

**AUGUST
2018**



ChamberWorks

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BREHAM, TEXAS

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Gena Wilimitis
Miracle Farm



TAILGATE 2018 TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Who's ready for football season to begin?!! Get your team colors ready and be ready for some fun at the Chamber's 11th annual Tailgate Party on Thursday, August 23. Tickets are on sale now for \$35 per person. The Chamber will again host this exciting, tailgate-style event at Silver Wings Ballroom in Brenham. It is the one annual fundraising event for Chamber programs and activities. Everyone in the community is invited. Get some friends together and plan to be there!

Football fever and spirited rivalries will be happening that night... between fans of Texas Longhorns, Texas A&M, Blinn Bucs, TCU Horned Frogs, UH Cougars, Texas Tech Raiders, Houston Texans, Dallas Cowboys, Burton Panthers, Brenham Cubs and more.

The entire community is invited to attend!

Stop by the Chamber and pick up tickets by August 17. Tickets will not be sold at the door. For the price of \$35 per person, you can enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat buffet from Design II Catering, foamy cold beverages and wine, live music, a fabulous silent auction, bucket drawings, a "big board" auction, and lots of mingling with colleagues and friends.

The auction is always a major highlight of the evening. Chamber members donate fantastic items! See below for some highlights.

A huge round of applause goes to all of the generous sponsors who are making this night possible. Please join us in thanking them, and then come to the TAILGATE 2018 to enjoy the party with them!

SUPER BOWL SPONSORS



TOUCHDOWN SPONSORS

Bank of Brenham
Brenham Chrysler Jeep Dodge
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"CONNECT AFTER 5"

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT

SPONSORED BY:

**PlanNorth
Architectural Co.
& 96 West**

107 S. Baylor St., Downtown Brenham
Thursday, Aug. 30 from 5-7 p.m.

*People like doing business with people they know.
Put a face to your business or organization and meet others.
Have fun, enjoy food and drinks and exchange
business cards and brochures.
Free for Chamber members and employees!*

TAILGATE continued on page 3

New Chamber Members

7 D RANCH

Owner: Keith Debault
Manager: Wade Miller
2729 CR 305
Navasota, Texas 77868
Phone: 512-760-0189
wademiller@7dranchtexas.com
www.7dranchtexas.com
Events/Reception Facilities
Entertainment/Recreation

INTERO REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Owner: Roland R. Austin
PO Box 725 (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77834
Phone: 214-998-2250
roland@interoHouston.com
www.interohouston.com
Real Estate
Business Consulting

JD'S CABIN

Owner: Jennifer Williamson
12155 Old Landua Rd, Burton (Physical Address)
1510 Kings Castle Dr (Mailing Address)
Katy, Texas 77450
Phone: 281-770-8355
jadwilliamson@yahoo.com
www.airbnb.com/rooms/20284256
Lodging

JENN'S BUNGALOW

Owner: Jennifer Williamson
702 Alma Street, Brenham (Physical Address)
1510 Kings Castle Dr (Mailing Address)
Katy, Texas 77450
Phone: 281-770-8355
jadwilliamson@yahoo.com
www.airbnb.com/rooms/19035879
Lodging

Blue Blazers Seeking New Member

This local service club has over 45 years of tradition. Members support the mission of the Washington County Chamber, acting as official greeters and hosts of our community. Activities include monthly meetings (first Mondays at noon), greeting at Chamber functions, re-

cruiting 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 encour-

aged to contact Jane Hinze at the Chamber office.

Please call (979) 836-3695 or stop by the Chamber at 314 S. Austin Street in Brenham to complete an application. Details can also be sent via email upon request. Contact jane@brenhamtexas.com.

Ribbon Cuttings



New Member

Honeysuckle Coffee Bistro

Owner: Brenda Simon
6507 Hwy 290 East, Brenham



New Member

Grace Cottage

Owner: Pam Wellborn
213 Granville St., Bellville

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

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

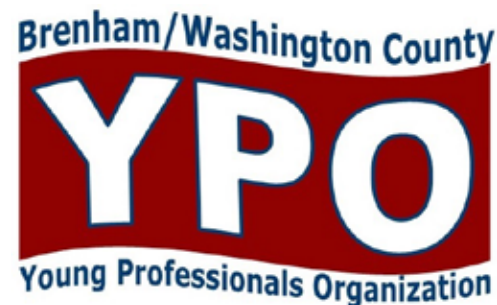
Get Noticed

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.



Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, August 16
Brenham National Bank
2211 S. Day St., Brenham
5-7 p.m.

Join in for some great networking!

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



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Email: booc@remax.net
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.



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

Business Spotlights

The Productivity Pro to Teach Seminar

Laura Stack, a productivity expert for leaders, teams, salespeople and professionals, will bring her unique program, What To Do When There's Too Much To Do, to Brenham on August 14. The 5-hour seminar will be held at the Barnhill Center at Historic Simon Theatre.

Stack will focus on strategies that can help individuals achieve more success and balance in their lives, and experience less stress. "Laura delivers practical information and makes it interesting and fun! She has a great sense of humor and completely engaged our corporate sales team," said Molly Johnson, Vice President of Domestic Sales at Episciences, Inc.

Stack is a member of the exclusive Speaker Hall of Fame, and widely recognized in business and education circles as a leading expert in Performance & Productivity. She is also a bestselling author of eight books, including her latest, *Faster Together: Accelerating Your Team's Productivity*.

For more than 25 years, Stack

has helped thousands of people at client businesses including Microsoft, Chevron, Walmart, Toyota, Chick-Fil-A, Merrill Lynch, Cisco Systems and many others. "Stack's program received the highest scores in the 13-year history of the Institute for Management Studies in Cleveland," said Don Gorning, Chair, Institute

for Management Studies.

The \$125 registration fee includes breakfast, lunch and handouts from the curriculum. Tickets are available online at TheBarnhillCenter.com/events. Registration for the seminar and breakfast will begin at 8am. The program will begin promptly at 9am and end at 3pm.

PlanNorth to host business workshop at The Stella Hotel

On Friday, Sept. 28, PlanNorth Architectural Company is hosting a half-day business workshop at the shining star of hospitality, the renowned Stella Hotel in Bryan, Texas. What's the topic? Branding Your Business!

- Your Unique Story and Collective Voice.
- The Work Environment.
- Design and Construction for Business.
- Your Vision Framework.

These are the noteworthy points Katie Burch, Co-Founder and Principal Architect

of PlanNorth, will be discussing to help your brand continue to thrive.

To find out more on what you will be learning and how you can register for this informative business workshop, visit www.plannorth.com or call 979-421-8003. Limited

seats are available with early bird pricing open until Sept. 1.

YOUR STORY + YOUR VISION = YOUR BRAND
PlanNorth Architectural Co. is located at 107 South Baylor Street in downtown Brenham.

TAILGATE

Continued from page 1

Brew, Crew & BBQ Party for 12

Donated by Brazos Valley Brewing Company and LJ's BBQ

Dinner with the Docs (for 20)

Donated by Dr. Donald Draehn, Dr. William Loesch, Dr. Jennifer Jones and Drs. Eric and Katie Alford

Washington County Wine Trail

Donated by Pleasant Hill Winery, Saddlehorn Winery, Texas Star Winery and Windy Winery

Matagorda Fishing Trip for 3

Donated by Appel Ford and Citizens State Bank

...and much much more!

Steak Dinner for 20 at Miracle Farm

Donated by Miracle Farm and Chamber Board Members

Hog-o-Rama and The Cowboy Way

Donated by 7D Ranch Texas

This is the only fundraising event of the year for the Chamber. All proceeds are put back into the community in the form of programs and services to enhance the business industry and economic climate.

Join the crowd on August 23. Enjoy this great opportunity to support your community, promote your business, and have fun at the same time!

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...





Core Essential Value of the Month for August: WISDOM

The P.E.A.C.E. program kicks off its second year this month. School starts in Brenham ISD on August 16 and in Burton ISD on August 21, but Chamber Member businesses and organizations have already started promoting the first Value of the Month for August: WISDOM. You are invited to join in this important program, too.

Brenham GameChangers along with Brenham ISD and Burton ISD implemented Core Essential Values in local schools and now, through membership in the Washington County Chamber, businesses have an opportunity to enhance the mission by becoming an advocate for "P.E.A.C.E." (Public Education Ambassadors for Community Engagement).

