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Baylor Scott & White
-The Brenham Clinic

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Melissa Duckworth
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Wendy Frazier
Associated Credit
Union of Texas

Aaron Gonzalez
Padgett Hearing Aid Center

Dr. John Harris
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Edna Kennedy
Burton ISD Superintendent

Jim Kruse
Bank of Brenham

Zelda Moore
EVVAYLOIS
Academy of Beauty

Ash Patel
Best Western Inn

Lloyd Powell
Brenham Police Department

Joe Robertson
Blue Bell Creameries

Gena Wilimitis
Miracle Farm

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BREHAM, TEXAS

2019 Man, Woman of the Year Nominations Now Being Accepted

As the end of the year approaches, it is time to start thinking about who deserves the honor of being selected for the 2019 Man and Woman of the Year-Lifetime Achievement Awards.

This is a long-standing tradition of the Washington County Chamber, recognizing the achievements of two extra-special individuals each year. The tradition includes the announcement of the winners at the Annual Banquet of the Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Foundation. The 2018 recipients were Dottie Schaer and Charlie Pyle.

The next Annual Banquet will be held on January 28, 2020. Prior to the banquet, the immediate Past Chairman of the Chamber

Board will convene a committee comprised of past award recipients to review all nominations and vote on the candidates for the current year.

If you know someone you would like to nominate for this honor, please fill out a nomination form. It includes the judging criteria. You may contact the Chamber to have a form emailed to you or download the form online at www.BrenhamTexas.com. Completed nomination forms are due to the Chamber by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020.

Winners are only selected from nominations received. Please note that prior nominations (submissions from prior years) may be considered if resubmitted by the January 8 deadline.



Annual Banquet Date Announced

The 2020 Annual Banquet of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce and Brenham Economic Development Foundation will be held on Tuesday, January 28. The event will be hosted at the Firemen's Training Center on U.S. 290.

Details about the speaker, sponsors and program will be unveiled later this month. Invitations will be mailed to all Chamber members. Mark your calendars now to make sure you save the date!

Tickets will go on sale on January 2, 2020. Reservations for corporate tables may be called in to the Chamber office at (979) 836-3695.

Chamber Says Farewell to Retiring Directors

Five outstanding volunteers will retire as Chamber board members this month. They have been closely involved with the mission and success of the Chamber since January 2017. The retiring directors (as pictured) include:

Lloyd Powell, *City of Brenham Police Department*; **Gena Wilimitis**, *Miracle Farm*; **Darren Huckert**, *Garza EMC*; **Dr. Edna Kennedy**, *Burton Independent School District*; and **Jim Kruse**, *Bank of Brenham*.

Also pictured is **Amanda Stolz** of *Seidel Schroeder*. She served as Board Chair for 2019 and will remain on the board in 2020 as Immediate Past Chair.

These volunteer leaders have been valuable members of committees and projects over the past three years. They will be greatly missed

FAREWELL *continued on A4*



Ribbon Cuttings



New Member

Royalty Tax Services

Owner: Jill Robertson
612 W. Alamo St., Brenham



New Member

Hours2Go by Charlotte

Owner: Charlotte Avera
979-203-4524



New Location

Brenham Floral Company

Owners: Mary Avina and Meg Grant
707 S. Austin St., Brenham



New Member

Silversage Assisted Living & Memory Care

Directors: Richard Nicolls and Dona Lynn Parker
1121 Prairie Lea, Brenham



New Member

Clean Car Custom Detail

Owners: Alex and Marcy Tran
603 W. Alamo St., Brenham



New Member

Velocity Gymnastic

Owners: Sara Beth and Jason Gaertner
301 N. Austin Parkway, Brenham



New Location

Thrivent Financial

203 S. Jackson St., Brenham
979-836-0693

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. Members are eligible to include promotional materials and reach this targeted audience for \$100 at the Basic Level and \$85 for the other membership levels. Contact the Chamber office to be included.

