

**JUNE
2019**



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WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BRENHAM, TEXAS



LJ's BBQ and Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative were honored at a Small Business Forum held here June 5.

Small Business of the Year Awards won by LJ's BBQ, Bluebonnet Electric

At the Small Business Forum on June 5, two local businesses received an impressive distinction, having been selected as the "Small Business of the Year" for 2019. The awards were given out in two categories: businesses with 1-25 employees and those with 26-100.

For the Washington County awards, Chamber president Wende Ragonis remarked that it was a difficult selection process, "because we are fortunate to have so many outstanding businesses in this community." She explained that both of this year's winners "truly stand out for their commitment to excellence and growth in their industries and for providing their customers with amazing products and services."

The first award (business size 1-25) was presented to **LJ's BBQ**. LJ's is a local family owned and operated restaurant that started with hard work and the support of other Washington County small businesses. Their humble beginnings started as a pop-up/food truck at such places as Home Sweet Farm Market and Biergarten, Brazos Valley Brewing Company, and Roux Street, then opening a temporary location at Corner Liquor Store. They are now located at 1407 West Main

Street. Corey and Leah Cook were raised in Brenham, and Matt loved visiting his grandmother (the original "LJ") and family throughout his life, finally moving here in 2015.

LJ's has generously contributed to the Washington County Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, Lions Club, CASA for Kids, Grace Lutheran School, Brenham ISD Arts & Appetizers, the Brenham and Burton PTOs, St. Paul's Lutheran Church Day School, Washington County Domestic Task Force, and many more community organizations. They were happy to feed the Texas National Guard when they were staged in Brenham during Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. They are huge supporters of the Cubs and Cubettes.

LJ's mission has always been and continues to be to serve a quality product to the great people and visitors of Washington County while providing exemplary customer service. This great BBQ and great service earned them a spot on *Texas Monthly's* Best BBQ Bites in 2018. They welcome visitors from all over and will treat each and every one of them like locals and are sure to point them in the right direction toward all the other local businesses.

The second Small Business of the Year award (business size 26-100) was presented to **Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative** and their Member Services Center staff, linemen and crew in Washington County. Bluebonnet Electric has been in this community since 1939 and is committed to providing safe, reliable and affordable power to 14 Central Texas counties. As they celebrate 80 years of service to its members, they will also be celebrating

reaching another milestone of 100,000 meters, more than 14,000 of those in Washington County.

Six principles guide Bluebonnet and provide an ethical foundation for everything the organization does. These six principles are: Safety, Courage, Respect, Reliability, Community and Love.

Bluebonnet has supported Washington County Chamber

AWARDS continued on page 8

"CONNECT AFTER 5"

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT

SPONSORED BY:

**Coldwell Banker
Properties Unlimited**
601 Medical Court, Brenham
Thursday, June 27 from 5-7 p.m.

Beverages sponsored by Mike Hopkins Distributing.

*Unwind after work and expand your network!
Meet other Chamber members and generate new business contacts.*

*Enjoy food and drinks, learn what's new in the
community, and exchange business cards and brochures.*

Free for Chamber members and employees!

Ribbon Cuttings



New Member

Skylight Studio

Owner: Sara Collier
208 West Alamo Street, Brenham



Re-Grand Opening

Ranch Interiors

Owners: Tami Redshaw and Vicky Briones
117 West Commerce Street, Brenham



Amphitheater Dedication

Camp For All

CEO: Pat Sorrells
6301 Rehburg Road, Burton



New Member

Keller Williams Brenham

Owner: Keith Hatler
416 North Park Street, Brenham



Remodel

Cornerstone Brenham's Hanger51 Childrens' Wing

Pastor: Pat Beaty
906 West Stone Street, Brenham



New Member

Blackwood Educational Land Institute

27144 Rock Island Road, Hempstead
<https://blackwoodland.org>



Relocation

Margolis Fine Tobacco

Owner: Bruce and Michelle Margolis
3120 Highway 36 South Suite A, Brenham



New Member

Hill Top Sales

Owner: Mike and Shirley Thorpe
11112 U.S. 290 West, Brenham



Relocation

Washington County Tractor

Owner: Chris Wackman
5400 U.S. 290 East, Brenham



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BUS: 1-866-926-6225

TECL 22459 www.bjelectricinc.com



Residential • Farm & Ranch • Commercial



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110 East Alamo Street
Brenham, TX 77833
Cell: (979) 277-8426
Office: (979) 251-7500
Fax: (979) 353-4289
Email: booc@remax.net
Web: www.RealtorBoo.com

