

*The
Chamber*



VOICE

*The Huntsville-Walker
County Chamber of
Commerce is the
Heart and Voice of
Walker County*

August 2017



2017 Diva Night Committee - Thanks to Wiesner, Inc- Huntsville our Corporate Sponsor

Member Spotlight...



Welcome New Members:

- Kioku Asian Bistro
- Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets
- Hart Comfort Cooling
 - Hospice Plus
- Lush Hair Salon

See page 6



PRESORT STANDARD
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PERMIT NO. 6

CAROL'S CORNER



Carol Smith

The chamber strives to encourage economic development in our community. We look at economic development in the broader scope of things that help support our members and businesses. In October the Chamber will present the "State of the City" program which is open to the public and always highlights recent and future projects. We will

also host the annual Chamber Gala on December 8. Both

these events bring to light more economic development. Please make plans to attend. In addition, the Chamber sponsors the Business Expo and Fair on the Square which allow attendees to get a better perspective on local businesses/entities and what they have to offer. The Huntsville Leadership Institute gives its attendees a nine-month look at what the city and county are about along with the Youth Leadership Institute which focuses on 11th grade students for similar experiences; both programs kick off in September. During June and July annually parents of freshman SHSU students attend Freshman Orientation, which the Chamber shares an in-depth look at what's available throughout the city and county. Additionally, the Chamber hosts regular monthly events such as Small Business Breakfast and Business After Hours, as well as Diva Night and the Shot In the Dark Golf Tournament which allow businesses to market to a wide array of attendees. These are just a few of the events that lend themselves to economic develop-

ment.

School bells are ringing once more throughout Walker County!! Colorful campus flags are flying proudly all across our community. Children of all ages once again engage in another year of learning, achievement and advancement. We all owe a debt of gratitude to teachers, staff and administration in all our schools, from pre-K through SHSU. Many of our member businesses stepped up recently to contribute wonderful items to fill "appreciation" bags for all the NEW teachers. Please take the time to thank our schools for enriching the lives of our young people. Be sure to fly a flag for your favorite school(s). **THANK YOU TEACHERS!!**

Mark your calendars... for the many events that unfold over the fall season. Football season will be here soon. **September 18 (6:00 pm)** families and students will have the opportunity to attend the "Kick-Off Jamboree" at the Walker County Fair Grounds in anticipation of the 2018 Walker County Fair. **The 43rd Annual Fair on the Square** is set for the **first Saturday of October** and we have many folks committed and invested to help continue and improve this long-standing event for our community. We hope to see you there!

You will be pleased to know that our county/city map along with the NEW directory/relocation guide are available. They are beautiful and up to date. Be sure to drop by to pick up yours to keep you headed in the right direction!!

I look forward to seeing you soon, whether it's at a meeting of local organizations, a football game, or at one of our upcoming events!! Once again, **HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHAMBER!!** We are 83 years young!!

Happy Trails, YOUR Chamber President, Carol Smith

Member Spotlight...

Johnson Studio

James Johnson, MA, MT has 38 years experience in Music Education, teaching privately since 1979. He received a M.A. in Music Therapy in 1982 from Texas Woman's University, where he taught guitar on the music faculty. After working as a music therapist at San Antonio State Hospital, he became the first Registered Music Therapist to work for the Windham School District in the Texas Department of Corrections, where he piloted the Music Therapy program with psychiatric inmates. He is retired from the Windham School District faculty where he worked as the music education director, a special education teacher and an adult literacy teacher from 1982 to 2011.

James has been on the SHSU School of Music faculty since 1991 and has taught Fundamentals of Guitar, Advanced Guitar and the Psychology of Music. He was also the past Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Huntsville Children's Choir. He stated, "I think I have worked with about 500 private students, young and old, over the years and about 2500 university students. That much teaching experience, along with my music therapy experience, has taught me to be a very patient music teacher who tries to work with the needs of the students." Students have praised him saying: "Mr. Johnson is a great teacher. He really cares about his students and is passionate about music. I would recommend his music course to everyone". "You rock, Mr. Johnson" said another student! He has a very supportive way of teaching that is very comforting when you are picking up a guitar for the first time."

He and his wife Pam produce Johnson Studio House Concerts and Thoreau Woods Coffeehouse since 2010. They have had 87 concerts with over 150 musicians coming from all over the United States and internationally! James is also a singer/songwriter and a member of Folk Alliance International and has performed at a few of the concerts.

When asked why it is important for me to be a Chamber member, James answered, "I have lived and taught music in Huntsville for over 35 years and wanted to play a larger role in promoting music and the arts with education in our community. The Chamber has given me the opportunity to meet and network with Huntsville's business leaders. The Chamber has helped me gain new students and grow my business and has given me a platform to help other musicians that come to perform in Huntsville."

Johnson Studio provides Cool Upbeat Music Instruction for all ages, children and adults. Beginning to advanced lessons with guitar, ukulele, piano, bass, and voice are designed for each individual's level of experience and interest. Weekly lessons are scheduled by appointment, Monday through Friday, 10:00am to 6:00pm.