Washington County Chamber of Commerce

314 S. Austin Street | Brenham, Texas 777833
979-836-3695 | www.brenhamtexas.com



Wende Ragonis President
Jane Hinze Member Services Manager
Shae Janner Business Programs Manager
Dawn Konieczny ... Communications Coordinator
Sarah Bryant Bookkeeper

314 S. Austin St. | Brenham, TX 77833
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Brenham, TX 77833
Cell: (979) 277-8426
Office: (979) 251-7500
Fax: (979) 353-4289
Email: booc@remax.net
Web: www.RealtorBoo.com



Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

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

Renewing Members

November 1-30

Memorial Oaks Chapel — 45 years
 Schovajsa's Catering — 39 years
 Altman Dentistry — 25 years
 Pleasant Hill Winery — 23 years
 Browning Plantation Cottage — 22 years
 Westwood Cinema 6 — 22 years
 Ozarka Spring Water (Aqua Beverage Compan — 21 years
 Mariachi's Mexican Restaurant — 20 years
 Melissa L. Gerke DDS, PA — 19 years
 Norman's Pharmacy — 19 years
 Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies — 19 years
 Bank of Brenham — 18 years
 New Beginnings Pregnancy Center/Resale Sh — 17 years
 Triple T Refrigeration, Inc. — 16 years
 Heritage Place — 15 years
 Edward Jones-Andrea Holle, Financial Advi — 14 years
 The Golden Mirror Salon Suites — 14 years
 Ubeo Business Services — 14 years
 Lifetime Learning — 12 years
 Adam's Angels Ministry — 11 years
 Our Integrity Works, LLC — 11 years
 Golden Years Homecare Specialists — 10 years
 Padgett Hearing Aid Center — 10 years
 St. Mary's Catholic Church — 10 years

Absolutely Fabulous Salon — 9 years
 Saddlehorn Winery — 9 years
 The Hair Warehouse — 9 years
 Brenham Miniature Horses — 8 years
 Brauner, Tammy-Washington County District — 7 years
 St. Paul's Christian Day School — 7 years
 Atlas Foundation Repair — 6 years
 Focused Care at Brenham — 6 years
 Focusing Families — 6 years
 Barking Ranch Pet Resort — 5 years
 Premier Designs-Independent Distributor — 5 years
 10X Graphics & Marketing, LLC — 4 years
 Enterprise Rent A Car — 4 years
 Houser Roofing, LLC — 4 years
 Ash and Ash Consulting — 2 years
 Compassionate Care Hospice — 2 years
 Tranquility Landscapes — 2 years
 Boeker Ag Service — 1 year
 Diamond S Trucking — 1 year
 Here or There Massage, LLC — 1 year
 State Representative Ben Leman — 1 year
 Texas Casual Cottages by Partners In Buil — 1 year
 Whatever Pops Up LLC — 1 year

New Chamber Members

CLEAN CAR CUSTOM DETAIL

Owners: Alex & Marcy Tran
 603 W. Alamo Street
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-900-0333
alex@cleancarcustomdetail.com
www.cleancarcustomdetail.com
Auto Detailing & Window Tinting

HOURS2GO BY CHARLOTTE

Owner: Charlotte Avera
 2699 Schulte Blvd #503 (Mailing Address)
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-203-4524
Hours2gobycharlotte@gmail.com
www.hours2gobycharlotte.com
Business Services

ROYALTY TAX SERVICE

Owner: Jill Robertson
 612 W. Alamo (Physical Address)
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 46190 U.S. 290 Bus. St. 4 (Mailing Address)
 Hempstead, Texas 77445
 Phone: 979-836-2829
jill@royalty-tax.com
www.royalty-tax.com
Tax Service

VELOCITY GYMNASTICS

Owner: Sara & Jason Gaertner
 301 N. Austin Pkwy (Physical Address)
 230 New Wehdem Road (Mailing Address)
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-277-5633
velocitygymnasticsbrenham@gmail.com
Gymnastics Studio

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.Brenham-Texas.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.

