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WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BREHAM, TEXAS

Jon Peters to be Featured Speaker at Chamber/EDF Annual Banquet

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Foundation of Brenham have announced the date of their upcoming Annual Banquet and the featured speaker. Brenham native Jon Peters will be the keynote speaker at the banquet to be held on Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Fireman's Training Center in Brenham.

"We are very happy to have Jon as our banquet speaker. Jon is a true inspiration with a message of hope, value and purpose," said Amanda Stolz, outgoing Chair of the Chamber's Board of Directors.

From the time Jon Peters was six years old he wanted to play baseball. That's pretty much all he did. And he got really good at it. His dream was to be the best pitcher in the world. In 1989, he became the United States' record holder for the most consecutive wins (53) by a high school pitcher, a record that still stands today. His high school career ended with a record of 54 wins and one loss, along with three consecutive Class 4A State Baseball Championships.

Jon is the first high school baseball player to grace the cover of Sports Illustrated. He has also appeared on local and national media outlets such as CNN, Good Morning America, The Today Show, ESPN, People, The Wall Street Journal, Houston Chronicle, Dallas Morning News, World, and Baseball America.

Following high school, Jon attended Texas A&M University on a baseball scholarship. After enduring four arm surgeries and months of rehabilitation, he gave up his dream of pitching and became an undergraduate assistant coach at A&M. He assisted in directing the 1993 A&M team to the Southwest

Conference Title and a berth in the College World Series. He has also coached at Blinn College and McMurry University. Jon has a B.S. (Texas A&M) and M.A. (Sam Houston) in kinesiology.

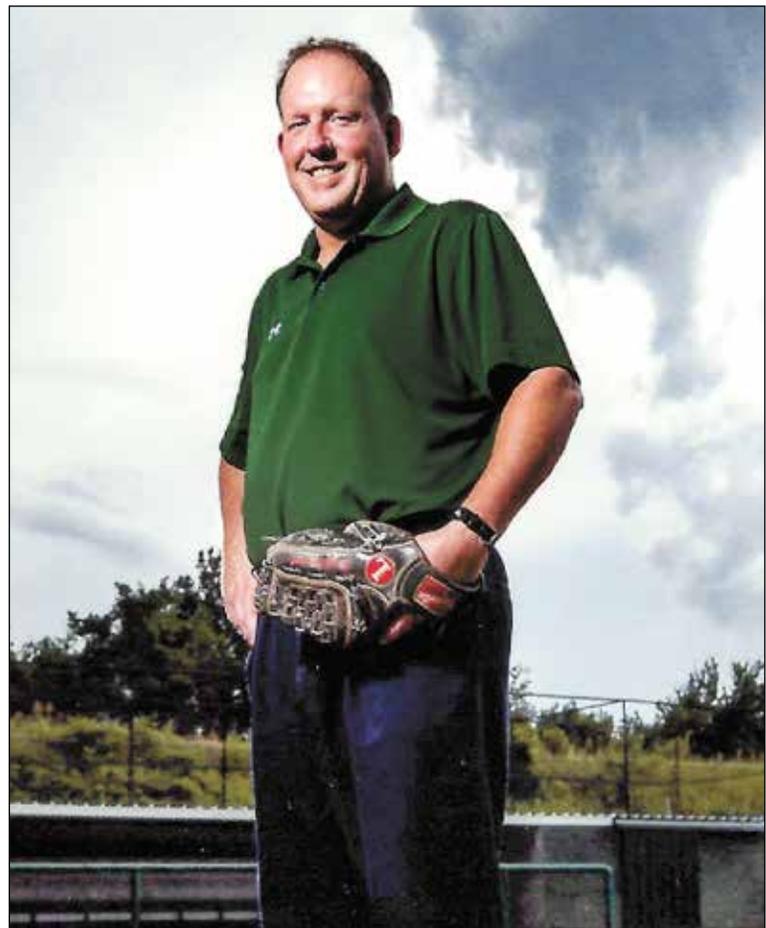
Jon is a father, friend, speaker, author, and coach. In March 2018, he released his first book, *When Life Grabs You by the Baseballs: Finding Happiness in Life's Changeups*, that obtained #1 New Release in Baseball Biographies. His passion to serve and help others is displayed through his energetic, positive, and contagious personality. He resides in the Houston area, and when not traveling and speaking, he is often found hanging out with his family.