Contact the Chamber to be among the first Businesses/Organizations to sign up for this year's program! The investment is only \$50 for 10 months of involvement, and you and your employees can make a big impact on the future of our local workforce.

Thank you to the following P.E.A.C.E. program partners who have signed up so far:

Associated Credit Union of Texas

Bank of Brenham

Baylor Scott & White Medical Center - Brenham

Blue Bell Creameries

Boys and Girls Club of Washington County

Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union

Brenham National Bank

Citizens State Bank

City of Brenham

Coaching With Hart

Compass Quarters

Germania Insurance

Seidel Schroeder

Be on the lookout for creative things to happen at these local businesses as their employees promote and demonstrate WISDOM during the month of August.

If you know students in grades K-4 in local public schools, be sure to talk to them about the Value of the Month and enhance what they are learning in school and out in the community. Everyone in the community can help reinforce these Core Essential Values in our youth.

Renewing Members

July 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.

Mike Hopkins

Distributing Company — 47 years

Dr. Jimmy R. Haskins — 45 years

Dahmann & Associates — 41 years

Korth & Linke Welding — 41 years

Mark Hyatt State Farm

Insurance Agency — 39 years

Gary Appelt, M.D., P.A. — 37 years

Miracle Farm — 36 years

Brenham Chrysler Jeep Dodge — 34 years

Brookshire Bros. Grocery — 34 years

Washington County Fair

Association — 34 years

Wells Fargo Bank — 33 years

Nueces Canyon Ranch — 31 years

Brenham Country Club — 29 years

Lube Rite — 29 years

Discount Trees of Brenham — 28 years

Live Oak Resort — 28 years

Artesian Park RV Campground — 25 years

Washington-on-the-Brazos

State Park Assoc. — 25 years

Moorman Tate LLP — 24 years

Margie Routt Young — 21 years

Argent Court of Brenham — 20 years

Beth A. Rothermel — 20 years

Countryside Lighting Co. — 19 years

Robert's Service Station

& Grocery — 19 years

Senator Lois Kolkhorst — 18 years

Round Top Festival Institute — 17 years

Brenham Housing Authority — 16 years

2TR Investments — 15 years

A & L Hot Oil Service — 15 years

Brazos Valley Foot Care — 15 years

Jim & Ellen Ellison — 15 years

First Finance — 15 years

Kenjura Tile — 15 years

Max Donuts — 15 years

Pomegranate/Funky Art Cafe — 15 years

Washington County

Republican Party — 15 years

Brenham Carpet & Tile — 14 years

Overhead Door Co. of

South Central Texas — 14 years

Bluebonnet Pottery

& Gift Gallery — 13 years

Brenham Crossroads

Shopping Center — 13 years

Brenham Grill — 13 years

BT Longhorn Steak House — 11 years

WCT OUTDOORS — 11 years

Hampton Inn & Suites — 9 years

M. C. Byrd Wealth Management — 9 years

RE/MAX Advantage-Pam Green — 9 years

Don C. Wilhelm — 9 years

K & W Dozer Service — 8 years

Peggy Kramer — 8 years

Linda & Paul Pipes — 8 years

The Flower Market — 7 years

Mill Creek Custom Homes — 7 years

Mr. & Mrs. Glen Prenzler — 7 years

Carson Campbell — 6 years

QuestSpecialty Corporation — 6 years

Factory Connection — 5 years

M Bar Land & Cattle — 5 years

Mid-Continental

Insurance Services — 5 years

Mount Rose Missionary

Baptist Church — 5 years

Round Top Real Estate — 5 years

Stone Hollow Apartments — 5 years

C.C. Creations — 4 years

Russell Hall Construction — 4 years

TC Ranch Ventures — 4 years

Ladgie C. Krchnak, — 3 years

Rockin Mc Rustic — 3 years

Associated Credit Union of Texas — 2 years

Modern Air Solutions — 2 years

Thomas Weaver/Tricia Nugent — 2 years

Washington County

Vacation Rentals — 2 years

Gene's Services — 1 year

**Facebook.com/
VisitBrenham**

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VisitBrenham**

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
Brenham ISD

Joyce Dickschat
Brenham National Bank

Coy Fontenot
Kruse Village

Eddie Harrison
Retired-Brenham Municipal Judge

Tammy Jaster
City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

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

Stephanie Wehring
Boys & Girls Club of Washington County

Randy Weidemann