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



Would you like to be a P.E.A.C.E. Partner?

A Partner for P.E.A.C.E. (Public Education Ambassador for Community Engagement) is encouraged to share the monthly value and promote that value within the company so that possible employees and customers will see that you also support public education. It is in hopes that the adults who see these values at their workplace will share with the children in their lives who are also seeing this at school. These Core Essential Values are taught at both Brenham and Burton ISDs.

The investment is only \$50 and you and your employees can make a big impact on the future of our local workforce.

Thank you to these dedicated Partners for P.E.A.C.E. who continue to make this program a success in Washington County. They help reinforce the Core Essential Values students are learning in local public schools at their businesses and through their employee interactions:

Ant Street Inn
Associated Credit Union of Texas
Bank of Brenham
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center
Better Homes & Garden Real Estate Hometown – Mandy Allen
Blue Bell Creameries
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative
Boys & Girls Club of Washington County
Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union
Brenham Abstract & Title Company
Brenham National Bank
Burton Chamber of Commerce
City of Brenham
Creatively Yours
Germania Insurance
Glasco & Co. Landscaping
Independence Coffee Company
Padgett Hearing Aid Center
Personnel Services
Seidel Schroeder
Thielemann Construction Co., L.P.
& Stegent-Thielemann Plumbing
Unity Theatre

We would love to have more!

Be on the lookout for creative things to happen at these local businesses as their employees promote this values during the month. If you interact with 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.

The Value of the Month for December:



Holiday Hot Deals

25% Off Entire Clothing Purchase



Excludes Bridal Formal, Jewelry & Accessories

Hospice Boutique
114 E. Alamo St., Downtown
Brenham
979-277-9623
HospiceBrazosValley.org

Fall Sales Ongoing

20% off all in-stock plant material, 25% off pottery, 40% off large citrus, and planting packages available!



Discount Trees of Brenham
10050 Hwy. 36 N. Brenham
979-836-7225
DiscountTreesofBrenham.com

Deep Lighting Deals

20%-40% off stock and discontinued display items



Countryside Lighting
1105 Industrial Blvd., Brenham
979-836-4364
CountrysideLightingTexas.com

Sweet Deals on Select Gift Shop Merchandise

- 20% off cookbooks, *A Century of Cotton Pickin' Recipes*, and *Good Ole' Cotton Pickin' Recipes*
- \$1 off Texas Cotton Gin Beer Steins, purchase includes free old fashioned hard candies, and a recipe card with 3 drink ideas from *A Century of Cotton Pickin' Recipes*
- Purchase of a Cotton Gin mug includes free old fashioned hard candies, and Drink Recipe Card
- Purchase of a Potholder Kit includes free old fashioned hard candies, and a recipe card featuring three food recipes from *A Century of Cotton Pickin' Recipes*



Texas Cotton Gin Museum
307 N. Main St., Burton
979-289-3378
TexasCottonGinMuseum.org

25% Off Entire Clothing Purchase

Shop for the holidays and more!

Excludes bridal, formal, jewelry & accessories



Hospice Boutique Retail
114 E. Alamo, Downtown Brenham
979-277-9623
HospiceBrazosValley.org

Hermann Furniture Power Packed Flexsteel Sale

LOWEST PRICES OF THE SEASON ON ALL POWER RECLINING FURNITURE
EXCLUDES SPECIAL ORDERS
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Hermann Furniture
213 W. Alamo St., Downtown Brenham
888-836-7237
HermannFurniture.com

Farewell

Continued from A1

from the board of directors, but we know they will always remain strong members of the Chamber and our local business community.

Please join us in thanking them for their years of service to the Chamber membership the next time you see them!

