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SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT
CHAMBER LUNCHEON
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
CONNECTING TERRELL

VOL. 11 NO. 2 • MARCH - APRIL 2020

The Chamber Spotlight
Terrell

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Volunteer Spotlight



SHEILA KUNICK,
 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE
 TERRELL STATE HOSPITAL (TSH)

What are some of the volunteer roles you’ve filled at the Chamber?

I have volunteered with the Chamber Auction for many years, participated with Ribbon Cuttings and volunteered at the Terrell Heritage Jubilee.

Tell us a little about your job and what you do.

I oversee the fund-raising for the hospital through the Volunteer Services Council, including The Fountain 5K held in conjunction with the Annual Terrell Heritage Jubilee. I am also head of all the special activities for the patients served at TSH. I write and produce the monthly Terrell State Hospital Newsletter.

How has volunteering

at the Chamber helped you professionally?

Volunteering for the Chamber has helped so much over the years. Getting to meet people and make them aware of the needs of our patients and be supportive in this community. It is great to give back to the Terrell Community that gives so much support for all the non-profits and community activities. The Terrell Chamber of Commerce members are so helpful and keep all its members updated on community events. I am very honored to be a part of this great community.

What are a few of your favorite local businesses?

Local businesses are so important to what we do here at TSH. U-Rent-It Sales & Service, G & S Sales, K. L. Breeden & Sons, Madix, Heart of Avon, Heather Lane/Tiffany Square Town Homes, Helwig, and Prouty Photography, just to name a few, are very supportive in everything that we do here at TSH Community Relations. So many local businesses support our mission and help us achieve the goals we have set. t.

Small Business Spotlight

Barbara Donahue, Blessings on Brin St.

In each quarterly Spotlight, we like to highlight one of our local small businesses. In this issue, we would like to introduce you to Barbara Donahue, owner of Blessings on Brin Street, a made-to-order sandwich shop here in Terrell.

What type of menu and services does Blessings on Brin St provide?

We are open Wednesday through Saturday for breakfast and lunch. We are also available for catering

– birthdays, showers, weddings, anniversaries, and funerals. Whatever occasion you are celebrating, we can give you a quote for all or part.

What would you like the community to know about your business?

We love to spoil our customers. We feel we have a comfortable atmosphere for you to get away from the office and take a break, or it’s a great place to take a break from a shopping trip to Terrell.



We can reserve a table in the back room if you have a group that needs a space for a breakfast or lunch meeting.

How did you get started in the food service business?

I previously worked in the corporate world and was always taking food to work and cooking meals for my church. I have just always loved to cook.

What’s your most asked for menu item?

Chicken salad sandwich – they tell me it is the world’s best and any of our homemade soups or chili and buttermilk or coconut pie.

When did Blessings on Brin St. start business in Terrell?

April 1, 2013. I previously owned Times Star Sandwich & Sweet Shop in downtown Terrell from June 1986 to January 2000.

How can people visit or contact your business?

We are located at 107 E Brin St. and are open Wednesday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Our phone number is 972-563-2253, or you can contact me after hours at 214-926-0601.

Anything else you’d like people to know?

We offer a plate lunch on Thursday and Friday; something different every week. If we don’t get it posted on Facebook, just give us a call at 972-563-2253 to learn what the special is.

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MARCH - APRIL COMMUNITY EVENT LISTING

NWTF - Hunting Heritage Banquet

3/7/2020 6:00 PM
Rockwall Gun Club
15950 State Hwy 205

The Rock Church Fundraiser/ Raffle & Live Drawing Category

3/8/2020 1:35 PM
600 FM 148

Free Classic Movies:

“The File on Thelma Jordan”

3/13/2020 7:00 PM
Iris Theater at Books and Crannies
209 W. Moore Ave

Lake Country Jubilee Concert

3/14/2020 5:30 - 9:00 PM
Jamie Foxx Performing Arts Center
400 Poetry Rd

Dementia Conversations: Dinner & Discussion

3/19/2020 6:00 – 7:00 PM
First Baptist Kaufman Church
Kaufman, TX

Free Shaved Ice Friday 2020

3/20/2020 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Tiger Shaved Ice
812 N Park Ave

The Vagabond Players Present Cooking with Gus

3/20, 21, 27, 28/2020 7:30 PM
3/22, 29/2020 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Iris Theater at Books and Crannies
209 W. Moore Ave