Van Dyke Rankin & Company

Matt Wellmann
Wellmann Insurance

Kristie Wensel
Brenham State Supported Living Center

Shelby Wiesepape
Bank of Brenham

Barbara Wilganowski
Spherion Staffing

Introducing the Leadership Class of 2019

Participants in the newly formed class of Leadership Washington County convened this month for an Orientation meeting. The first full session will be on Leadership Communication on August 28. There will be a Team Building Retreat at Camp For All in September. The participants will graduate from the program in May 2019.

The professionals listed below will be challenged, inspired and educated about the many facets of effective leadership and the structure of this community. During this program, participants will experience eleven in-depth sessions, meet top leaders in the community and form relationships that will aid them in their professional careers for years to come. They will also be treated to amazing, behind-the-scenes tours of some of Washington County's most unique businesses.

Participants in this year's Leadership Washington County program include:

Marissa Buckner

PlanNorth Architectural Co.

Chris Cangelosi

Citizens State Bank

Joseph Chandler

Brenham ISD

Karen Cooper

Seidel Schroeder

Paula Fuchs

Brenham State Supported Living Center

Brandon Gibbs

Longwood Elastomers

Angie Guthrie

Longwood Elastomers

Darla Hamff

Germania Insurance

Lillian Hayden

Focused Post Acute Care Partners

Crystal Hinds

Bank of Brenham

Tiffany Holmes

Brenham Abstract & Title Co.

Amy Jozwiak

Burton ISD

Brittany Machinsky

*Boys & Girls Club
of Washington County*

Courtney Mason

Brenham ISD

Marie Meier

Blue Bell Creameries

Lauren Naida

Blue Bell Creameries

Luke Ongudu

City of Brenham

Jennifer Phillips

Washington County Chamber/CVB

Felicia Purvis

Burton ISD

Rebecca Ruffino

City of Brenham

Lori Ruiz-Wamble

Brenham ISD

Kevin Schmidt

City of Brenham

Michael Shanahan

H & H Machine Service

April Thomson

Associated Credit Union of Texas

Kelsey Toy

City of Brenham

John Turner

Blinn College

Vicki Ward

Blinn College

Katie Wellbrock

Brenham National Bank

Lorri Wilkening

Germania Insurance

Amanda Woltmann

Germania Insurance

Leadership Washington County is hosted and coordinated each year by the Washington County Chamber with assistance from alumni of the program. It is one of the most meaningful ways to give back after you have received all the valuable training and experiences in the LWC program.

Watch this newsletter for photos and articles about the new class over the next several months as they learn and grow together as professionals and leaders.



Leadership participants learn what makes this community work! They form new relationships and forge lasting bonds while touring community sites and hearing from local leaders.

WASHINGTON COUNTY "ADOPT-A-SIGN" PARTNERS

PLM Texas

— U.S. 290 West Sign

Tranquility 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

Upcoming Fun

Where's Della?



"This lively place is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year!"

Do you know where Della is this month? Email your name, phone number and location guess to Della@BrenhamTexas.com by August 31. A winner will be chosen on September 1 from all correct entries.

Congrats to Kristy Pieper for guessing correctly in July! Della went to visit the Chappell Hill Lavender Farm in July, and she may go back on August 11 from 9am to 3pm when the Lavender Farm hosts the 2018 Lavender & Wine Fest! Vendors and artisans will be on site offering culinary delights, crafts, home décor and more. Enjoy live music, demonstrations, food, miniature horses and goats, shopping in the lavender farm gift shop and good family fun. Afterward, make your way to Windy Winery for wine tasting and grape stomping until 5pm.

The Chappell Hill Lavender Farm is regularly open March through October, Thursday and Friday 10am-2pm, Saturday 9am-5pm, and Sunday 11am-4pm. By appointment they also offer free tours for groups of 12 or more on weekdays.

THANK YOU!

Puppy Dawgs & Cat Tails, located at 321 S. Baylor St. in Downtown Brenham, for being the "Where's Della" partner and gift sponsor!