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Renewing Members

May 1-31

Harvey's Water Wells, Inc. — 40 years
Wells Fargo Bank — 34 years
Citadel Christian School — 24 years
BBA Architects, L. P. — 23 years
Brenham Ace Hardware — 22 years
Personnel Services — 22 years
Entec Pest Management, Inc. — 20 years
MitchellClark & Company — 20 years
Fayetteville Propane Company, Inc. — 19 years
First United Methodist Church — 19 years
Tres Chic — 19 years
Washington County Real Estate — 19 years
Faith Mission/Higgins Branch — 17 years
Jack's A/C & Refrigeration — 17 years
Texas Home Health Group — 16 years
Brenham Children's Chorus — 15 years

Independence Coffee Co. — 15 years
Overhead Door Co. of South Central Texas — 15 years
Pecan Tree Apartments — 15 years
Christ Lutheran Church & Day School — 14 years
Town & Country Realty & Mortgage — 14 years
Cargile Photography — 13 years
Jerry Olson Design — 12 years
Woodforest National Bank — 12 years
Hackberry Hill Guest Cottages — 11 years
Wolff Companies — 11 years
Brenham Iron Works, LLC — 10 years
Creatively Yours — 10 years
Giddings Stone Mansion — 10 years
Today And Yesterday — 10 years
Brenham Dermatology, PLLC — 9 years
Green Duct Services — 9 years

Select Furnishings — 9 years
Stanpac USA LLC — 9 years
Walther, Tim — 9 years
Quality Glass — 8 years
Spherion Staffing — 8 years
Tiaden, OD, Dr. Garra — 8 years
Henkel Square Market — 7 years
Harmel Electric — 6 years
BENCOR, LLC — 5 years
Blahuta Advertising — 5 years
Dairy Queen-Market Street — 4 years
Vincent's Roofing, Inc. — 4 years
Burger King/Kolkhorst Foods — 2 years
Coaching with Hart — 1 year
Las Americas Latin Cuisine — 1 year

New Chamber Members

EVENT PRODUCTIONS OF TEXAS

Owner: Peron Einkauf
P O Box 211 (Mailing Address)
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426
Phone: 832-867-6729
peron@PDQ.net
www.eventproductionsoftexas.com
Wedding & Event Services

HILL TOP SALES

Owner: Michael Thorpe
11112 US HWY 290W
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-421-3398
mike@thehilltopsals.com
www.thehilltopsals.com
Antiques

KELLER WILLIAMS BRENHAM

Owner: Keith Hatler
416 N. Park
(Physical Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
2801 Earl Rudder FWY S.
(Mailing Address)
College Station, Texas 77845
Phone: 979-693-9100
khatler@kw.com
www.kwbcs.com
Real Estate

MARGOLIS FINE TOBACCO

Owners: Bruce & Michelle Margolis
3120 HWY 36 South
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-836-1088
cigars@cavemancigarco.com
www.margolisfinetobacco.com
Cigars/Cigar Lounge/Gift Shop

MICHELLE RIGSBY, PERSONAL TRAINER

Owner: Michelle Rigsby
101 Oak Hill Drive (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-551-3042
michelle.rigsbycpt@gmail.com
www.michellerigsby.wixsite.com/fitfam
Personal Training

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.

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.

E-messages are sent a maximum of once per quarter per member during each calendar year.