Chairman Circle sponsors of the banquet include Baylor Scott & White Health, Blinn College District, Blue Bell Creameries, Brenham Abstract & Title Company, Brenham National Bank, Citizens State Bank, City of Brenham, Germania Insurance, and Van Dyke Rankin Insurance.

"We are very grateful to these sponsors," said Wende Ragonis, Chamber president, "They will enable us to host a great event for the community, plus they join in applauding the efforts of the volunteer leaders and citizens who will be recognized."

At the banquet, the Washington County Chamber will recognize five directors who have ended a three-year term of service on the board: Lloyd Powell of City of Brenham Police Department, Gena Wilimitis of Miracle Farm, Darren Huckert of Garza EMC, Dr. Edna Kennedy, Superintendent of Burton Independent School District and Jim Kruse of Bank of Brenham.. Outgoing Chair Amanda

PETERS continued on page 2



Jon Peters

"CONNECT AFTER 5"

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER NETWORKING EVENT

SPONSORED BY:

Bank of Brenham

501 S. Austin St., Brenham

Thursday, Jan. 16 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 Cutting



New Location

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

www.friendsofbluebonnetopry.com
4100 Hwy 105 East, Brenham

Maximizing Member Benefits, Shaping Up Your Online Presence

This discussion will cover low-cost and no-cost marketing strategies, plus other ideas to promote your business or events.

Get detailed information that will help you plan a successful year!

Some topics to be covered:

- Benefits included in your membership
- How to make sure you're found online
- Optimize your Chamber promotional opportunities
- Cost-saving credit card processing plan

January Chamber Chat

Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2020 at 8 a.m.

Chamber Conference Room

Bring a laptop or tablet, if desired—not required.

Limited Seating (25).

Must RSVP. No Charge.

Chamber Members ONLY.

Get on the list by emailing: info@brenhamtexas.com

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

Peters

Continued from page 1

Stolz of Seidel Schroeder will also be recognized for her leadership in 2019.

The Brenham Economic Development Foundation will recognize 2 outgoing directors: Arlen Thielemann, Thielemann Construction, for

9 years of service on the board and Gary Weiss, Germania insurance (retired), for his 9 years of service on the board.

Another highlight of the evening will be the announcement of the Man and Woman of the

Year-Lifetime Achievement Award winners. Last year's recipients were Dottie Schaer and Charlie Pyle who will return to do the surprise introductions of the 2019 winners. The Blue Blazer of the Year Award will also be announced. Charlie Matejowsky of Van Dyke Rankin Insurance will be the MC for

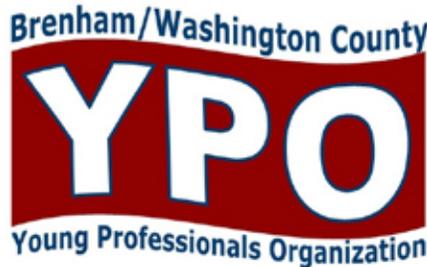
the evening.

Tickets for the banquet will go on sale January 21 at the Washington County Chamber, located at 314 S. Austin Street in Brenham. Individual tickets are \$45 per person, and will be on sale until January 21. Contact the Washington County Chamber at 979-836-3695 or info@brenhamtexas.com.



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

314 S. Austin St. | Brenham, TX 77833
979-836-3695 | www.brenhamtexas.com



Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, January 23
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Hosted at Board & Brush Brenham
115 W. Alamo, Downtown 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

"Wake Up, Washington County!" Networking Breakfast

Hosted & Sponsored by
Brenham Memorial Chapel
2300 Stringer St., Brenham

Thursday, February 13
Starts at 7:45 a.m.