August 11: Chappell Hill Lavender & Wine Fest

Join the fun at Chappell Hill Lavender Farm for crafts, vendors, lavender cuisine, demonstrations, miniature horses, goats, live music and food. Afterward, enjoy wine tastings at Windy Winery until 6pm. Festival at the Lavender Farm is from 9-3. ChappellHillLavenderFarm.com

August 11 & 12: Grape Stomps at Windy Winery and Pleasant Hill Winery

This is the last weekend to stomp grapes and imprint your purple feet onto a t-shirt! Wineries are open Saturday 11-6 and Sunday noon-5. Stomps and tastings have fees. WindyWinery.com | PleasantHillWinery.com

August 18: Living History Day at Washington on the Brazos

Try your hand at writing with a quill pen and sign a copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Visit with militia soldiers traveling through town or try your hand at some early Texas games. Great fun for the whole family! More info: WhereTexasBecameTexas.com

August 18: Escape Room at Star of the Republic Museum

"Runaway Scrape Escape" is a physical adventure game based on historical events during the Texas Revolution. Players have 45 minutes to solve a series of logic games and "escape" from the approaching Mexican Army led by the infamous Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. Reservations are required. More info: WhereTexasBecameTexas.com

September 8: "Charlotte's Web" and Petting Zoo at Historic Simon Theatre, 3-5pm

Bring the family for this special afternoon at The Barnhill Center. Celebrate getting back into the swing of the school year and enjoy watching "Charlotte's Web" with the kids! Tickets: TheBarnhillCenter.com

Courtney's Corner

Venue Highlight: 7D Ranch, located in the White Hall community, provides a great setting for corporate retreats, meetings and team building. Ranch activities include cattle drives, guided hunts, skeet shooting, fishing, archery, trail rides, lawn games, paddle boats, canoeing and more. If you're looking to take your business and team to the next level, this is the place for you. Whether you're a small business, group of executives or a larger corporation, you can mix in team building exercises like skeet shooting and archery, or try your hands at a cattle drive. They offer planned packages for your experience or will create a custom itinerary that meets your needs. Address: 2729 CR 305, Navasota. Phone: 979-446-4919. Email: info@7dranchtexas.com.



Ask Jennifer

"Our grandkids are visiting for their last summer getaway. What can we do with them?"

There are so many things to do in Washington County with kids! Start with the Brenham #Art-Walk. Download the checklist (or pick up a copy in the Visitor Center) to make sure you see all the great murals around Downtown Brenham. Too hot? Load the car up and explore the #Adventure290 Scavenger Hunt! Complete the passport (also online and at the Visitor Center) and earn a great prize while exploring and learning history!

Be sure to ride the Antique Carousel at Fireman's Park for just \$1 on weekends now through October. Horseshoe Junction is also a great indoor option for family fun, as well as Silver Wings Ballroom. And of course, they can take a ride down the slide at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center.

Plus, the 3rd weekend of every month, there's a new Escape Room interactive challenge at the Star of the Republic Museum at Washington on the Brazos. Players have 45 minutes to solve a series of logic games to "escape" from the approaching Mexican Army led by the infamous Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. Kids 10 and up are welcome. Reservations are helpful and can be secured at www.starmuseum.org/calendar or by calling 936-878-2461.



Tourism Update

Several times a year the Chamber-CVB hosts a networking meeting for tourism related business and organizations. It's called "Tourism Tuesday" and it's typically held on the third Tuesday of the month, three or four times a year. At these meetings we share about advertising and promotion activities of Washington County as a tourism destination, and everyone present has the opportunity to share what's going on at their organization. This keeps everyone informed for maximum collaboration.

If you have a business that contributes to the local visitor experience (lodging, shopping, dining, attractions), you are invited to join in at Tourism Tuesday!

Please contact us at 979-836-3696 or visit@brenham-texas.com for more information.

Working for YOU!

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

WALK-INS

Visitor Center July 2018 — 834 HQ Building July 2018 — 624

WEBSITE

www.BrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors July 2018 — 6,924 Total Pages July 2018 — 17,013

WEBSITE

www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors July 2018 — 18,024 Total Pages July 2018 — 39,471

Travel Tip:

"We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us."