REACH Child Placement Agency Casino Night

3/21/2020 6:30 PM
The Oaks at Williams Creek
Kaufman, TX

E! Terrell Entertainment Celtic Angels

3/22/2020 3:00 PM
Jamie Foxx Performing Arts Center
400 Poetry Rd

Kaufman County Day

3/22/2020 5:00 PM
Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin
701 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX

Happy Days in Terrell America - National Mom & Pop Business Owners Day

3/28/2020 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Downtown Terrell and beyond

Relay for Life of Kaufman/Van Zandt Counties

4/3/2020 7:00 - 11:00 PM
Terrell ISD ExCEL
1251 Colquitt Rd

Terrell Senior Center’s Masquerade Ball and Style Show

4/4/2020 5:00-8:00 PM
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Terrell
351 Market Center

Bo’s Benefit for Terrell Animal Adoption Center

4/10/2020 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
108 S Adelaide St

Free Classic Movies - “The Mayor of Hell”

4/10/2020 7:00 PM
Iris Theater at Books and Crannies
209 W. Moore Ave

Donna K. Hunter Memorial Golf Tournament

4/13/2020 9:30 AM
Rusted Rail Golf Club
1602 US-175
Crandall, TX

Terrell Jubilee presented by Platinum - Family Night

4/16/2020 4:00 - 10:00 PM
Ben Gill Park

Kaufman Quilt Guild Quilt Show

4/17/2020 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
First Baptist Church of Terrell Recreation Center
100 W Brin St

Terrell Jubilee presented by Platinum

4/17/2020 4:00 - 10:00 PM
4/18/2020 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM
4/19/2020 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Ben Gill Park

Kaufman Quilt Guild Quilt Show

4/18/2020 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
First Baptist Church Recreation Outreach Center
100 W Brin St

Big D Charity Horse Show

4/23/2020 8:00 AM
Will Rogers Memorial Center
Fort Worth, TX

E! Terrell Entertainment Salute to Glen Campbell

4/23/2020 7:30 PM
Jamie Foxx Performing Arts Center
400 Poetry Rd

Free Classic Movies - “The Front Page”

4/24/2020 7:00 PM
Iris Theater at Books and Crannies
209 W. Moore Ave



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Kaufman County Day, March 22 & 23

The Kaufman County Leadership Council will be taking a trip to Austin once again this Spring to meet with state and various agency leaders to hear issues affecting Kaufman County citizens.

Kaufman County Day in Austin is set for Sunday to Monday, March 22 & 23. It will be headquartered at the Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel, located at 701 Congress Avenue in Austin.

Event will kick off with a reception on Sunday from 5 to 7 pm on the second floor inside the Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel. Monday morning begins with breakfast at the hotel and featuring guest speaker, Christi Craddick with the Railroad Commission.

Highlights from the day will be visits with various state agencies. Speakers will include Mike Morath, with the Texas Education Agency, Bill Hall, with Texas Department of Transportation, and an update regarding border security from a DPS officer.

Lunch will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Capitol Grill. Shelly Botkin, with the Public Utilities Commission, will provide information on energy concerns affecting Kaufman county residents. The trip will also include a group photo with Kaufman County’s representative on the steps outside the Capitol. The finale will be a tour of the Texas Supreme Court.

Participants are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. There is a group rate of \$199 for a single, or two doubles for \$219 at the Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel. Call 1-800-235-4670 to make your reservation. Be sure to state that it is for the Kaufman County Day group. The block of rooms will be held until March 6.

Transportation is also up to participants. Anyone that attends any part of Kaufman County Day must register. The registration fee of \$130 per person in-

cludes reception on Sunday at the Stephen F.’s Bar and Terrace, Monday breakfast and lunch at Capitol Grill. Make checks payable to Kaufman County Day. Please complete a form that can be found on the Terrell Chamber of Commerce website and return to the Terrell Chamber of Commerce/CVB, P.O. Box 97, Terrell, TX 75160 or fax to 972-563-2363 or email to angie@terrelltexas.com.