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

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



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112 WEST MAIN STREET
BRENHAM, TEXAS 77833
boo@realtorboo.com

979-836-8532 OFFICE
979-277-8426 CELL

WWW.HODDERE.COM

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

Social Media for Small Business Workshop to be held January 21

In today's environment, social media marketing is an important aspect of marketing a business. Customers want to connect with your business on social media.



NGUYEN

With many channels and options available, use of social media can be downright confusing and overwhelming though.

In this workshop, Anh Nguyen, Founder + Owner of Amplified Marketing, will help you:

- Develop SMART goals for your social media marketing
- Determine which social media channels are best for your business
- Begin to develop a content roadmap
- Explore which tools are available to help you create content and manage your social media

• Learn what data + analytics can tell you

Nguyen will also share best practices and success stories from small businesses.

She is an experienced marketing professional specializing in digital marketing. She finds the ever-changing digital marketing landscape energizing and exciting. She believes that social media has immense value to connect, inform, and educate us.

Nguyen speaks to business groups and non-profits on the power of social media and how to utilize it in their marketing efforts. She

Social Media 101

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Blinn Student Center

Conference Room

\$15 (Includes a light lunch)

has served as a guest panelist at Houston Social Media Breakfast several times, sharing her knowledge and expertise with the community of fellow marketers and

business owners. She serves her clients best in a consultative role, helping define their marketing planning and guide implementation.

Nguyen believes that a business professional should have a strong commitment to giving back. She serves as a volunteer and board member for the Arthritis Foundation Houston, as well as volunteering for various Houston-area non-profits.

She loves travel, dogs, tech tools, social media, foodie adventures, and the Oxford comma.

Renewing Members

December 1-31

- Lone Star Southern Grill – 34 years
- Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union – 23 years
- Oak Creek Apartments – 21 years
- Edward Jones-Financial Advisor, Billy Starnes – 19 years
- Brenham Catering Company – 16 years
- Horseshoe Junction Family Fun Park – 14 years
- Brenham Nursing & Rehabilitation Center – 11 years
- American Legion Buddy Wright Post 48 – 10 years
- Berkeley Eye Center - Brenham – 4 years
- Rockin' O Shoe Repair – 4 years
- Main Street House – 3 years



www.facebook.com

www.washingtoncountychamber.com

New Chamber Members

JO'S WOOD GALLERY

Owners: Jo Ann Lesikar & Charlie Johnson
4431 Wonder Hill Road
Chappell Hill, Texas 77426
Phone: 979-473-9321
jo@joswoodgallery.com
www.joswoodgallery.com
Signage & Graphics

SKINCARE BY SHARI

Owner: Shari Tackert
306 E. Main Street (Physical Address)
5680 Hillside Lane (Mailing Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-203-8192
skincarebyshari@gmail.com
www.skincarebyshari.com
Facial Treatments

THE YARD

Owner: Leland Hartstack
1405 West Main Street (Physical Address)
Brenham, Texas 77833
21951 FM 1155 East (Mailing Address)
Washington, Texas 77880
Phone: 979-551-6242
theyardbrenham@gmail.com
www.theyardbrenham.com
*Bar/Wine Bar
Entertainment/Recreation*

TIMELESS HERBS & OILS

Owner: Debra Hall
7405 HWY 36N
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: 979-830-0833
info@timelessherbsandoils.com
www.timelessherbsandoils.com
Health/Nutrition/Wellness

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



Thank you to our Presidential Level members ...



Check out our member benefits at www.brenhamtexas.com

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 - Brenham
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 National Bank
Burton Chamber of Commerce

City of Brenham
Creatively Yours

Edward Jones-Brice Milliorn, CFP®, Financial Advisor
Germania Insurance

Glasco & Company Landscaping
Independence Coffee Company
Kruse Village

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 January:

JANUARY 2020 | *Righten Sleep*

KNOWLEDGE

Learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do

Core Essentials
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EXCLUSIVE MEMBER PROGRAM A Smarter Way to Process Payments

Infintech counsels participating merchants on best practices so they can efficiently process credit cards at a fraction of their current cost.