Contact James at (936) 661-6332 or by email at: johnsonstudio@att.net or visit our website: Johnsonstudiotexas.com. Johnson Studio is located at 1002 15th St., Suite B on the corner of 15th Street and Avenue J.



James Johnson

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

HUNTSVILLE & WALKER COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Employment	Huntsville June 2017	Walker Co. June 2017	Texas June 2017	U.S. June 2017	Huntsville June 2016	Walker Co. June 2016	Texas June 2016	U.S. June 2016
Total Labor Force	12,054	24,029	13,464,322	161,337,000	11,884	23,802	13,319,665	160,135,000
Total Employed	11,292	22,763	12,833,254	154,086,000	11,106	22,388	12,656,717	151,990,000
Total Unemployed	762	1,266	631,068	7,250,000	778	1,414	662,948	8,144,000
Percent Unemployed	6.3%	5.3%	4.7%	4.5%	6.5%	5.9%	5.0%	5.1%

Huntsville Building Permit Values	July 2017	July 2016	% Change
Building Residential	455,136	892,230	-0.49%
Commercial Building	15,606,246	1,566,750	8.96%
Certificate of Compliance	-0-	-0-	-0-
Other	26,353,927	24,075,099	0.09%
TOTAL	42,415,309	26,534,079	0.60%

Walker County Sales Tax Payments	Aug 2017	Aug 2016	% Change	2017 YTD	2016 YTD	% Change
Huntsville (1.5%)	784,330.06	762,700.42	2.83%	6,156,467.96	5,295,556.57	16.25%
New Waverly (1.5%)	54,706.51	35,606.59	53.64%	325,966.05	300,577.52	8.44%
Riverside (1.5%)	14,506.75	14,061.56	3.16%	95,330.83	95,320.46	0.01%
Walker County (.5%)	316,882.51	303,796.87	4.30%	2,520,837.00	2,170,900.43	16.11%

Sources:
 Employment: Texas Workforce Commission (www.tracer2.com)
 Bldg. Prmt. Valuations: City of Huntsville
 Sales Tax Payments: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Window on State Government Web Site (http://www.window.state.tx.us)

Meet Your Ambassadors ~ Jessica Salazar

Jessica Salazar is the Office Manager for Tax Express, a family owned and operated business. The business was started in 2008 and specializes in income tax preparation and payroll processing. They offer these services for all small businesses, farms, clergy and trucking companies. They also can help in IRS problem resolutions, just because you get a letter from the IRS stating that you owe them money, doesn't mean you do. Tax Express's goal is to help you with the best resolution possible.

When asked why it is important for her to be an Ambassador for the Chamber of Commerce, Jessica replied, "being an Ambassador is important to me because it is a great way to get to know the community. I feel like we get to encourage other small businesses in their endeavors, as well as help them be known throughout the community. Being an Ambassador has been a great experience. I am meeting other business owners and making new friends. Maya Angelou once said that "people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel". As an Ambassador it is my goal to always make people feel like a great part of this community because, without them, we wouldn't be as great as we are. Jessica also believes in the quote from Zig Ziglar, "don't count the things you do, do the things that count".

Jessica is married to Felix Salazar, they have two children. She enjoys spending as much time with her family as possible, family is everything to her and at the core of her heart and soul.



Jessica Salazar





RECENT MEMBER RENEWALS

Coburn's Supply Company, Inc.
Chris deMilliano
Steely Lumber Co., Inc.
SHSU Career Services
Huntsville ISD - Huntsville High School
Linda Pease
Workforce Solutions
Candycy F. Dixon, CPA, CGMA
H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum of Texas
Family Hearing & Sensory-Neural Center
Carnes Funeral Home
Second Baptist Church
Econo Lodge
Unoton Wireless- T-Mobile
Dee Dee Dretke - Keller Williams Realty
BCJ Leather
The Brazos Apartments
Texas ENT & Allergy

Wilder Dozer Service LLC
Pete Johnson Towing and Transportation
Aspire Hospital
Mary Anne Tyler-Keller Williams Realty
Huntsville ISD - Mance Park Middle School
CCC Blacktopping, LLC
Inspirational Graphic Designs
Leon O'Neal - Dr. Bar B.Q.
Dahill - A Xerox Company
McClure & Browne Engineering/Surveying, Inc.
Markham Realty, Inc.
Natalie Pierce-Cox - Markham Realty
Team Pugh-Keller Williams Realty
L & J Detail Shop
Sam Houston Electric Cooperative
O'Bannon & Cooper Pest Control
Grace Baptist Church

Martin Marietta
Walmart
White Ivy Real Estate
Higher One, Inc.
Edward Jones - Scotti Castro, Financial Advisor
TSR Exterior Cleaning Services
Oakview Manor Bed and Breakfast
Frazier Construction
AAA Water
The Library Daiquiris, Spirits, and More
Team National - Travis Whitaker
Candi's
Element Dental
Berkeley Eye Center
Buffalo Wild Wings
Huntsville Rental Center
Arbors of Sam Houston

Hat's off to the following members who recently renewed their Chamber membership. Marketing, advertising and networking are just a few of the benefits of Chamber membership. We encourage everyone to shop with Chamber members.

