

MAY  
2018



# ChamberWorks

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BREHAM, TEXAS

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and The Citadel*

Brad Stufflebeam  
*Home Sweet Farm  
Market & Biergarten*

Jenny Van Dorf  
*Blue Bell Creameries*

Gena Wilimitis  
*Miracle Farm*

## Small Business Forum to provide resources for growth

Small business owners and managers throughout the region will want to block a half-day on Tuesday, June 12, for the fifth annual **Small Business Forum** to be held in Brenham at the Fireman's Training Center from 8:30am-1:30pm.

Sponsored by **Baylor Scott & White Medical Center, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Brenham National Bank and Citizens State Bank**, this annual forum provides a local opportunity to gain leading-edge knowledge and professional contacts to help businesses thrive.

It is being co-hosted by the Washington County, Navasota-Grimes County and Burleson County chambers. Attendees will hear from several powerful speakers who have been recruited by these three chambers.

The keynote speaker during the Small Business of the Year luncheon will be Jeff Tobaben, CEO and Founding Partner of Evolve Performance Group. Jeff's mission is to empower companies to make data-driven decisions and execute on corporate strategies that positively impact business outcomes.

He devotes his time, expertise and unique approach to architect solutions that drive improved workplace conditions, reduced turnover, employee engagement, strengthened customer relationships, and sustainable financial performance.

Jeff's broad experience in Human Capital Development began in the automotive industry where he specialized in adult learning programs for some of the world's largest auto manufacturers and retailers. Tobaben was a pioneer in the automotive industry, continually challenging the status quo. Supported by research and intuition, he led a movement to change the management of customer and employee relationships.

His passion for improving employee and customer relationships drove him to start his own



Tobaben



Prochaska



Reed



company focused on curriculum design, development and facilitation to support companies in their effort to improve the employee/customer experience.

Other speakers will be Matt Prochaska, President and CEO of Research Valley Partnership, the economic development team serving Brazos County, the City of Bryan, the City of College Station, and the Brazos Valley. Prochaska has over 25 years' experience in industry and economic development. He received both his Masters and Bachelor degrees from Texas A&M University with emphasis in international business development.

Congressman Kevin Brady's office will speak on the new tax law changes and how that will impact small businesses. Rep. Brady authored and pushed through the recent changes. These changes include deductions for capital improvements and a 20% tax rebate on the first \$300,000 of income. These laws have benefits specific to small businesses. Hear all the details at the June 12 forum.

Russell Dempsey, COO at Express Employment Professionals, and Michelle Taylor, Human Resource Consultant for Employer Flexible, will be part of a panel discussion on employee issues in-

cluding trends in workforce training, policy manuals and handbooks.

Holly Reed from Texas Central Partners will give an overview of the local economic impact of their proposed High Speed Rail from Houston to DFW. Texas Central Partners have proposed stops in Grimes County, which would create a center of commerce and an economic impact

that would reach into all surrounding counties. Reed will talk about this opportunity and the potential economic benefits, and give a better overall understanding of the project.

The highlight of the event will be the presentation of the **Small Business of the Year Awards for 2018**. Last year, the 2017 honor was awarded to Independence Coffee and Del Sol Food Company. The 2016 winners were Kwik Kopy Business Center and Glasco & Company Landscaping. The 2015 winner was Home Sweet Farm Market & Biergarten, and in 2014 Brenham National Bank and RE/MAX Advantage were the winners.

This year, Johanna Fatheree of RE/MAX Advantage will be the MC of the 2018 forum. She brings a passion for serving local residents and businesses, and said she is eager to congratulate this year's award winners.