CUSTOMIZATION THAT COUNTS



Software Integration



Payment Gateway



Card Issuing



Mobile Processing



POS Systems



Customer Service

SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY MERCHANT

- ✓ Credit and Debit Card Processing
- ✓ Level 3 and Large Ticket Corporate Card Processing
- ✓ Next-Day Funding*
- ✓ Seamless Software Integration
- ✓ Lower Rates, Consolidated Billing with Amex OptBlue
- ✓ Virtual Terminals and Mobile Processing
- ✓ PCI Validation Programs
- ✓ EMV Equipment
- ✓ Data to Identify Your Key Demographics

*Restrictions Apply

START SAVING TODAY

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

"For more than two years, we've worked with Infintech and have been pleased with their knowledge, professionalism, and customer service. In addition to the competitive rates, we like that Infintech partners with the Chamber. We highly recommend their services to other businesses."

Daphne Kohring, Controller
 Appel Ford & Hyundai of Brenham



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



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

Promote Your Business as a Breakfast Sponsor

"Wake Up, Washington County!" These networking events are held quarterly at various locations. You will meet other members and learn about their businesses as well as have the opportunity to inform others about your products and services. You will also hear updates from the Chamber about what is going on in the community.

For Chamber members, there is no admission to attend. Two sponsors are sought for each event and

it provides a huge amount of exposure and publicity. There is a site sponsorship and a food sponsorship, both \$200.

This event is a great way to promote your business. Your business name will be included on the invitations that all Chamber members receive, and you will be given recognition and additional time to talk about your business at the breakfast event.

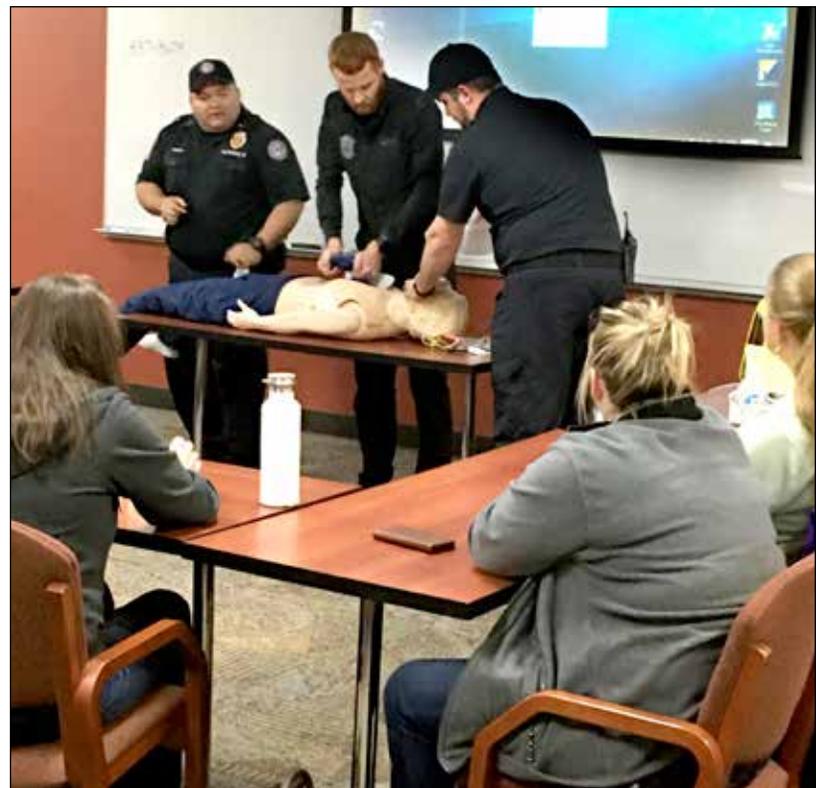
Leadership Learns Emergency Management in Washington County

The January session of Leadership Washington County began at the Brenham Fire Department. The class heard from Kristi Stamnes (LWC Class of 2018), Washington County 9-1-1 Director and Brian Scheffer, assistant fire chief. Attendees were then able to see first-hand how emergency situations are communicated and executed from the command center downtown through a mock disaster drill at the department's Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

They were then given a tour of the department and got to try out some of the equipment, including a trip up in the bucket of the ladder truck. The Brenham Fire Department has been operating since 1867.