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



Check out our member benefits at www.brenhamtexas.com

Partners for P.E.A.C.E

Contact the Chamber ASAP to sign up for the 2019-20 program! 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:

**Partners for
P.E.A.C.E.**



Ant Street Inn
Associated Credit Union of Texas
Bank of Brenham
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center
Blue Bell Creameries
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative
Boys & Girls Club of Washington County
Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union
Brenham National Bank
Burton Chamber of Commerce
Citizens State Bank
City of Brenham
Coaching With Hart
Compass Quarters
Creatively Yours
Germania Insurance
Hospice Brazos Valley
Independence Coffee Company
Mid-Continental Insurance Services, Inc.
Padgett Hearing Aid Center
Personnel Services
RE/MAX Advantage
Seidel Schroeder
Thielemann Construction Co., L.P.
Unity Theatre
Westwood Cinema 6

Be on the lookout for creative things to happen at these local businesses as their employees promote and demonstrate Obedience 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 June:



Lorri Wilkening, Amanda Woltmann and Courtney Mason give reflections of their year of LWC.

Graduation Banquet Held

To conclude the year and celebrate the class' achievement, an elegant Graduation Banquet was held at the Ant Street Inn on May 21, hosted by owners Keith and Suzy Hankins (LWC Class of 2013). The keynote speaker was Wesley Brinkmeyer (LWC Class of 2007) and several class members presented their personal reflections on the year.

The next class will form in July. Any business interested in sponsoring an employee, or any individual who would like more information, please contact the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or info@brenhamtexas.com. Details about the program are available online at www.BrenhamTexas.com.



Congratulations to the Leadership Class of 2019

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 Care at Brenham; **Crystal Hinds**, Bank of Brenham; **Tiffany Holmes**, Brenham Abstract & Title Co.; **Amy Jozwiak**, Burton ISD; **Brittany Machinsky**, Boys & Girls Club of Washington County; **Katie Marburger**, Brenham National Bank; **Courtney Mason**, Brenham ISD; **Marie Meier**, Blue Bell Creameries; **Lauren Naida**, Blue Bell Creameries; **Luke Ongudu**, City of Brenham; **Jennifer Phillips**, City of Brenham; **Felicia Purvis**, Burton ISD; **Rebecca Ruffino**, City of Brenham; **Lori Ruiz-Wamble**, Brenham ISD; **Kevin Schmidt**, City of Brenham; **April Thomson**, Associated Credit Union of Texas; **Kelsey Toy**, City of Brenham; **John Turner**, Blinn College; **Lorri Wilkening**, Germania Insurance; and **Amanda Woltmann**, Germania Insurance.

County's Economic Development

The final session for the Leadership Washington County-Class of 2019 was held in May and focused on Economic Development.

The day began at Kieke Egg Farm, which is usually part of the agriculture session, but due to a schedule conflict the class was unable to visit at that time. As far as economics go, Texas is one of the top five egg-producing states in the U.S. Owners Ricky Kieke, Angie Fritsch 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.

The class then headed to Independence Coffee. Owners Ragan and Christi Bond were recently awarded the 2019 Small Business Persons of the Year in Texas by the U.S. Small Business Administration. ICC staff took the class on a tour of the roastery and the new Black Truck '48 Coffee and Tea Market.

After enjoying some coffee, the class traveled to the A.W. Hodde Jr. Technical Education Center at Blinn College. They sat down for lunch and then were given an overview of training programs offered at the Tech Center and took a tour of the facility.

The class then visited Blue Bell Creameries. Jenny Van Dorf (LWC Class of 2014) greeted the class in the Visitor Center. Then the participants were able to go to the observation deck to see production, followed by a trip to the Country Store and treated to scoops of popular flavors in the Ice Cream Parlor.

Next, the class went to Pleasant Hill Winery to gain knowledge of this aspect of tourism in the local economy. A tour of the cellar was given by Shae Janner (LWC Class of 2015). She then gave the class an option to taste some of the wines made with Texas grapes. Pleasant Hill Winery is the oldest winery in Washington County and one of the first in Texas, celebrating 22 years in business.



Class visits the Independence Coffee Roastery.



Enjoying coffee at the Black Truck '48 Coffee and Tea Room. They also serve lunch!



Enjoying a "sweet" stop in the Blue Bell Ice Cream Parlor.