Tickets to the Small Business Forum are \$49 until June 7 (\$59 after). Corporate Sponsor tables are available for \$499, which in-

FORUM continued on page 2

### "CONNECT AFTER 5"

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT

HOSTED BY:

**Blinn College Foundation  
and Blinn College Alumni  
& Friends Association**

at the

Blinn College Foundation Whigham House  
706 College Ave., Brenham

**Thursday, May 17 from 5-7 p.m.**

*Enjoy food and drinks sponsored by Nathan's BBQ,  
Texas Commercial Waste and Mike Hopkins Distributing.  
Exchange business cards & brochures and make new connections.  
Free for Chamber members and employees.*

## Forum

*Continued from page 1*

cludes tickets for 8 guests plus your company name displayed at the event, online and on the printed program. Individual tickets and tables can be purchased online at [www.BrenhamTexas.com/pages/SmallBusinessForum](http://www.BrenhamTexas.com/pages/SmallBusinessForum).

Doors will open at 8 a.m. and the program begins at 8:30. A delicious buffet lunch is included, and the forum will conclude by 1:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or [events@brenhamtexas.com](mailto:events@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.



LaDonna Gatlin, right, did an outstanding job entertaining the guests at the 4th Annual Administrative Professionals Appreciation Luncheon on April 25th. Shae Janner presents her with a basket full of Washington County goodies.

## Working for YOU!

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

### WALK-INS

Visitor Center April 2018 — 1,130      HQ Building April 2018 — 644

### WEBSITE

[www.BrenhamTexas.com](http://www.BrenhamTexas.com)  
Unique Visitors April 2018 — 12,516      Total Pages April 2018 — 27,152

### WEBSITE

[www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com](http://www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com)  
Unique Visitors April 2018 — 24,984      Total Pages April 2018 — 65,339

## Ribbon Cuttings



*New Member*

### Dumas Walker Café

Owner: Callie Schmidt  
1505 West Main St., Brenham



*Groundbreaking*

### Texas Farm Credit

VP Operations: Jolene Curtis  
1301 US Hwy 290 East, Brenham

## Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Page Michel, President & CEO  
Jane Hinze, Member Services Mgr.  
Shae Janner, Business Programs Mgr.  
Dawn Konieczny, Communications Coordinator  
Jenny Mills, Tourism Director  
Courtney Powell, Assistant Tourism Director  
Jennifer Phillips, Visitor Center Coordinator  
Sarah Bryant, Bookkeeper  
Support Staff: Cindy Ross, Gracie Slattery,  
Jeanine Presswood and Nelda Snow.

## Marketing Our Community Across the State of Texas

The Washington County CVB is a proud and active member of the following state and regional tourism industry associations:

Texas Travel Industry Association  
Texas Assoc. of Convention & Visitors Bureaus  
Texas Hotel & Lodging Association  
Texas Society of Association Executives  
Texas Independence Trail Region  
American Bus Association  
South Central Motorcoach Association

## Washington County Chamber

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



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**RE/MAX**  
Advantage  
Boo Christensen  
Broker/Owner

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

[www.infintechllc.com](http://www.infintechllc.com)

# Renewing Members

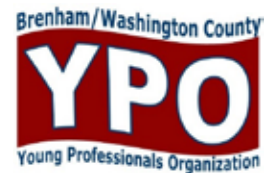
April 1-30

Thanks to the following members for continuing your investment in the Chamber. You are long-term "partners" in our mission to promote and preserve this great community, and we appreciate your confidence in the Chamber's ability to promote your business.