Congratulations to these five newly

elected board members who will begin their three-year terms of service in January: **Susan Cates, City of Brenham; Michelle Panko, Barking Ranch Pet Resort and Brenham Veterinary Hospital; Roger Ross, Coldwell Banker Properties Unlimited; Jeffrey Sadler, Del Sol Food Co.; and Dr. John Turner, Blinn College.**

Leadership explores Health Care

The December session of Leadership Washington County focused on Health Care and allowed the class to learn more about the industry first-hand.

The day began at Baylor Scott & White-The Brenham Clinic with a welcome by Administrator Melissa McCune (LWC Class of 2000), followed by presentations from Dr. Eric Alford, Dr. Jennifer Jones and Dr. Mystan Gurkin. They talked about national trends in health care and issues related to rural health care.

The group next traveled to the Rellis Academic Complex in College Station. The complex is home to several Blinn College vocational programs. The class visited the Health Science labs on their visit. It is a multi-million dollar facility complete with simulated delivery rooms, simulated ambulance and simulation mannequins. Each of the simulators is controlled through software guided by instructors and recorded so students can play back recordings and view their progress. The classrooms and technology are highly impressive, offering Blinn student's excellent instruction and experience. The Blinn College District partners with The Texas A&M University System as a member of the RELIS Academic Alliance. The Academic Alliance allows students to complete their freshman- and sophomore-level courses through Blinn at the Walter C. Schwartz Building and seamlessly complete their bachelor's degree in related fields from an A&M System regional university located on site.

The group then traveled back to Brenham to tour Baylor Scott & White Medical Center. VP of Operations, John O'Hearn, welcomed the class in the hospital board room before the tour.

January 2020 will include two sessions. On January 8th they'll hear about Emergency Management in Washington County and on January 22 they will travel to Austin to hear about State Government and tour the Capitol.

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce designed to train and motivate current and future leaders of our community. Graduates of the program are highly sought by civic groups and valued by local employers. The next class will form in July and begin in August.



Dr. Jones, Dr. Alford and Dr. Gurkin speak to the class at BS&W-The Brenham Clinic.



Toni Schwartz checks the vitals of one of the "patients" in a simulation lab.



Sami Rahman, Director of Simulation and Clinical Labs, Blinn College, shows the class one of their ambulances used for instruction.



The class hears from Baylor Scott & White Medical Center VP of Operations John O'Hearn in Brenham.

Members of the Month of November

Miracle Farm

10802 FM 2621, Brenham • 979-836-0901
MiracleFarm.org

How long have you been in business?

— Miracle Farm was founded in 1982 as a private foster home serving younger children. The ministry was assumed by Texas Baptist Children's Home (TBCH) in 1988 and began its current operation as a boys' ranch program on January 1, 1989.

What services do you offer?

— Miracle Farm is a residential boys' ranch ministry serving young men who are experiencing difficulties with family relationships, behavior and social skills, and educational success. The ministry operates on a 325-acre working ranch campus located 10 miles northeast of Brenham near Independence.

The target population includes at-risk teenage boys, grades 7-12, at high risk of dropping out of school or entering the juvenile justice system due to challenges they face as a result of complex developmental trauma. Residential clients come from throughout Texas, with the majority from within the Brazos Valley and the geographic triangle of Houston, San Antonio and Austin.

Through deeply-layered programs including counseling, education and vocational training (Students can earn their Texas high school diploma as well as dual credits through Blinn College), a horse program, aftercare and independent living, and spiritual development, the boys learn self-confidence, self-discipline, responsibility, and healthy relationship skills.

Up to 18 youth clients live in three homes on the Miracle Farm campus that are staffed by married Christian couples trained to help young men and their families learn how to develop deeper and more meaningful connections and relationship. Length of stay varies according to the needs of each young man and his family, but averages 18 months.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— From day one, each young man in residence learns how to develop a healthy relationship with his assigned horse. Daily caregiving tasks such as grooming, cleaning stalls, and feeding build foundations of trust. Team roping teaches cooperation and teamwork, and instills a new sense of accomplishment and success. As trust is built, the young man learns to work in tandem with his horse on the ground and on its back. This bond aids Miracle Farm staff in helping him apply those skills to his everyday life and to his relationships with their family, teachers, peers, and others.

