfish boil 12:30-3:30pm, live music 2-6pm, tickets online, 811 S. Loop 497, Kenney (www.TheKenneyStore.com).

May Highlights ...

May 5-6

127th Annual Brenham Maifest

Experience the authentic tastes and sounds of German heritage with a colorful parade, quality arts and crafts booths, carnival, and live music at Fireman's Park, Brenham. Full details online (www.Maifest.org).

May 5

Friday Night Music at Nathan's BBQ

Frank M. Gilligan, professional singer and song writer performs, 6-9pm, Nathan's BBQ, 1309 Prairie Lea (www.NathansBBQ.com).



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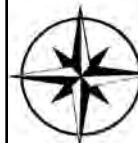
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