Silver Wings Ballroom — 41 years  
 Brenham Fine Arts League — 40 years  
 Harvey's Water Wells — 39 years  
 R & S Leasing — 36 years  
 Texas Farm Credit — 35 years  
 H. E. B. Grocery Store — 33 years  
 KTTX 106.1 / KWHI 1280 Radio — 33 years  
 LaRoche Chevrolet-Cadillac-GMC-Buick — 33 years  
 Medical Arts Drug Company — 33 years  
 Creekside Veterinary Service — 32 years  
 Brenham Monument Company — 31 years  
 Must Be Heaven — 31 years  
 Coldwell Banker Properties Unlimited — 30 years  
 Buddy's Appliance — 28 years  
 JH Faske Jewelers — 28 years  
 Mr. Keith Twiggs — 26 years  
 Bluebonnet Petroleum — 25 years  
 K & H Portable Toilets — 25 years  
 Mayor Milton Tate — 25 years  
 Brenham Heritage Museum — 24 years  
 Whataburger Restaurant # 628 — 23 years  
 Holiday Inn Express  
 Hotel & Suites 'Formula Blue' — 22 years  
 Nancy's Antiques — 21 years  
 Texas Cotton Gin Museum — 21 years  
 Hodde & Hodde Land Surveying, Inc. — 20 years  
 UPS Store — 20 years  
 Entec Pest Management — 19 years  
 First Baptist Church of Brenham — 19 years  
 Julie Renken - District Attorney — 18 years  
 Washington County Real Estate — 18 years  
 AT&T Retail Store — 17 years  
 Deans Imaging-Real Estate Photography — 17 years  
 Salem Lutheran Church — 17 years  
 Faith Mission/Higgins Branch — 16 years  
 Jack's A/C & Refrigeration — 16 years  
 Shirts Caps And More — 16 years  
**Heritage Tx Country Properties-Cathy Cole**  
**- Presidential Member** — 15 years  
 LeRoy Schroeder Contractor — 15 years

Professional Communications — 15 years  
 Pecan Tree Apartments — 14 years  
 Animal Friends of Washington County — 13 years  
 Brenham Crossroads Shopping Center — 13 years  
 Luther Hueske - County Commissioner — 13 years  
 Stylecraft Builders — 13 years  
 Town & Country Realty & Mortgage — 13 years  
 Cargile Photography — 12 years  
 Central Washington County Water Supply Co. — 12 years  
 Mr. Hal Machat — 12 years  
 Neal Financial Group — 12 years  
 Pape Scapes — 12 years  
 Bluffview Villas — 11 years  
 Ms. Anne Kinney — 11 years  
 Lamar Advertising — 11 years  
**Blinn College - Presidential Member** — 10 years  
 CASA for Kids of South Central Texas — 10 years  
 R Place at Washington on the Brazos — 10 years  
 Royers Round Top Cafe — 10 years  
 Sealand Seafood & Steak — 10 years  
 Solutions In Sound — 10 years  
 Brenham Home Rental — 9 years  
 Burton Friends & Neighbors — 9 years  
 G & L Services — 9 years  
**Metropolitan Water Company**  
**- Presidential Member** — 9 years  
 Brenham Dermatology — 8 years  
 Philips Veterinary Hospital — 8 years  
 Republican Club of Washington County — 8 years  
 Select Furnishings — 8 years  
 Abiding Word Lutheran Church — 7 years  
 Spherion Staffing — 7 years  
 Super 8 Brenham Inn — 7 years  
 Dr. Garra Tiaden, OD — 7 years  
 The Gerke Law Firm, PLLC — 6 years  
 Keep Washington County Beautiful — 6 years  
 Max Mini Storage — 6 years  
 St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Sandy Hill — 6 years  
 Westbrook Storage — 6 years  
 Bliss Candy Company — 5 years

Texas Baptist Historical Museum — 5 years  
 America's Best Value Inn-Somerville — 4 years  
 BENCOR, LLC — 4 years  
 Jack T. Carr — 4 years  
 Washington County Genealogical Society — 4 years  
 American Overhead Door Co. — 3 years  
 Gate Keeper — 3 years  
 Red Fern Woodwork & Renovations — 3 years  
 Crosswinds Estates Subdivision — 2 years  
 James Pharaon Creative — 2 years  
 Apple Jack Small Engine Repair — 1 year  
 The Canyon Chick — 1 year  
 Chappell Hill Volunteer Fire Department — 1 year  
 Lox.Beauty Gallery — 1 year  
 Palace Inn — 1 year