Terrell Chamber of Commerce Renewals

4 Brothers Outdoor Power - 12 years
American Cancer Society - 9 years
American Legion Post 162 - 3 years
Anthony Properties - 8 years
ANTS - Technology, Inc. - 18 years
Autozone Distribution - 16 years
Barbara Martin-Powell/Keller
Williams Realty - 3 years
Books & Crannies - 15 years
Brookshire’s Food Store - 47 years
Cash Store - 2 years
Chapman Property Co. - 25 years
Domino’s Pizza - 19 years
En Vogue - 38 years
G & S Sales, Inc. - 31 years
Hickory Roots BBQ - 34 years
Holiday Inn Express, Terrell - 13 years
Infinity Texas Air - 3 years
J.S. Helwig and Son LLC - 13 years
Judge Joe Parnell - 27 years

King’s Fort Chapter-Daughters of the Amer.
Revolution - 3 years
Lamar Ranch - 39 years
Lone Star Credit Union - 29 years
Madix, Inc - 39 years
Mallard Law Firm - 40 years
Meadowview Town Homes - 21 years
Midtown Village Shopping Center - 32 years
Mitchell Welding Supply - 40 years
Muse Metal Lab Inc. - 40 years
Oldcastle BuildingEnvelope - 40 years
Pop’s Honey Fried Chicken - 33 years
R&R Design, Inc. - 30 years
Rafter J Cowboy Church - 3 years
REACH Child Placing Agency - 1 years
Real Estate Services Co. - 34 years
Risinger Veterinary Hospital - 39 years
Robin & Sandra Hollon - 5 years
Rowden, Hendrickson,
Shiple & Rymer, Inc. - 35 years

Shumpert Law Offices, PLLC - 32 years
Silhouette Resale Boutique - 7 years
Smart Start Learning Center, Inc. - 16 years
SureStay Hotel by Best Western - 32 years
Tanger Outlet Center Offices - 26 years
Terrell Heritage Society/Museum - 29 years
Terrell Iron & Metal - 44 years
Terrell Senior Terrace I & II - 20 years
The Rock Church of Terrell - 12 years
The Terrell Tribune - 47 years
Trinity Concession & Restaurant Supply - 15 years
Trinity Valley Community College - 38 years
Van Tone Creative Flavors, Inc. - 25 years
Vannoy Surveyors, Inc. - 45 years
Volunteer Services Council for
Terrell State Hospital - 35 years
Workforce Solutions for
North Central Texas - 21 years

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Community Members Recognized at Chamber Luncheon

The 112th Annual Membership Meeting and Industrial Recognition Luncheon presented by Terrell Chamber of Commerce/CVB and Terrell Economic Development Corporation was held on Feb. 17 at J.W. Long Elementary.

This year’s luncheon lineup of speakers included Mayor Rick Carmona, Kaufman County Judge Hal Richards, State Representative Keith Bell and TISD’s new Superintendent, Dr. Georgeanne Warnock. Collectively they gave a “State of Terrell” update, each touching on issues and items affecting us in Terrell / Kaufman County.

As always, various awards were given to people for their service in the community. Denny Rohe, plant manager at Madix, was added to the short list of hon-

orary lifetime Chamber members. He is only the 14th recipient to receive this designation in the Chamber’s history.

Jeff Smith was presented the President’s Award for untiring dedication and support of the Terrell Chamber of Commerce Convention and Visitors Bureau. Darren Lemons, 2019 Chamber Board Chairman, received a plaque on which to mount his gavel. Kim Britton, 2020 Chamber Board Chairman, was presented her gavel. Mayor Rick Carmona was recognized for distinguished service on the Terrell Economic Development Board.

The following businesses were recognized for sustained job growth in Terrell:

J.S. Helwig & Son – 5 years

AutoZone Distribution Center – 15 years
Naturtech – 20 years
U-Rent-It Sales & Service – 40 years
Sherwin Williams – 50 years
Musser Motors – 57 years

Of course, one of the highlights of this event each year is the Community Service Award presentation by the Terrell Rotary Club. Rotary President, Ken Lane, presented the award to this year’s recipient, John Davidson of American National Bank. The Rotary community service award started in 1957 and award goes to a community member who unselfishly gives up their time, talents and heart to the community they love.



Carlton Tidwell presents Denny Rohe with a lifetime chamber membership.



John Davidson receives community service award.



Great Turnout at J.W. Long for the Chamber Annual Membership Banquet.

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In a Terrell Tribune December column I reflected on all the change that took place with the Chamber in 2019 and mentioned we have a lot of exciting things planned for 2020 to serve our members.

that will allow us to better serve our members.