— Anonymous



VisitBrenham



VisitBrenham

What's Happening in August

Now thru Nov. 14

100th Anniversary of WWI Exhibit: Texas & Washington County in the Great War

Brenham Heritage Museum and Chappell Hill Historical Society partner to bring this multi-media interactive experience at Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum, 9220 Poplar St. (www.chappellhillhistoricalsociety.com).

Aug 9

Grand Opening Ceremony - Citadel Christian School

Ribbon Cutting at 2111 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, 5:30pm.

Aug 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30

Play in the Clay

One night make your own pieces, return a second night to decorate/glaze. \$80 per person for 2 classes, Tues and Thurs from 7-9 pm. Reserve seats (979-289-3765, www.BluebonnetPottery.com).

Aug 9-12, 16-19, 23-26

Brazos Valley Brewery Patio Open

Enjoy craft beer with friends, Thurs 4-8, Fri 4-10pm, Sat 12-8pm, Sun 1-6pm, 201 W. First St., Downtown Brenham (www.BrazosValleyBrewery.com).

Aug 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31

Aqua Cardio Class

Improve range of motion, balance and coordination while strengthening and toning. Classes at 9am, Tues, Thurs and Fri, Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham (www.cityofbrenham.org).

Aug 10, 14, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31

Water Aerobic Classes

Classes offer movements to improve range of motion, balance and coordination. Classes Tues, Thurs and Fri at 10am, Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham (www.cityofbrenham.org).

Aug 10-11, 17-18, 24-25, 31-Sept 1

Live Music at The Kenney Store

Varying artists. Grill opens at 3pm weekdays, noon on weekends, music starts around 8:30pm, 811 S. Loop 497 (www.TheKenneyStore.com).

Aug 10

Ribbon Cutting - Old Mill Creek Retreat

Join in celebrating this New Member at 2575 Old Mill Creed Rd., Brenham, 10am.

Aug 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, 31-Sept 2

Live Music at Home Sweet Farm

In the biergarten enjoy live music, craft beer, wine and fun outdoors. Musical acts change weekly. Visit website for info (www.HomeSweetFarm.com).

Aug 10, 17, 24, 31

Brenham Elks Lodge #979 Steak Night

Every Friday night is Steak night, 6:30-8pm. Menu may change so check out the Facebook Page "Elks Lodge Brenham" for updated details, 400 E. Germania St., Brenham.

Aug 11

Chappell Hill Lavender & Wine Fest

The Chappell Hill Lavender Farm and Windy Winery host this 14th annual event on Saturday only, 9am-3pm. Vendors, plants for sale, demonstrations, live music and lavender cuisine. FREE admission, free parking. Activities at both locations: Chappell Hill Lavender Farm and Windy Winery (www.chappellhilllavender.com, www.windywinery.com).

Aug 11-12, 18-19, 25-26

Flying Horses Antique Carousel

Ride a piece of history at Fireman's Park, \$1 per rider. Sat 11am-4pm and Sun 1-4pm, 901 N. Park St., Brenham.

Aug 11-12, 18-19, 25-26

Harvest Grape Stomp at Windy Winery

Grape picking, barrel stomping, T-shirt. Tastings, food, and activities have fees. Sat 11-4:30 and Sun noon-4:30 (www.WindyWinery.com).

Aug 11-12

Crush for Fun at Pleasant Hill Winery

17th Annual grape stomping event! Get purple feet and a souvenir t-shirt. Food and other vendors along with regular tours and tastings. Tastings and stomps have fees. Winery hours are Sat 11-6 and Sun noon-5pm (www.PleasantHillWinery.com).

Aug 12, 19, 26

Sunday Brunch at Bevers Kitchen

Serving chicken and waffles, eggs benedict, pancakes, omelets, breakfast toast-ada, shrimp stuffed avocado plus a full lunch menu, 10am-3pm, 5162 Main St., Chappell Hill.

Aug 13-15, 20-22, 27-29

Beginning Wellness

Let the BBAC aid in your rehab. Classes at 5pm, Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham. Monthly Aerobic Pass \$65, Senior \$55, Yearly \$600, Senior \$550 (www.cityofbrenham.org).