**Networking Happy Hour**  
**Thursday, May 24 5-7pm**  
**Roux Street**

110 W. Main St., Brenham  
 Join in for some good food, good drinks and a great time!

**"Lunch Mob" Lunch and Learn**  
**Wednesday, May 30 at noon**

*Presentation by the Small Business Development Center at Blinn College*

**Blinn College Student Center Banquet Room**  
 \$10 for lunch. Please RSVP by May 28.

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

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



# Partners for P.E.A.C.E.



*Thank you to these 34 dedicated Partners for P.E.A.C.E. who are making 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,  
Blinn College, Blinn College Alumni & Friends Association,  
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Blue Bell Creameries,  
Boys & Girls Club of Washington County, Brazos Valley Schools  
Credit Union, Brenham Clinic, Brenham Monument Company,  
Brenham National Bank, Brenham State Supported Living  
Center, Burton Chamber of Commerce, City of Brenham,  
Compass Quarters, DI Truck and Trailer Repair, Faith Mission,  
Germania Insurance, Independence Coffee Company,  
J & P Properties, James Pharaon Creative,  
Mid-Continental Insurance Services, Must Be Heaven,  
Personnel Services, Seidel Schroeder, Sonic Drive-In,  
Thielemann Construction, Unity Theatre, Van Dyke Rankin,  
Webb Printing, Westwood Cinema  
and Woodson Lumber Company of Brenham.



# New Chamber Members

## DR. GREEN ORGANIC LAND MANAGEMENT

Owner: Chris Broussard  
PO Box 184  
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426  
Phone: 979-251-1909  
drgolm@gmail.com  
www.drgreengogreen.com  
Irrigation Systems/Equipment/Supplies  
Landscaping/Lawn Service/Materials

## GRACE COTTAGE

Owner: Pam Wellborn  
213 Granville Street (Physical Address)  
104 Lee Lane (Mailing Address)  
Bellville, Texas 77418  
Phone: 713-594-5556  
pamwellborn@gmail.com  
Guest Lodging & Reservations

## HEAVENLY HAVEN CLEANING

Owner: Destiny Stearns  
1952 Northview Circle Drive  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
Phone: 832-258-9253  
dstearns\_work@yahoo.com  
www.facebook.com/heavenlyhavencleaning  
Cleaning Services – Commercial/Residential

## MATTREZZZ GUYS

Owner: Anthony Jasinski  
2668 Hwy 36 South  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
Phone: 979-836-1010  
anthonyjasinski@gmail.com  
www.mattrezzzguys.com  
Mattresses  
Furniture & Home Décor & Accessories-Retail



## YPO celebrates Happy Hour, Egg Art Walk win

**ABOVE:** April YPO had a “sweet” Networking Happy Hour at Jet Set Chocolates.

**LEFT:** The YPO egg, Daphne, won Most Original in the Spring Egg Art Walk contest.

# 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

# Leadership on the Local Level

Leadership Washington County held its Civic Day session on May 3 with a day full of information about city and county operations, hearing from local government speakers and non-profit managers.

The session began at the Cannery Kitchen where the group was hosted for breakfast by Faith Mission. City Manager James Fisher welcomed the class and gave an overview of city services and activities.

Kirk Hanath spoke next about his duties as Washington County Commissioner of Precinct 3. He gave an overview of all County departments and the role of County government throughout the state. He also talked about how he began his service in local politics.

Faith Mission executive director Randy Wells then greeted the class, and Faith Mission CEO J.D. Young

shared a video demonstrating all of the important services Faith Mission provides for this community.

The group toured the Brenham Recycling Center on Market Street with City of Brenham Director of Public Works Dane Rau (LWC class of 2004) who explained the drop-off process and what items can be recycled. The class then traveled to the Waste Water Treatment Plant and saw first-hand how those operations are performed for the city.

The session continued at the Brenham State Support-Living Center, where lunch was served lunch. Kristie Wensel (LWC Class of 2015) Community Relations Director at BSSLC, toured everyone across the outstanding campus. The group visited one of the residential cottages, the wheelchair fabrication shop, and the Expressions Bis-

tro, where residents' crafts are sold to the public along with coffee and tea.

The final segment of the session was held at the City's Blue Bell Aquatic Center for a tour and presentation by Tammy Jaster (LWC Class of 2010).

One student quoted, "Every session I learn something new about a town I have lived in all my life. Pretty Cool!"