In the fall we surveyed our members. We wanted to learn things from them like how engaged they are, if they're aware of some of the lesser known Chamber benefits, if our communications are reaching them and are effective, what their goals are with being a Chamber member, whether we're meeting those goals and what additional benefits they would like to see.

We received a lot of positive feedback and great suggestions. A couple of those suggestions pertained to additional networking events, including early morning options before work. That type of networking event has been in our idea bank for quite some time, and we were thrilled to see our members were looking for something along those lines. That was the fuel we needed to begin

executing our plan.

In January we launched our new monthly morning networking breakfast, the Morning Mingle. The format for this event provides each attendee 30 seconds to introduce themselves and tell the group about their business, a promotion, a new product/service, an upcoming event or whatever it is they'd like to share with the audience. Attendees are entered into drawings for giveaways provided by members and following the event they each receive a scan of all attendees' business cards. Members pay just \$1 to attend and prospective members are welcome as well for \$15.

We just completed our second Morning Mingle and the response has been fantastic so far. Each Morning Mingle is sponsored by a Chamber member. They pay a small sponsorship fee and provide breakfast. In exchange they get 10 minutes to present to the audience. We were pleasantly surprised to have sponsors lined up for our entire year of events after just one event. We partnered with the Fairfield Inn & Suites to host all Morning Mingles in 2020, which they are graciously doing free of charge. They are even providing the coffee and water for no fee.

There were other suggestions from our member survey that we've noted and plan to address, some of which we've already started. One recommendation was to try to do more publicity for small businesses and promote on social media. Another was related to pushing people

to shop local.

Earlier this month we did our first-ever Facebook giveaway with the goal of giving exposure to our local member businesses. Members had the chance to donate items for giveaway baskets that took place for 7 days leading up to Valentine's Day. We called it the 'Lovin' Local Giveaways.' We had about 40 members participate in this promotion, which reached more than 35,000 people, garnered 1,650 reactions, 1,481 comments, and 440 post shares. Plus, we had 7 very happy locals who won gift baskets worth between \$315-\$580. It was so successful that we plan to do 2-3 more this year.

These are just a couple examples of what I meant when I said we had exciting things planned for 2020. Our team is constantly working to improve the return on our members' investments. There are more great things planned and rolling out soon that we expect will do just that. Be on the lookout for a new website in March, as well as a new membership database with a more user-friendly backend for members to submit news and job postings, register for events, pay for membership dues and more. All of this is to better serve our members and to live up to our new hashtag -- #ConnectingTerrell -- and to support our mission statement: To build the prosperity of businesses and industries through economic development and improve the quality of life in our community.

In just a little over a month, Ben Gill Park will be host to a weekend full of fun for the whole family. The 39th Annual Terrell Jubilee presented by Platinum dealerships, will once again feature a local and state championship BBQ cook-off, quilt show, arts and crafts vendors, business and health exposition, live music, a variety of food vendors, a carnival, a car show, the Fountain 5K Run/Walk, pig races, a dog show and more!

This annual celebration attracts more than 15,000 people each year. The four-day event kicks off with Family Night on Thursday, April 16 from 4 – 10 p.m.

The midway and carnival will be once again provided by Talley Amusements and it will be open all four days. Arts & Crafts vendors will be selling their

wares on Saturday and Sunday.

The Kaufman County Quilt Guild's 9th Annual Quilt Show will take place from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on both Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18 at First Baptist Church Recreation Center. Admission is \$5. This year the Quilt Show will feature a special display of "The Supper" by Donald E. Locke, D.D.S. You do not want to miss the opportunity to see this quilt that portrays the biblical last supper and contains 51,816 one half inch squares. The quilt is 67" high and 183" wide. For more information or to enter the quilt show, visit www.kaufmanquiltguild.org.

The Fountain 5K Run/Walk benefitting the Volunteer Services Council of Terrell State Hospital will start at 9 a.m. on Saturday. Find details and registration information at www.terrelljubilee.com.

The For the Love of Cars Auto Show benefitting Sharing the Love Foundation will be on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Register at www.sharingthelove.org.

There is booth space available for arts and crafts vendors, as well as businesses who want to participate in the health/business expo. Sponsorships are available as well. Details for vendor space and sponsorships can be found at www.terrelljubilee.com.

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Platinum Dealers, as well as our other sponsors so far: Linebarger Goggan Blair and Sampson LLP, U-Rent-It Sales & Service, Legacy Ag Credit, Cliff's Heating & Air, and STAR Transit.

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