AFTERCARE AND INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

Former residents can take advantage of aftercare services including case management, counseling, and continued participation in family training activities. Some residents choose to participate in an Independent Living program following high school graduation through which Miracle Farm provides on-campus transitional housing, case management, professional counseling, and life skills training to guide their transition into college, vocational training and/or the workforce.

What do you love about Washington County?

— What's not to love?! The sense of love and COMMUNITY in Washington County is amazing. Our young men volunteer at many of the area's other non-profit fundraisers and events and are always welcomed with open arms. It gives them a sense of respect and confidence.

KWIK KOPY Business Center

2305 S. Day St., Brenham • 979-836-3825
KKBCBrenham.com

How long have you been in business?

— We opened and have been operating out of the same location since 2004.

What services do you offer?

— We offer a wide variety of printing and shipping services. We provide printing solutions for any project ranging from a small business card to large banners and signs. We process and intake shipments from FedEx, UPS and USPS. We offer office services such as notary work, scanning and faxing, high speed copies and more. Our wide format printing division has grown immensely over the last few years, we can now produce large banners, signs and vehicle magnets.

We have seen a growing demand for large architectural drawings prints and copies, so we have one machine designated for only that. Orders can often be fulfilled same or next day for just about all our services, so please come in and see how we can help you if the opportunity ever presents itself.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— We changed our tagline recently to: Developing Relationships, Built to Last. We think that is an accurate portrayal of how we want to leave impressions, impact our growing, local community and shape the future of this wonderful area. We want each time someone comes in to be an experience that lays the groundwork for relationship building. We have found that building trust and earning loyalty goes a lot further than simply cranking out services and products.

We are also Aggie-owned and operated; beneficial to a sense of commonality that is appreciated in this area – one of tradition, professionalism and value. We would love for you to come in and begin a relationship building process with us.

For the Non-profit organizations, we offer a 15% discount for any service we provide. For the veterans, we will gladly take 20% off anything in our store as a thank you for your service. For the wholesaler, we can extend a wholesale discount up to 25% off your order. For the Valued Customer, we have special longevity and volume discounts that we hope show you how much we value you as a customer. Thanks Washington County for your continued support and patronage!

What do you love about Washington County?

— We believe there is a genuine willingness from the locals in the area to support local businesses like ours. We like being a part of a community that recognizes friends and colleagues on a first-name basis. There is a growing population of creative thinkers that are pioneering a bright future for this area, helping keep the locals here on the weekends and attract out-of-towners as well. We appreciate the welcoming atmosphere and are blessed to call Washington County "home" to our business for more than 15 years.

American Overhead Door Co., Inc.

7405 Hwy. 36 N., Brenham • 979-836-4442
AmericanOverhead.com

How long have you been in business?

— We are Brenham's Original Garage Door Co that started in 1975. First known as Brenham Overhead Door Co, then later being incorporated under American Overhead Door Co., Inc.

I purchased this business from my Dad in 2015. Therefore, September 2020 will be 45 years for American Overhead Door Co., Inc.

What services do you offer?

— Sales, service, & installs of garage doors and garage door operators both residential and commercial. Also, inside of American Overhead Door Co., Inc. you will find 3 other companies. Gate Keeper, where we sell, service & install gate operators; Timeless Herbs & Oils, recently opened April 1st, 2019, where we sell CBD, essential oils, herbal teas, tonics & tinctures to help your body feel better; and Flag Store Etc., also opened April 1st, 2019, where we have all types of flags, accessories & flag poles for all of your flag needs.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— First of all, this is a Woman "Locally Owned" Business. We strive to keep and make our customers happy. We love our customers without whom we would not have a business. We have been in Brenham since the 1970's. American Overhead Door Co., Inc & Gate Keeper were started by my dad, Kaylor Coonse, who is a Navy Veteran. All of the employees here are either family or either they should be. We give all praise to our Lord Jesus Christ for the opportunities He has allowed us here at 7405 Hwy 36N, Brenham.