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber of Commerce designed to train and motivate current and future leaders for our community. The next class will form in July and applications are being accepted now!

For more details and/or an application, please call the Chamber at (979) 836-3695 or find the information online at [www.BrenhamTexas.com](http://www.BrenhamTexas.com).



City Manager James Fisher gives an update on city services.



Randy Wells tells the class about Faith Mission's services and volunteer opportunities.



Dane Rau explains the city Recycling Center procedures.



This is one bridge you don't want to fall off of.....



The wheelchair custom fabrication shop at BSSLC always "wows" visitors.



Kristi Wensel informs and inspires the LWC Class of 2018.



Tammy Jaster gives an indoor and outdoor tour of the Aquatic Center.

## 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

— 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

# Tourism News

## Where's Della?



"Roses are red, violets are blue, so many plants, just for you!"

Do you know where Della is this month? Email your name, phone number and location guess to [Della@BrenhamTexas.com](mailto:Della@BrenhamTexas.com) by May 31. A winner will be chosen on June 1 from all correct entries.



Congrats to Mandy Allen, the winner for April. Della was at Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site checking out Where Texas Became Texas in 1836. As Della was having her picture taken in front of Independence Hall, the site where Texas' declaration of independence was signed, she noticed a strange object in the field in front of her. Turns out, it was an 1800s cistern.

### 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!**



Summer is nearly here. Soon it will be time for swimming and staycations. Find great summer event details online at [www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com](http://www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com).

## Don't Miss Out!

— **Farmers Market & Hands On History** at Washington on the Brazos is now being held every third Saturday of the month. Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site is holding these Farmers Markets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. under the live oak trees outside the park's Visitor Center from April through July. Find local vegetables, fruits, snacks from food trucks, baked goods, artisan items and more at this free event. The markets will be held rain or shine since vendors can move inside. Parking and admission to the park are free, as always.

These Farmers Markets are being held on the same day as the park's "Living History Saturday" events from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., where staff and volunteers dress in period clothing to bring to life the people and events of the 1830s. Living History Saturday presents a unique opportunity for you and your family to discover various aspects of life during the Republic of Texas era.

— **Wine Down Fridays** at Pleasant Hill Winery features wine tastings and cheese boards on the deck as the sun sets. Open from 3:00pm-sunset.

— **80's Movies at the Simon** will be June 8-9. Enjoy "Pretty in Pink," "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," and "Footloose" in the restored Simon Theatre. Get tickets online at [TheBarnhillCenter.com](http://TheBarnhillCenter.com) or at the door an hour before show time.

— **Summer Sip Wine Walk** is Saturday, June 9, from 3-7pm. Sip around downtown in your 80's attire enjoying a summer stroll of wine tasting and shopping. Buy a glass for \$25 and get 20 tastings of wine for free! Glasses are for sale in the Visitor Center, downtown shops and online at [DowntownBrenham.com](http://DowntownBrenham.com).

## Courtney's Corner

Another fun group is on its way to town! The Gold Wing Road Riders Association Texas District will be assembling May 17-19 at the Washington County Fairgrounds. They are all Honda Gold Wing motorcycle owners. The Texas District is part of a large nationwide group that holds events all over the country and has a very active membership. The 2018 Texas District Convention theme is "Winging back in History," which plays into the rich history of the Washington County area.



The itinerary for the event involves everything from a vendor walk and rides through the county, to safety classes and a light show in Downtown Brenham. More than 400 members are expected to attend and will bring a positive economic boost to the community through their spending on lodging, dining and supplies.

If you see them around town, please join in welcoming them to the area! Vendor booths at the Fairgrounds will be open to the public, and local residents are invited to see the amazing light show. Details will be posted on the Events Calendar on [www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com](http://www.VisitBrenhamTexas.com).

## Ask Jennifer

### "What is Geocaching?"

The easiest way to explain it is, it's a real life treasure hunt. It's like the Pokemon Go game but without animation! You simply download an app that gives you coordinates and hints to locate hidden objects all over the world. Geocaches can be as big as a train car or as small as your fingertip! Inside each one is a paper log that you're to sign, to prove you found it, before returning to its discreet hiding place.