Touring the shops of the Hodde Tech Center.



Kieke Egg Farm owners Owners Ricky Kieke, Abby Majewski and Angie Fritsch talk to the class about their daily operations.



Visiting the cellar at Pleasant Hill Winery.

Members of the Month of May

The Chamber began highlighting one of its Members each week in the Member eBlasts and on Social Media. Below are the Members who were selected in May.

Brenham Country Club

4107 Hwy. 105 E., Brenham
979-836-1733 • BrenhamCC.com

How long have you been in business?

— Since March 1951

What services do you offer?

— 18 hole golf course, Olympic size swimming pool, banquet facilities including a full bar, member and charity tournaments, parties, and events.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— We are one big happy family!

— Become a member and join your friends at the Brenham Country Club and let the fun begin.

— Play golf year round on our 18 hole golf course, swim in our Olympic sized swimming pool May 1 through September 30.

— Hold your next party, event or meeting in our club house banquet facilities. Includes a full bar.

— Join us for our Member/Guest Tournament, MGA & LGA Tournaments, Charity Tournaments, Mother's Day Luncheon, Quarterly Ladies Luncheons, July 4th BBQ and Fireworks, Christmas Party, and Happy Hours.

— We have Equity and Annual Golf Memberships, Social Memberships and Swimming Memberships available. Non-Members may call and make a golf tee time or reservations for events.

What do you love about Washington County?

— I love the friendly people of Washington County. Everyone was very welcoming when I came here 36 years ago. Brenham still has the feel of a small town, but has many activities of a larger community. We are conveniently located only a short drive from Houston or Austin.

ACU of Texas

2509 Becker Drive, Brenham
ACUTX.org

How long have you been in business?

— Since 1949, Associated Credit Union of Texas has worked to develop life-long bonds with our members. Our Brenham Branch opened in 2017, and we're excited to take root in the area.

What services do you offer?

— Associated Credit Union of Texas offers progressive, quality financial services responsive to the member-owners. The credit union is dedicated to providing these services in a caring, professional manner while maintaining a strong financial base. Whether you open a checking or savings account, investment or business account, auto loan or mortgage, we are here to meet your financial needs.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— Associated Credit Union of Texas is a proud supporter of the Brenham Cubs! Stop by and get your official Brenham Cubs Mascot Mastercard® Debit Card, and every time you use it for a qualifying transaction, a credit of ten cents will be donated to your High School every quarter. Learn more at acutx.org/mascot.

What do you love about Washington County?

— The community has welcomed Associated Credit

Union of Texas with open arms! We love the people, the local businesses, the hometown feel, and much more. We're proud to serve Washington County!

Catherine's Victorian Tea Room

302 South St. Charles St., Downtown Brenham
catherinesvictoriantearoom.com

How long have you been in business?

— Since January 19, 2019

What services do you offer?

— Homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, scones and desserts. Normal business hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 11am-3pm, Sunday noon-4pm.

Tell us something unique about your business.

— Walking into the tea room is like stepping back in time. We have a dress-up stage full of historical pieces. We offer full tea service.

What do you love about Washington County?

— I love the town, the people, the ambiance, and the history of Brenham.

Red Fern Woodwork & Renovation

1000 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham
979-551-2544 • redfernwoodwork.com

How long have you been in business?

— We started Red Fern about 5 years ago, at the end of 2014. We started working out of a garage and then in March 2015 we moved into 1000 E. Blue Bell Road, our current location. We are busily planning to move into a larger space down the road at 1801 Blue Bell Road, our first day at our new shop will be July 1! Watch for Open House event!

What services do you offer?

— Our projects include residential remodels and some commercial remodeling. We specialize in custom cabinetry such as kitchens and vanities. We do it all; flooring, painting, siding, trim work, additions and full home renovations!

Tell us something unique about your business.

— A lot of people ask us where we came up with the name Red Fern. When we were thinking of a name, Dayle, our owner, remembered us reading and watching Where the Red Fern Grows when we were growing up and thought that Red Fern would make a good name for our family company since it reminded her of our family time together.

What do you love about Washington County?