What do you love about Washington County?

— The beauty of the county and small-town feeling. It is nice when you see people that you know there is still time to stop and say hi to one another. I wasn't born here, but I grew up here and Washington County is my home. — Debra Hall, owner

Whatever Pops Up! Gourmet Popcorn

Brenham, TX • 979-251-1165
WhateverPopsUp-tx.com

How long have you been in business?

— 1 year, 3 months.

What services do you offer?

— We offer Gourmet Popcorn by the bag, and by the tin, plus gift baskets. We offer bulk popcorn for parties, weddings, family reunions; any celebration or gathering where you would like some great popcorn. Don't forget us for party favors, shower and wedding give-aways. We also have fundraising programs for schools and other non-profits. We are small town based, so we don't shy away from last minute orders if we have the popcorn available. Case in point: a lady called us just last week and said "hey, just thought of you all, I need something for an office staff in 30 minutes. Do you have anything available?" I told her what we had, she picked her flavors, we bagged it up. She came and picked it up and was on her way within a 30 minute window.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— We are a mobile unit which opens up a whole lot of other opportunities for us and the community. We do fairs and festivals, but our regular spot is at K & M Grocery in Brenham on most Wednesdays. Being a mobile unit also makes us available to come out for your customer/staff appreciations, company picnics, weddings and any other events where Great Gourmet Popcorn could be enjoyed. We can make great door prizes for the afore mentioned events, so book us to come out and leave the door prizes to us; between gift baskets, tins, bags & gift certificates, we've got you covered. We keep about 13 flavors on our trailer at any given time, but we can make many others by request.

What do you love about Washington County?

— Bluebonnets, Blue Bell, Barnhill, Music Venues/Nightlife - these things and all the other special events offered that bring new residents and tourists daily. Big town opportunities, small town feel! ~ Debra Leroy Wenckens, owner

What's Happening in December

Until Dec. 13

Blanket Drive

Spread The Warmth Blanket Drive. All blankets and donations will be gifted to local nursing homes for the Christmas Season. Drop off locations Bank of Brenham and the Washington County 4-H Extension Office, 8am-5pm.

Until Dec. 29

MoonShadow Press Exhibit

Joyce McCown of MoonShadow Press returns to the gallery for a one-woman mixed media studio show. Photography, hand lettering and three dimensional artwork. Artist reception Saturday, November 16, 1:00pm – 6:00pm, Open Thanksgiving weekend and closed December 1st and 27th, Back Lot Gallery, 308 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham, (BackLotGallery.com).

Dec 12-22

"A Christmas Story" at Unity Theatre

Humorist Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the mid-west in the 1940s follows 9 year old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Brenham (UnityBrenham.org, 979-830-8358).

Dec 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28

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 (TheKenneyStore.com).

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

Live Music at Home Sweet Farm

In the biergarten enjoy live music, craft beer, wine and fun outdoors, 307 S. Park St., Downtown Brenham (HomeSweetFarm.com).

Dec 13

Senior Community Health Screening

St. Peter's Episcopal Church is hosting Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings. Call to register, 800-690-0323, 9am-4pm, 2310 Airline Dr., Brenham (lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle).

Dec 13

Senior Center Community Game Tournament Day

Play cards, dominoes, bingo, pool, checkers, chess, board games (of your choosing). Community event at the Margaret E. Blizzard Senior Activity Center, 1301 E. Tom Green, Brenham, 9:30am-1:30pm. Contact Mary Sanders to participate or donate, 979-277-6212. Free admission, donate a canned, non-perishable food item.

Dec 13

"Home Alone" Movie & Christmas Activities

Fun for the whole family. Storytime & sing-a-long movie on the big screen, yummy snacks, and write your own letter to Santa (and deliver it to him in person too), tickets \$15, The Barnhill Center, 111 W. Main St., Downtown Brenham, 6-9pm (TheBarnhillCenter.com).