The group then traveled to the EMS station located at 1875 Hwy 290 West in Brenham. EMS Director Kevin Deramus then welcomed the class and explained what EMS does, its history and how they transport and care for patients. Then other paramedics demonstrated the Lund Hospital Cardiac Arrest System (LUCAS) on a mannequin. The class was given a tour of the station.

Leadership Washington County is one of the key programs of the Washington County Chamber designed to train and motivate leaders for this community. The next class will form in July. For more details or to view the application form, visit the "Leadership" page on www.BrenhamTexas.com.



Paramedics demonstrate LUCAS on a mannequin.



The class takes notes on a mock disaster that occurred in Brenham.



Executing a plan to keep the town safe.



Participants get a view of Brenham from the BFD bucket ladder truck.



Kevin Deramus gives an overview of the Washington County EMS Department.

Members of the Month of December

**Independence Coffee -
Black Truck '48 Coffee & Tea Market**
2805 Hwy. 290 W., Brenham, TX
979-836-3321
IndependenceCoffee.com

How long have you been in business?
— Independence Coffee has been in business for 16 years.
What services do you offer?
— Coffee & Tea: Wholesale, Retail, and Office Coffee Service

Black Truck '48 Coffee & Tea Market is our newest retail location in Brenham.
Tell us something unique about your business.
— We roast, package, and ship our products directly from Washington County
We are one of the few small and local coffee roasters that roast and package their own coffee in single-serve cups. Also, we have the capability to private label a variety of different coffee and tea products.
What do you love about Washington County?
— We love the personal connections with people and being engaged in a supportive community.

Tell us something unique about your business.
— We want to treat every customer individually. We will take the time to let you talk to the pharmacist and get answers to the questions and concerns that you have.
What do you love about Washington County?
— We love the people. We have amazing, loyal customers that we love taking care of. We especially love giving treats to the dogs that come to see us in the drive-thru! Follow us on Instagram to see some of our favorite furry friends.

Pooltex American
319 S. Austin St., Brenham, TX
979-836-2570
www.Pooltex.net

How long have you been in business?
— Pooltex has been in business over 35 years.
What services do you offer?
— Retail, seasonal décor, pool construction, remodel, service and maintenance.
Tell us something unique about your business.
— Even though we are a pool store, we offer so much more! Outdoor furniture, yard art, seasonal décor... especially for Christmas!
What do you love about Washington County?
— Small town atmosphere, countryside, and all of the heritage.

Norman's Pharmacy
2105 S. Day St., Brenham, TX
979-836-5264
NormansPharmacy.com

How long have you been in business?
— Since 1977
What services do you offer?
— Prescriptions, medical equipment, CBD products, lots of over the counter medications and a gift shop with signs and wreaths, candles, cards and more. We have great stocking stuffers! We can also special order or compound medicines that are hard to find. We also package and deliver medications for nursing homes, group homes and hospice.

Working for YOU.

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

WALK-INS
Chamber of Commerce
Dec. 2019 — 359

WEBSITE
www.BrenhamTexas.com

<i>Unique Visitors</i>	<i>Total Pages</i>
Dec. 2019 — 4,702	Dec. 2019 — 11,314

RESOLUTION FOR 2020:



SHOP PURCHASE PROMOTE LIKE SHARE
SPEND RECOMMEND SPONSOR DONATE

STAY LOCAL  **PLAY LOCAL**



WHY GO TO Connect After 5?

The Chamber's "Connect After 5" 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 represent.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Did You Know?