— There is so much to love about this area... we love the people, the traditions, the location, the weather, the scenery. We love that people care about keeping things local and supporting small businesses. We couldn't be happier with the area we have chosen to plant and grow our business.



Chamber awarded \$8,000 grant from LCRA, city of Brenham

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce will install new air-conditioning units thanks to a grant from the Lower Colorado River Authority and the City of Brenham, helping ensure the many community leaders and nonprofit organizations who meet there have a comfortable place to gather. Pictured, from left are: Kate Holman, LCRA Regional Affairs representative; John Durrenberger, Washington County judge; Amanda Stolz, chamber board chairperson; Lori A. Berger, LCRA Board member; Wende Ragonis, chamber president; and Kirk Hanath, Washington County commissioner.

Working for YOU.

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

WALK-INS

Chamber of Commerce
May 2019 — 526

WEBSITE

www.BrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors
May 2019 — 5,854

Total Pages
May 2019 — 15,354

What's Happening in June

Thru October

Flying Horses Antique Carousel

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

June 13

Chappell Hill Business After Hours

Networking social at Chappell Hill Lavendar Farm, 2250 Dillard Rd., Brenham, 5-7pm.

June 13-16, 20-23, 27-30

Live Music at Home Sweet Farm

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

June 13-16, 20-23, 27-30

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).

June 13-30

Unity Theatre Presents "Brighton Beach Memoirs"

Part one of Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy: a portrait of the writer as a young teen in 1937 living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up. Eugene Jerome, standing in for the author, is the narrator and central character. Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with the mundane existence of his family life in Brooklyn: formidable mother, overworked father, and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche, her two young (but rapidly maturing!) daughters and you have a recipe for hilarity (UnityBrenham.org)

June 13-15

Gibbous Moon Productions present "The Seagull"

This summer Gibbous Moon Productions is proud to present The Seagull, written by Anton Chekhov and famously performed in the Moscow Art Theatre. Chappell Hill Historical Society Museum, 7-9pm, tickets \$10 adults, \$6 students (979-337-9910).

June 14-15, 21-22, 28-29

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).

June 14

Life Line Screening - Let's get Healthy Together

To be held at Brenham Country Club. Appointments are limited so please call and sign up by calling 1-800-690-0323 and receive a \$10 discount off the package or visit Life Line Screening website at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979.

June 14

Hermann Furnitures Design Seminar: Welcoming the Seasons

Design seminar focusing on bringing the seasons to your entryway, mantel, and bookshelves. Hermann Furniture, 213 W. Alamo, Downtown Brenham, 2-3pm. Seating is limited. Call to make reservations, 888-836-7237.

June 15

yogaBLAST

Power yoga with effective body weight exercises. The combo makes for a well-rounded workout including training in muscular endurance, flexibility, and balance, while staying low impact, geared for all age groups 10 and up. Bring a mat and friend. This session is free, then future classes at \$5. (979-551-3042, michelle.rigsbycpt@gmail.com).

June 15

"Runaway Scrape" Escape Room

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

June 15

Living History Saturday

Family activities including quill pen writing, signing a copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence, visiting with militia sol-

diers and playing early Texas games (936-878-2214, ext. 228, (www.WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

June 15

Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association Annual Parade

The WCHJA Annual Parade will be held in Downtown Brenham. More activities following the Parade at Fireman's Park from 12-4:00 p.m. Public invited (Brenham Juneteenth.org).

June 16

Parlor Games and Music

Play with the past and get fun ideas from a world without electronics, Barrington Living History Farm at Washington on the Brazos, 23400 Park Rd. 12, Washington, 10am-4pm (www.WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

June 17

Child ID Event

Thrivent Financial providing Safety identification for your family. Be prepared with current information for you and your loved ones in case of an emergency/ All information is given to you on a printout at the event. Linda Anderson Park, 1300 Old Independence Rd., Brenham, 5-7:30pm, free.

June 17, 24

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).