Aug 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29

P90X Live

Total body workout incorporating strength and cardio. Bring a set of light to medium dumbbells, water and towel, Mon 6:45pm, Wed 5:20pm, \$40, Old Alton Gym, 1209 Mangrum, Brenham (www.brenhamisd.net/page/commed.hom).

Aug 14

Brenham Veterinary Hospital Senior Discount Day

Pet owners over fifty can save 15% off scheduled wellness visits and wellness vaccines on the third Tuesday each month, 2455 Highway 290 W., Brenham (www.brenhamvethospital.com, 979-836-2472).

Aug 14

Laura Stack, Motivational Speaker

"What To Do When There Is Too Much To Do." Registration fee \$165, 9am-2pm, The Barnhill Center, 111 Main St. (www.TheBarnhillCenter.com).

Aug 14

The Green Ladies Meeting

Fellowship, networking, financial topic "Ready or Not - Preparing for the Unexpected," 5-7pm, Katie Matthews-Edward Jones, 1304 Hwy. 105, Brenham, free (www.edwardjones.com/katie-matthews).

Aug 15

Basic QuickBooks Workshop

Intended for those who have none or limited experience using QuickBooks software, 9am-5pm (lunch hour on your own), A.W. Hodde, Jr. Technical Education Center, 2910 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, \$100, class size limited (www.blinncollege.sbdcnetwork.net).

Aug 16

Young Professionals Networking Happy Hour

Gather for networking at Brenham National Bank with food, drinks and prizes, 5-7pm, 2211 S. Day St., Brenham.

Aug 16

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Matt Mercado, Terry Lyne Moore, Briana Adams, and the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$7 admission (www.FriendsOfBluebonnetOpry.com).

Aug 17

Grand Opening Ceremony - Blinn College Mill Creek Hall

Join Blinn College Brenham District for a Grand Opening of Mill Creek Hall, 1192 Old Mill Creek Rd., 10am.

Aug 17

Washington County Wildlife Society Annual Fundraiser and Dinner

Chicken tender and fried catfish dinner, silent auction, featured guest speaker Larry Weishuhn, professional biologist, author and hunting personality. Washington County Fairgrounds Event Center, 1305 E. Blue Bell Rd. 5:30-8pm (www.WCWWildlife.org).

Aug 18

"Runaway Scrape" Escape Room

Blinn College's Star of the Republic Museum invites you a Texas-themed escape room, 3rd Saturday each month 10am-4pm at Washington on the Brazos. Admission \$15 adults, \$13 students 18 and under, \$10 Blinn employees and students. Advanced registration is recommended (www.starmuseum.org).

Aug 18

Chamber Music Trio

Chamber Music Trio with Viktor Valkov piano, Chavdar Parashkevov violin, Louis-Marie Fardet cello. Performing music by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Shostakovich. Round Top Festival Institute, 3-4pm (www.FestivalHill.org).

Aug 23

Tailgate Party 2018 Community Pep-Rally

Your ticket gets you a delicious tailgate buffet catered by Design II, cold beer and wine, fun team rivalries and shopping through over 100 auction items donated by local businesses, \$35. VIP seating available. Silver Wings Ballroom, Brenham, 6pm (979-836-3695, events@brenhamtexas.com).

Aug 23

Central Texas Beekeepers Association meeting

Meeting in the VIP Building at Washington County Fairgrounds, Brenham (www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org).

Aug 25

Walk With A Doc

Take steps to a healthier lifestyle, brief "health talk" followed by 30-minute walk, take part in one walk or entire series. Water, refreshments, t-shirts available (979-337-7254).

Aug 30

Connect After 5 - PlanNorth Architectural Co. and 96 West

Have fun and bring business cards to share, free for Chamber members and employees, PlanNorth Architectural Firm, 107 S. Baylor St., Downtown Brenham, 5-7pm.

September Highlights

Sep 7

Brenham ISD Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

Hosted at the Blinn College Banquet Room, 11:30am (www.BrenhamISD.net).

Sep 7

Farmers & Artisan Market

Downtown Brenham event featuring homegrown fresh foods and home-made product, held the first Friday of each month, 3-7pm (www.DowntownBrenham.com).

www.brenhamtexas.com

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING LESSON #1



SHOP LOCAL FIRST



Keep Our Local Economy Strong!