There are at least eight different types of geocaches, and the most commonly found is the traditional size. However, among those geocaches can be all kinds of different styles and sizes.

Did you know that Washington County is home of the FIRST GeoTour in Texas? There are approximately 30 locations around the county where you can find geocaches to collect points to earn a prize. Download the GeoTour Passport from [www.visitbrenhamtexas.com](http://www.visitbrenhamtexas.com) or stop by the Visitor Center or Chamber to pick up a free copy. Then let the fun begin for you and your whole family!



## 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.

The next Tourism Tuesday will be on May 15 in Independence. Starting at 9 am, folks will enjoy a guided tour of the historic Coles Settlement. From 10-11am, a round-table meeting will be held there at the oldest Baptist church in Texas. Afterward

folks can tour the Texas Baptist Museum before enjoying lunch provided by Independence General Store.

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@brenhamtexas.com](mailto:visit@brenhamtexas.com) for more information.

**Like us on Facebook @Brenham.Texas**

## Travel Tip:

**"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do."**

— Mark Twain

# What's Happening in May

May 10

## Ribbon Cutting -

### Tippit Dental Group Brenham

Join in to celebrate with the new owners at 501 Medical Parkway, 3pm.

May 10-13, 17-20, 24-27, 31

## Brazos Valley Brewery Patio Open

Enjoy craft beer with friends, Thursday 4-8, Friday 4-10pm, Saturday 12-8pm, Sunday 1-6pm, 201 W. First St., Brenham (www.BrazosValleyBrewery.com).

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

## 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).

May 11-12

## Sips & Bits - A Time with Mothers

Shopping and fun for Mother's Day, 9am-5pm, Herrmann Furniture, 203 W. Alamo, Brenham (www.herrmannfurniture.com).

May 11-13, 18-20, 25-27

## Live Music at Home Sweet Farm

In the biergarten every weekend, enjoy live music, craft beer, wine and fun in a relaxing outdoor environment. Musical acts change weekly. Visit the website for more information (www.HomeSweetFarm.com).

May 11, 18, 25

## Wine Down Fridays

Relax on the back porch with a glass of wine, cheese try, and friends to watch the end of the day disappear, 3pm until sun set, Pleasant Hill Winery, 1441 Salem Rd., Brenham (www.PleasantHillWinery.com).

May 12 - Nov 14

## Into the Raging Storm

Texas and Washington County in the Great War. Brenham Heritage Musuem

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

May 12

## CFAAA Bake Sale

Citizens Police Academy Alumni "Bake A Difference" proceeds benefit Brenham Police Department, at Walgreens and Walmart, 9:00am until sold out.

May 12

## Moms and Mimosas

Bring your mom/mentor for an all levels flow and mimosas and chocolate afterwards, \$8 per person or one punch pass, Genesis Yoga, 202 E. Commerce St., Downtown Brenham, 10:30am (www.genesisyoga.net).

May 12-13, 19-20, 26-27

## 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.

May 14-16, 21-23, 28-30

## Beginning Wellness

Let the BBAC aid in your rehabilitation. 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).

May 14-16, 21-23, 28-30

## Water Aerobic Classes

Classes offer movements to improve range of motion, balance and coordination while strengthening and toning. Classes are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 6-6:45pm, Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham. Monthly Aerobic

Pass \$65, Senior \$55, Yearly \$600, Senior \$550 (www.cityofbrenham.org).

May 15

## Senior Day Vet Discount

Brenham Veterinary Hospital offers a 15% Senior discount on third Tuesday each month, for pet owners over 50+ for wellness visits, vaccines, spays, neuters. Please call in advance for an appointment (979-836-2472, www.brenhamvethospital.com).

May 15, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 29, 31, June 1

## Aqua Cardio Class

Improve range of motion, balance and coordination while strengthening and toning. Classes at 9am, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green, Brenham. Monthly Aerobic Pass \$65, Senior \$55, Yearly \$600, Senior \$550 (www.cityofbrenham.org).