June 18

Sewing Class: Chenille Pillow

Students will learn about fabric bias and raw edges and make soft chenille-type fabric in the process. Students will go home with a chic throw pillow. Class open to students ages 9 and up. No prerequisites required. Bring your own sewing machine. (Class machines are available for students who are unable to bring their own). Class size is limited to 6 students. Sign up to reserve your spot. (SewFun Sewing.Weebly.com, 979, 551, 0970)

June 19

Autoimmune Secrets

Discover true causes of autoimmune conditions & how to prevent and reverse symptoms. Episode 9: Remarkable Dietary and Lifestyle Solutions and Prevention to Depression and Anxiety. Episode airs from 1-6pm, Nancy Carol Roberts Library, Brenham.

June 20

Hermann Furniture Presents "Paint with Local Artist Sharon Dettling"

Attendees will paint a floral canvas. All supplies will be furnished and no experience is necessary. Call and reserve a spot, seating is limited. Hermann Furniture, 213 W. Alamo, Downtown Brenham, 1-3pm (888-836-7237).

June 20

Young Professionals Happy Hour

Unity Theatre is hosting the Young Professionals Organization's monthly Happy Hour. Food, drinks and prizes, and meet other young professionals in Washington County. 300 Church St., Downtown Brenham, 6:30pm.

June 20

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

David Lewis Texas FFA State Talent Show Winner 2018 Rodeo Rockstar Winner at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo 2018, and the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$7 admission.

June 21

Ribbon Cutting - Sun Pools Anniversary

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting for the 40th Anniversary of Sun Pools, 1809 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, 10:30am.

June 22

Juneteenth Celebration at Washington on the Brazos

Washington on the Brazos will observe this important occasion and celebrate the rich African American heritage and culture of

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.

Michael Branton
Seidel Schroeder

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

Tammy Jaster
City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Brice Milliorn
Edward Jones Investments

Linda Pipes
Retired-School Teacher

Rachael Powell
Kruse Village

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

Calendar

Continued from page 7

the Brazos Valley, past and present. Now in its second year, the Juneteenth Heritage program will include exhibits, art displays, guest speakers, living history, music and more. 23400 Park Road 12, 10am-4pm (WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

June 22

Walk With A Doc

Join Baylor Scott & White and the City of Brenham for Walk with a Doc (WWAD) to take a step towards better health, 9am, the Kruse Center – Blinn College. Topic: Men's Health (walkwithadoc.org).

June 22

Back Porch Event

Texas Style Luau on the Farm, to celebrate the summer. Music with the Black Cat Choir, food from Texas One Step, refreshments provided by Stone Cellar, kid friendly with fun games and activities. Texas Casual Cottages, 580 S. State Hwy 239, Carmine (979-337-8293).

June 22

Shakespeare at Winedale "The Merchant of Venice"

Camp Shakespeare is presenting "The Merchant of Venice" at Winedale, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top, 7-9pm (liberalarts.utexas.edu/Winedale)

June 25

Sewing Class: Kitchen Couture

Students will sew an adorable dishtowel while learning about hems, mitered corners, and prairie points. Students will also make a coordinating pot-holder which will keep the kitchen in style. Class open to students ages 9 and up. (Class machines are available for students who are unable to bring their own). Class size

is limited to 6 students. Sign up to reserve your spot. (SewFunSewing.Weebly.com, 979-551, 0970)

June 26

Brenham Area Real Estate Investors and Landlords Meeting

Helping new and experienced investors in real estate investing, landlording and networking, vendors welcome, at Citizens State Bank, 2007 St. Day St., Brenham, 11:30am-1pm (512-468-3235, jamesh7213@gmail.com).

June 27

Central Texas Beekeepers Association meeting

In the VIP Building at Washington County Fairgrounds, Brenham. Advisory Council 4:30pm, Apprentice Youth Program 5:30pm, Pot Luck Meal 6:30pm, presentation 7:30pm (www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org).

June 27

Connect After 5 - Coldwell Banker Properties Unlimited

Unwind after work and expand your network. Enjoy food, drinks and exchange business cards and brochures, 706 College Ave., Brenham, 5-7pm.