Stay, Play, Buy Local

Many people do not realize the importance of shopping in your own community. Sales tax dollars kept here support your local police department, fire department, parks and recreation facilities, road projects, businesses and workforce.

See the "Top Reasons" to buy local on this page, and shop with pride in Washington County. Support the "Home Team!" It benefits every business and every resident.

Chamber member businesses support the community year-round, and they appreciate the

support of local residents as customers and clients. View a list of all Chamber member businesses online at www.BrenhamTexas.com. A lot of our Chamber Members will include HOT DEALS on our website to promote their sales and special offers.

The Chamber provides education, advocacy, marketing assistance, referrals and more to members, along with great networking and leadership development opportunities. For more information, stop by the Chamber office or call (979) 836-3695.

Buying Locally Benefits You

1. Right now, while this community is wanting to support local law enforcement and first responders, make this a priority in your family. Keep your dollars here.

2. By shopping in Washington County and paying local sales tax, your dollars stay here to fund city and county operations such as roads and bridges, parks, the library, police and fire departments and more.

3. Local businesses give better support to YOUR community groups. Non-profit groups receive an average of 350% more charitable support from local businesses than they do from non-locally owned businesses.

4. Local businesses make up the largest employer base, giving more jobs to YOU and YOUR family.

5. YOU get more knowledgeable and friendlier customer service! You get to know your local merchants, and they get to know YOU.

6. Spending \$100 at a local independent business creates a ripple effect of \$45 in additional local economic activity.

7. Shopping locally saves YOU gas and time.

8. Local businesses preserve and enhance the unique character of Washington County. This makes it special for YOU and attractive for others to come spend their money here.

9. Shopping locally allows YOU to stay in better touch with YOUR neighbors and the local pulse of YOUR community.

10. Local businesses are more likely to utilize local advertising, banks, insurance companies and other local services.

Ways to Influence Credit Card Acceptance Fees

As the world marches toward a cashless society, businesses are left to brave the landscape of accepting credit cards. This can prove to be a daunting task for those merchants who would rather spend their time concentrating on what they do best – running their business. Credit card fees can seem complicated, overwhelming and expensive. Merchants know that they need to pay fees to accept credit cards. Credit card processing can make running a business more efficient and it makes customers happy who are continuously looking for ways to use technology to make their payments instead of handing over cash.

Rather than paying these fees blindly, every business can influence and help control these costs through three simple, effective actions.

Will Watson our Infintech advisor explains three Simple Ways to Influence Your Credit Card Processing Fees

1. Understand Your Current Pricing Structure: There are many types of credit card processing models in the payments industry. Some of the models you may have heard of are flat-rate, tiered or cost-plus. In most cases, being set up on the cost-plus (pass-through) pricing model will deliver greater visibility into the actual network rates and expose areas for significant savings.

Will Watson our Infintech advisor says to "find out which model you are set-up on and if it benefits your business the most. The majority of the time you are going to want to be on cost-plus pricing."

2. Apply for Special Rate Categories: Many business types have access to special rate categories to promote more card usage. These special rates are available to

charities, governments, hotels, B2B, just to name a few.

Will says..." Ensure you understand if these rates apply to your business type and make sure you are set up to qualify for them."

3. Provide Enhanced Data: A good rule of thumb with credit card payments is: "The more data you send with each transaction, the lower the cost." This is especially important with business and corporate card processing, where the fee for a single transaction can range greatly. By simply passing more information with each transaction, you can reduce your card fees by 30-40%.

Will says..." Make sure your company is passing along the right amount of data to maximize your savings. If you are accepting payments from business, purchasing, or corporate cards you can qualify for these

lower cost processing fees."

Don't just take my word for it here is a Washington County chamber member testimonial below:

"For more than two years, we've worked with Will Watson at Infintech and have been pleased with his knowledge, professionalism, and customer service. In addition to the competitive rates, we like that Infintech partners with the Chamber. We highly recommend their services to other businesses." - Daphne Kohring, Controller, Appel Ford & Hyundai of Brenham

To learn more about how your Washington County chamber membership on average can decrease your credit card processing fees by 30-40%. Call our Infintech Advisor Will Watson at (979) 345-2988 or e-mail him at will.watson@agent.infintechllc.com. You can also visit the website www.infintechllc.com/washington.



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