- ... 1836 was the year Washington County, Texas was founded.
- ... in 1843 Brenham was founded and named for Dr. Richard Fox Brenham, a patriot of the Republic of Texas.
- ... in 1846 Baylor Female College (now Baylor University) was established near Independence where columns of the original building still stand.

What's Happening in January

Jan 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31

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).

Jan 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, 31-Feb. 2

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).

Jan 14

Ribbon Cutting -

Lone Star Southern Grill

Celebrate this new business at 2120 Hwy 290 W, Brenham, 2:30pm.

Jan 15

Basic Quick Books

This is an all-day, basic level course, intended for people who have either no experience or limited experience using the QuickBooks software. You should be familiar with Windows on a PC. This class will not teach the online version of QuickBooks. Lunch is not provided. \$100, A.W. Hodde, Jr. Technical Education Center, 2910 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham (Blinn College.sbdcnetwork.net).

Jan 16

Connect After 5 -

Bank of Brenham

Enjoy great networking, delicious food and refreshments. Bring business cards to share with members. Bank of Brenham, 501 S. Austin St., 5-7pm.

Jan 16

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Dion Pride plus the Bluebonnet Opry House Band, doors open at 5:30pm, food served at 6pm, show starts at 7:30pm, \$7 admission. Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Jan 18

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).

Jan 18

Uptown Swirl in Downtown Brenham

Wine tasting in quaint stores around Brenham's downtown district. Glasses are \$40 and benefit Downtown Brenham improvement projects. Order online and pick up the day of the event, rain or shine. Limited availability. 3-7pm (DowntownBrenham.com).

Jan 20

Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Candlelit Vigil

Cannery Kitchen & Gift Shop, 314 E. Alamo St., Downtown Brenham, 6:30-9pm.

Jan 21

Lunch and Learn - Social Media 101

Develop smart goals for your business' social media marketing, determine which social media channels are best for your business, develop a content roadmap, explore helpful tools. \$15, Blinn College Student Center Conference Room, 11:30 am-1pm.

Jan 22

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).

Jan 23

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).

Jan 25

Book Signing Event, Local & Regional Authors

The Brazos Star in Chappell Hill is hosting

local and regional published authors in the various shops in Chappell Hill. Bring your camera and have your picture made with the authors. Multi-genre from mysteries to courage and surviving abuse. 10am-3pm, contact Senette Parker, 713-301-5073, leave message.

Jan 28

Annual Banquet

Washington County Chamber of Commerce and Brenham Economic Development Foundation Annual Banquet, Brenham Fireman's Training Center, 5:30 pm. Tickets \$45, Tables \$500, Washington County Chamber, 314 S. Austin St., Brenham, 979-836-3695.

Jan 29

Ribbon Cutting - Red Fern Woodwork & Renovation

Celebrate the new location at 1801 S. Blue Bell Rd., Suite A, Brenham, 11am.

Jan 30

Purse Bingo

2nd annual Purse Bingo event, Fireman's Training Center. Cocktails and hor d'oeuvres and beer/wine will be available at 6pm with Bingo games starting at 7pm. For tickets, visit BrenhamGameChangers.com/purse-bingo.

Jan 30

Ribbon Cutting - Brenham Iron Work, LLC

Celebrate this member's Business Expansion at 4455 Hwy. 290 W., Brenham, 9am.

Jan 30

Wildlife Management Valuation Seminar - Brenham

Landowners in Ag or Timber- Come learn how a wildlife management plan keeps your already low property taxes in place. Improve the beauty of your land and ease of operation. Brenham Country Club, 4107 Texas 105, Brenham. More information, call Plateau Land & Wildlife Management, 512-894-3479 or email plateau@plateauwildlife.com. This is a free event.

February Highlights

Feb 6

Shrimp Boil

Washington County Fair Annual Shrimp Boil, 6-9pm, Silver Wings Ballroom, 4100 Hwy. 105, for tickets contact 979-836-4112.

Feb 8

34th Annual Black History Breakfast

Guest Speaker Ron Parker, 9-11am, Blinn College Student Center.

Feb 13

Wake Up, Washington County Networking Breakfast

Hosted by Brenham Memorial Chapel, 2300 Stringer St., 7:45am.