June 28

Ribbon Cutting - Wal-Mart Supercenter

Ribbon cutting for the remodel of Wal-Mart Supercenter, 230 US Hwy. 290 W., Brenham, 8:30am

June 29

Seeds and Soil

Learn how yesterday's gardening techniques and varieties can improve gardens

today, and take some heirloom seeds for your garden at home. Washington on the Brazos, 23400 Park Road 12, Washington, 10am-4pm (WhereTexasBecameTexas.org).

July Highlights

July 4

4th of July Chappell Hill Parade & Cowboy Round-up

Annual Biggest Small Town Parade in Texas, featuring the World Famous Marching Kazoo Band, the parade starts at 10am. The Chappell Hill Historical Society will once again host the Summer Cowboy Event. The Rocking T Chuck wagon, Cowboy Bob, pony rides, petting zoo, oxen demonstrations and a food and beverage vendor will be featured this year. All activities and exhibits are free. Food and beverage is for public purchase. (Chappell-HillHistoricalSociety.com).

July 4

Celebrate Independence in Independence

12th annual event, 3:30pm Red, White & Blue Water Balloon Fight; 5pm parade,

5:30pm street dance and live music; 9:30pm fireworks, in Downtown Independence.

July 5

First Fridays Farmer & Artisan Market

Featuring fresh foods, homemade products and more in Downtown Brenham on the courthouse square, 3-7pm (www.downtownbrenham.com).

July 6

Burton Farmers & Artisans Market

All local home grown and hand crafted items, sponsored by Burton Chamber of Commerce, Texas Cotton Gin Museum Roy Winkler Family Pavilion, 307 N. Main St., Burton, 9am-1pm. (BurtonTexas.org/farmersmarket).

Weekends in July and August

Windy Winery Harvest Grape Stomp 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).

WASHINGTON COUNTY "ADOPT-A-SIGN" PARTNERS

To ensure the long-term care of the Welcome Sign monuments at the five entry points to Washington County, four landscaping companies from our community have volunteered to oversee their maintenance.

PLM
Texas

Glasco & Co.
Landscaping

Washington County
Landscapes

Wise
Landscaping

Awards

Continued from page 1

of Commerce, Burton Chamber of Commerce, Chappell Hill Chamber of Commerce, Burton ISD, Brenham Education Foundation, Washington County Fair, Faith Mission, Washington County Little League, Brenham Maifest Association, Washington on the Brazos State Park Asso-

ciation, Burton Heritage Society, Brenham Heritage Society, Chappell Hill Historical Society, Texas Cotton Gin Museum, Blinn College, City of Brenham, Camp For All Foundation, Boys & Girls Club of Washington County, Brenham American Legion, Burton Volunteer Fire Department,

Brenham Arts and Music Festival and many, many more.

General Manager Matt Bentke was recently recognized as a Distinguished Alumni of Brenham ISD, is an Executive Member of Washington County Economic Development Foundation and Baylor

Scott & White Board of Director.

Their Brenham Member Services Center is located at 2401 U.S. 290 W.

The Small Business Forum was hosted by the Washington County Chamber along with the Burleson County Chamber and Navasota-Grimes County Chamber. Awards

were also presented to top businesses in the other two counties.

The two winners of the Burleson County Small Business of the Year awards were **Double Creek Crossing and Evers and Sons**. The winners of the Navasota-Grimes County Small Business of the Year awards were **Taqueria La Escondida and Mid-South Synergy**.

Speakers were featured at this event included **Matt Prochaska** of the Brazos Valley Economic Development Corporation; **John Romero** from the Texas A&M Cyber Readiness Center; **Mark Winchester** from US Small Business

Administration; **Ashley Freeman** from Price-waterhouseCoopers; **Dr. Nathan Bryan** from Baylor College of Medicine; and **Tee Dippel** of Brenham National Bank, who served as M.C. for the event.

Headline sponsors included **Brenham National Bank, Citizens State Bank, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative**, and **Baylor Scott & White Medical Center**, plus there were exhibitors and table sponsors.

Another Small Business Forum will be held in June 2020, and nominations will be sought in the spring for next year's Small Business of the Year awards.



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