Dec 13-14

"Lights, Camera, Christmas!"

The Brenham Children's Chorus Ensembles presents Christmas selections through song, dance, and creative staging. Dr. W.W. O'Donnell Performing Arts Center, Blinn College Brenham, 7-8:30pm, Adults \$15, Students \$7, Children 12 and under \$5 (BrenhamChildrensChorus.com).

Dec 14

Chappell Hill Garden Club Home Tour

Tour the following sites: Parkerosa, Lillian Farms, Kottage at Summerhill, Sunshine Cottage, Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum, 10am-5pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Bluebonnet House in Chappell Hill, 979-562-6191 or from any club member or PayPal, \$20 pre-date, \$25 day-of (ChappellHillGardenClub.com).

Dec 14-15

Cooking at the Quarters

Will demonstrate cooking a traditional meal for the enslaved using period ingredients and methods, 10am-4pm, Washington on the Brazos, 23400 Park Rd. 12, Washington (WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

Dec 14-28

"An Olde Fashioned Christmas" Exhibit

This exhibit will display Christmas traditions throughout the decades, part of the Chappell Hill Garden Club Christmas Home Tour, 10am-4pm, 9220 Poplar St., Chappell Hill, free admission (ChappellHillMuseum.org).

Dec 14

Chappell Hill Teddy Bear Parade

Shopping, dining, teddy bear parade, visit with Santa, caroling, nativity scenes, train rides, downtown lighting and live reindeer. Activities are timed throughout the afternoon. Free admission, free parking, 12-7pm, 5060 Main St., Chappell Hill (ChappellHillHistoricalSociety.com).

Dec 14

Burton Christmas Market

Handmade, homemade, unique gifts; holiday treats; delicious hot "Junebug" stew made by the Burton Heritage Society; photos with Santa; make a gingerbread house and other Christmas crafts. Texas Cotton Gin Museum, Roy Winkler Family Pavilion, 307 N. Main St., Burton, 11am-5pm, (BurtonHeritageSociety.org/celebrate).

Dec 14

Christmas at Winedale-Folklife Event

A mid-19th century life demonstrations including wagon rides, hay rides, mini horse carriages, spinners, weavers, wood carvers, quilters, blacksmith, encampment, outdoor cooking, butter churning, period music, square dancers, storytellers, crafts for children, German Santa, Historic Houses will be decorated as they would have been in those times. Food available for donation, 12-4pm, Winedale Historical Complex, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top, 979-278-3530.

Dec 14

The Nutcracker Ballet

The legendary ballet danced by children for children of all ages. Round Top Festival Institute Concert Hall, 248 Jaster Rd., 4-6:30pm, adults \$40, students \$20 (FestivalHill.org).

Dec 14-15

First Christmas Stories from the Birth of Christ

Presented by Brenham's First Baptist Church, 304 N. Market St., Brenham, 7-9pm.

Dec 15-16

Bethlehem In Independence

Santa, hot dogs, hot chocolate, cookies and crafts. Free will donations for the schoolhouse renovation. Downtown Independence, 6-8pm (IndependenceTX.com).

Dec 16, 23, 30

Open Mic Mondays

Open Mic Mondays, every Monday Night at 4 Star SideBar. Sign-ups start at 4pm, open mic 6pm, happy hour 4-7pm (4starbrenham.com).

Dec 16

Music of Christmas: Concert and Sing-Along

This free special presentation for all ages by the Brenham Chorale will involve the audience for several recognizable selections as they are invited to sing-along. A free reception will follow the concert, 7-8:30pm, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 2310 Airline Dr., Brenham (StPetersBrenham.org).

Dec 17

Lunch and Learn - Winedale

Bring your lunch and learn about local history the 3rd Tuesday of the month through December. These programs are free. Meadows Large Classroom at Winedale, 3760 FM 2714, Round Top, 12-1pm (tricia.blakistone@austin.utexas.edu, 979-278-3530).