May 15

## Valmont Job Fair

Personnel Services with Valmont is having a Job Fair, 10am-2pm, at Bellville Chamber of Commerce, 742 W. Main St. (www.psstaffing.com).

May 16

## Ribbon Cutting -

### Baylor Scott & White

### Orthopedics Department

Join in the celebration and see the new Orthopedics Department, 3:30 pm, 700 Medical Parkway, Brenham.

May 17

## Connect After 5 -

### Blinn College Foundation

and Blinn Alumni & Friends Association Bring business cards to share, free for Chamber members and employees. 706 College Ave., Brenham, 5-7pm.

May 17

## Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Dujka Brothers, Tim & Alicia Kulhanek, Danny Zapletal, David Czarnek and the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$5 admission (www.FriendsOfBluebonnetOpry.com).

May 18

## Ribbon Cutting - Mattrezzz Guys

Join in welcoming this new business at 2668 Hwy. 36 S. in Bluebonnet Shopping Center, 10am.

May 19

## Weekend Getaway -

### Beginner's Photography Workshop

Part 1 of 3. Spend an evening in picturesque Burton in a cozy boutique located in the historic Knipstein building, learn basics of proper camera handling, \$50, for more information contact Tiffany Eckhardt, Flown the Coop (eckhardt.tiffany@gmail.com).

May 19

## Vino & Vitality

Wellness, wine and essential oils. Learn about Young Living Essential Oils Vitality Line and Scout & Cellar clean crafted wine. 11am-3pm, Flown the Coop, 701 N. Main St., Burton, RSVP (eckhardt.tiffany@gmail.com).

May 19

## Walk With A Doc

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

CALENDAR continued on page 8

## Did You Know?

That the Chamber provides hundreds of "Relocation Info" packages every year to individuals and businesses who are considering moving to this community. As a member, you are eligible to include your promotional material and reach this targeted audience for a nominal annual fee (\$85). Contact the Chamber office to be included.

## Washington County Chamber of Commerce

314 S. Austin Street, Brenham  
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## Why Go to Connect After 5?

The Chamber's "Connect After 5" (formerly "Business After Hours") networking events have always been outstanding events each month. Chances are if you want to see someone from the local business community, you will find them at "Connect After 5."

Many know the social benefits of attending. Many more are discovering the business benefits of attending. If you are not yet taking advantage of these networking opportunities, you should. Here are some tips for making the most of the opportunity:

- Wear a name tag. If you don't have one from your place of business, the Chamber will have some blanks at the event for you to fill in and wear. Name tags help people to remember your name and the business you repre-

sent. (And some of us need more help than others in the memory department!)

- Bring your business cards. Give one to everyone you meet. This gives people your direct contact information, so they can do business with you after the event.

- Talk to people. Don't be shy! Initiate conversations with people you don't recognize. Let that be your conversation starter, "Hello, I don't believe we've met." Most people who attend are Chamber members, so you already have something in common. And most will be very willing to tell you about their business, so start by asking them what they do.

- Donate a door prize. Another way to get recognition at the event is to contribute a door prize

to be given away. Bring it to the Chamber before the event, or bring it with you that night. Everyone loves to win something, and this is a great way to make a connection with others.

- Get to know the host. Meet the business owner(s). Be sure to find the host and say hello. Take the tour of the property, if offered. Thank them for hosting the event.

- Come early and stay late. The longer you are there, the more people you will get to meet and the more who will meet you.

- Have fun! There is always great food and drinks. Everyone has a good time at the Chamber's after hours events. Make it a point to attend. It may be your most important business meeting of the month!