Feb 13

Our Bond Is Forever Valentine Ball

Baylor Scott & White Central Texas Foundation-Brenham's 27th Annual Valentine Ball. Dinner and Dancing, and Live and Silent Auction items. Black Tie is encouraged. Fireman's Training Center, 6-11pm. Contact the foundation office at 337-5247, nancy.joiner@bswhealth.org.

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

979-836-3695

www.brenhamtexas.com

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

Matt Wellmann

Wellmann Insurance

Kristie Wensel

Brenham State Supported Living Center

Shelby Wiesepape

Bank of Brenham

Barbara Wilganowski

Spherion Staffing

Census Bureau Ramps Up Hiring Efforts for 2020 Census

Recruiting Underway Nationwide for More Applicants

The U.S. Census Bureau is ramping up its national recruiting efforts to hire up to 500,000 temporary, part-time census takers for the 2020 Census in communities across the country to reach its goal of more than 2 million applicants.

The positions offer competitive pay, flexible hours, paid training, and weekly paychecks. To determine the pay rate in a specific area, learn more about these positions, or apply for one of the temporary jobs, visit 2020census.gov/jobs.

“Whether you’re looking to earn some extra cash, pay down your student debt, or offset holiday season spending, our part-time positions are a great way to do that,” said Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham. “What better way to earn some extra money and help shape the future of your community for the next 10 years than with the 2020 Census?”

Anyone age 18 and older, such as recent high school graduates, college students, veterans, retirees, military spouses, seasonal workers and people who are bilingual are highly encouraged to apply. People who already have jobs and want to earn extra income evenings and weekends are also encouraged to apply. The selection process begins this month, with paid training occurring in March and April. After paid training, most positions work between May and early July.

In addition, the Census Bureau released a new interactive map to help partners and job seekers identify areas where hiring is taking place. The Census Bureau needs more applicants in all 50 states, especially in Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin. The Census Bureau makes

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
The 2020 Census is closer than you think! Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

- Everyone counts.** The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.
- It's about fair representation.** Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.
- It's in the constitution.** The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.
- It's about \$675 billion.** The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.
- It's about redistricting.** After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.
- Taking part is your civic duty.** Completing the census is mandatory; it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"

Census data are being used all around you.

- Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.
- Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.
- Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.
- Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.
- Your privacy is protected.** It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household. By law, your responses cannot be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics.
- 2020 will be easier than ever.** In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.
- You can help.** You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.

United States Census Bureau | FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS | United States Census 2020

every effort to hire locally so census takers are familiar with the neighborhoods they are assigned to work.

“Aside from Puerto Rico, that has already received enough applicants to fill all jobs in the Commonwealth, every other area throughout the nation needs more applicants right now,” said Timothy Olson, Census Bureau associate director for Field Operations. “With low unemployment, the Census Bureau is taking extraordinary efforts to attract enough applicants to fill nearly 500,000 positions this spring.”

Census takers are critical for their communities during the 2020 Census — going door to door to collect responses from households who have not responded online, by phone or by mail.

“Our aim is to reach interested applicants right now, inform them of updated pay rates in their area, and get them into the applicant pool to be considered for these critical jobs,” said Olson. “The hiring process occurs in stages, and we are encouraging everyone to apply right now before selections begin in January and February. Most census taker jobs

begin training and work this spring.”

The U.S. Constitution mandates that a census of the population be conducted every 10 years. Census statistics are used to determine the number of seats each state holds in the U.S. House of Representatives and inform how state, local and federal lawmakers will allocate billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities every year for the next 10 years.

For more information about the 2020 Census, visit the Census Bureau at 2020census.gov.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Ray L. Weiss, CLU®, FIC, CLTC®
Financial Consultant
Five Star Financial Group
ray.weiss@thrivent.com
connect.thrivent.com/ray-weiss
Thrivent Pinnacle Leaders Group
0 979-836-0693 | 203 S Jackson St
Brenham, TX 77833

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