Dec 19

Ribbon Cutting - Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Join in celebrating this new member, Friends of Bluebonnet Opry at Silver Wings Ballroom, 4100 Hwy. 105, Brenham, 4:30pm.

CALENDAR continued on page 8

Washington County Blue Blazers

The Blue Blazers is a club with 15-20 members and more than 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

Brenham ISD

Joyce Dickschat

Brenham National Bank

Eddie Harrison

Retired-Brenham Municipal Judge

Melinda Fay

Cruise Planners

Dr. Tina Henderson

Ash and Ash Consulting

Mandy Henke

Kruse Village

Tammy Jaster

City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Kristie Marth

Brenham Iron Works

Linda Pipes

Retired-School Teacher

Kathy Randermann

KTTX 106.1/KWHI 1280

Debra Wenckens

Whatever Pops Up.

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



YPO Gives Back

Young Professionals Organization of Washington County has made service to its community a priority this 2019 year. YPO has partnered with various organizations such as Twin City Mission, Youth & Family Services, Faith Mission, and For the City.

YPO strives to support local businesses by meeting other fellow young professionals, and these young people are now taking things a step further by adding a service element to what they do. Food items are collected at every monthly Happy Hour. School supplies were collected in summer months, and distributed to children in need. Last month, enough money was raised to provide five families with turkeys, bags of produce, and other various food items.

YPO is continuing to collect food items to hand out directly to families in need before Christmas. They are also beginning to collect new or gently used children's books.

If you would like to make a donation or know of a family who could use a little help for Christmas or if your organization is interested in working with YPO, please contact Emily Morey, Philanthropic Coordinator- moreye@twincitymission.org

Calendar

Continued from page 7

Dec 19

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Paul Schlesinger, Rick Weiss and Missy Brown, plus the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$7 admission.

Dec 21

Living History Saturday

Family activities including quill pen writing, signing a copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence, visiting with militia soldiers and playing early Texas games (936-878-2214, ext. 228, WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

Dec 21

Runaway Scrape Escape Room

Blinn College's Star of the Republic Museum invites you to a Texas-themed escape room, admission \$15 adults, \$13 students 18 and under, \$10 Blinn employees and students. Advance reservations (www.starmuseum.org).

Dec 28-29

Horse High, Bull Strong, and Hog Tight

With the main crop fields turned fallow, now is the time to repair and restack fencing around the farm, 10am-4pm, Washington on the Brazos, 23400 Park Road 12, Washington (WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

Dec 31

New Year's Eve Dance Brenham Elk's Lodge #979

The Risky Liver Band will perform. Includes breakfast and celebratory toast at midnight. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, 400 E. Germania St., Brenham, 979-836-2261 Wednesdays after 5pm or Sunday after noon.

Dec 31

New Year's Eve Dance at The Kenney Store

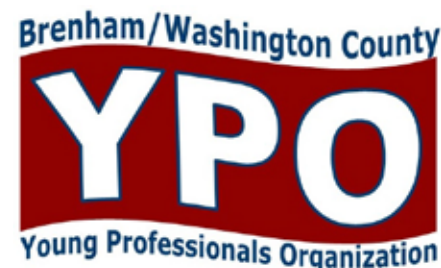
Doors open at 7pm, Easy Money Band at 8pm, champagne toast and drink specials, cabbage and black eyed peas. Kitchen open until 9pm. Must be 21 years old and up, \$25 advanced tickets only (TheKenneyStore.com).

January Highlight

Jan 8

Bill Anderson at The Kenney Store

Experience one of the intimate concerts everyone is talking about. Hear raw, real music with unforgettable stories told by legends. Meal included with concert ticket, \$100. (TheKenneyStore.com).



Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, December 12
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Hosted at Red Fern Woodwork & Renovation
1801A S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham

Expand your business network and make new friends!

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



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