## YPO Participates in Earth Day Clean-Up

On April 22, the Young Professionals of Washington County and Bellville Young Professionals Organization joined forces with some Master Naturalists to celebrate Earth Day and helped to Keep Washington County Beautiful. The crew cleaned up 1500-2000 pounds of debris (mostly limbs and tree debris) out of East Mill Creek. This debris was not allowing the creek to flow correctly, which in turn, causes higher levels of bacteria in the water, mosquitoes to breed, and flooding to occur higher up river. Seeds were also spread by a local group so that more natural plants and grasses will grow in the area. Thanks to all who assisted including H-E-B (for water & snacks) and Mike Hopkins Distributing (for shirts, gloves and Volunteer Appreciation at Smitty's afterwards!). Remember to always do your part to Keep Texas Beautiful. Learn more at [www.KWCBTexas.com](http://www.KWCBTexas.com).

## Calendar

*Continued from page 7*

May 19

### Farmers Market at Washington on the Brazos

Every 3rd Saturday April thru July, fresh vegetables, fruit, baked goods, artisans and more, an average of 200 cars will be at the park on 3rd Saturday events, 10am-2pm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Park, 23400 Park Road 12, Washington ([www.wheretexasbecametexas.org](http://www.wheretexasbecametexas.org)).

May 19

### Texas Master Naturalists

Gideon Linccum Chapter Texas Master Naturalists Program, Winedale Historical Complex, 10:30am-noon, Meadows/Terry Center, 3738 FM 2714, Round Top ([www.txmn.org/glc](http://www.txmn.org/glc)).

May 20

### Adult Animal Shelter Volunteer Orientation

Please contact Robin Hutchens, Animal Services Specialist (979-337-7353, [rhutchens@cityofbrenham.org](mailto:rhutchens@cityofbrenham.org), [www.cityofbrenham.org/police/animaladoption](http://www.cityofbrenham.org/police/animaladoption)).

May 23

### Brenham Area Real Estate Investors and Landlords Meeting

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

May 24

### Basic QuickBooks Workshop

All-day basic level course, be familiar with Windows on a PC, does not teach online version of QuickBooks. Each attendee will have desktop computer to use during class and be given reference materials to keep. A.W. Hodde Jr., Technical Education Center, 2910 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, \$100 ([www.blinncollege.sbdcnetwork.net](http://www.blinncollege.sbdcnetwork.net)).

May 24

### Central Texas Beekeepers Association meeting

Meeting in the VIP Building at Washington County Fairgrounds, Brenham ([www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org](http://www.centraltexasbeekeepers.org)).

May 24

### YPO Networking Happy Hour at Roux Street

Join the Young Professionals Organization of Washington County and network & get to know others in the area, Roux Street, 110 W. Main St., Downtown Brenham, 5-7pm.

May 29

### Ribbon Cutting - RE/MAX Advantage

Join in celebrating their new location at 200 W. Alamo, Downtown Brenham, 4pm.

May 31

### Creative Workshop

Flown The Coop hosts Tricia Simich Legg of Cache Chic for the first Gen.U.Ine Creative Spirit class. Attendees will receive a complete necklace along with supplies to create a hand-stamped copper piece, \$150 ([eckhardt.tiffany@gmail.com](mailto:eckhardt.tiffany@gmail.com)).

May 31

### Ribbon Cutting - Edward Jones Billy Starnes

Join in celebrating this new location at 1904 S. Market St., Brenham, 3pm.

## June Highlights

June 2

### Juneteenth Association Formal Ball

Washington County Historical Juneteenth Association Formal Ball, 8pm-1am, Washington County Fairgrounds Event Center ([www.brenhamjuneteenth.org](http://www.brenhamjuneteenth.org)).

June 9

### Summer Sip

Downtown Brenham's totally rad 80's themed wine stroll. Purchase glasses at participating stores or buy tickets online ([www.downtownbrenham.com](http://www.downtownbrenham.com)).

June 9 - July 14

### Round Top Music Festival

Forty faculty and seven conductors will work with students in June and July on amazing music, find details online ([www.roundtopmusicfestival.com](http://www.roundtopmusicfestival.com)).

June 12

### 2018 Small Business Forum

Small Business of the Year awards & powerful speakers at Fireman's Training Center, Brenham, 8:30am, call 979-836-3695 or visit [www.BrenhamTexas.com/pages/smallbusinessforum](http://www.BrenhamTexas.com/pages/smallbusinessforum).



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