Annual Fair on the Square

43rd Annual Fair on the Square • Saturday, October 7, 2017!
www.faironthesquare.com • <https://www.facebook.com/thefaironthesquare/>

Saturday...October 7th....Looking for a place to take the whole family for fun, food and adventure? If so then we have the perfect solution...**the 43rd Annual Fair on the Square!** Grab the kids and head to the historic downtown square right in the center of Huntsville, Texas.

Many unique items, some hand crafted, will help shoppers get ready for the Christmas and fall holidays. Jewelry, home décor, apparel, and many more treasures can be found by both vendors and the merchants on the downtown square and in the Midway Plaza.

The popular **Kids Korner** is a haven of fun for children of all ages! The Kids Korner includes a giant slide, balloon artist, petting zoo, bungee run, monster mural, moon walk, face painting, archery station, free arts and crafts projects and more!

Need a break from shopping?? Then head to the **Food Court** to taste fair specialties. Homemade root beer floats, freshly squeezed lemonade and sweet tea will quench your thirst while you munch on fried pickles, kettle corn, corn dogs, barbecue and more!

From 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. listen to the tunes of two local bands as they play on the stage in the Beer Garden. Spend the afternoon enjoying an adult beverage or sipping a soft drink while listening to some great Texas Country Music!

Come join us in the wine tasting Area called The Wine Knot, located off of University Avenue between 12th and 13th Street. This new attraction was added to the festivities in 2015. Join patrons as they sip wine from many Texas Vineyards at this quaint Wine Tasting area, taste many delicious appetizers from local home town restaurants and enjoy music from the Shane Barnhill and Billy Hillman duo. **The following vineyards will be there: Bernhardt Winery, Froggy Wines, Granny Muffin, LLC, Kissing Tree Vineyards, Landon Winery, Lone Hen Winery, Los Pinos Ranch Vineyards, Messina Hof Winery, Perrine Winery and Red Road Vineyard.** Be sure to stop by and sip and then purchase a full glass or a bottle to take home and enjoy later!

Start the party early and join us Friday night, October 6th as we kick off the Fair with a FREE concert. Yes Free!! Gates open at 8:00 and this year features **Cody Joe Hodges from College Station.** Look for the big tent located in the Annex parking lot behind All State Insurance on the corner of 14th Street and University Avenue. (please note streets where vendors are located will be blocked off on Friday evening to allow set up for the next day's events). Other parking is available around the area.

Free Parking and Shuttle service will be provided on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Park on the SHSU Campus at Bower Stadium (scoreboard side) and the Forum and Encore Apartments will shuttle you to the fair for FREE!

The Fair on the Square offers something for every age and gender! Saturday, October 7, 2017 and start early on Friday, October 6th at the free concert and plan to spend the weekend with us on Huntsville's Historic Downtown Square!

WELCOME TO BASEBALL PRESENTATION* and LUNCHEON!!

**\$15 member/\$25 non-member
Chamber Board Room • 11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

September 14, 2017 • SHSU HEAD BASEBALL COACH DEGGS

Reservations Required by 9/12/17 • Contact Carol: 295-8113 or 661-9361

*The Baseball coach's presentation will help redefine your marketing strategies to increase sales and drive success. We will provide valuable insight with his proven strategies and help you apply them directly to your business for powerful results.

Saturday, October 7th

**43rd
Annual**

9:00-5:00

**FAIR
on the
SQUARE**

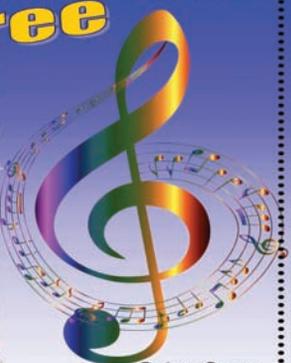
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS

350 VENDORS

FRIDAY NIGHT

Free

CONCERT



Gates Open
8:00 p.m.
Featuring
Cody Joe Hodges



WINE KNOT

Fair on the Square

**\$10 * 5 Tastings * Wine Glass
Food & Wine Pairings**

SHOPPING . BEER GARDEN

FOOD . WINE TASTING

KIDS KORNER . CLASSIC CARS

FREE Parking & Shuttle Service on Saturday
provided by The Forum & Encore Apts.
Lot Z2-14 on SHSU Campus

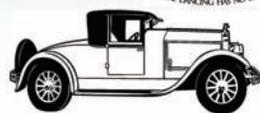


936-295-8113 * www.faironthesquare.com



Divas Night 2017

Thanks to our sponsors!



Thanks to our Restaurants/Caterers/ Beverage Providers:

1836 Steakhouse
3 Spoons Yogurt
Aramark-Classic Fare Catering
Buffalo Wild Wings
City Hall Café & Pie Bar
Domino's Pizza
Double Dave's Pizzaworks
El Rancho Viejo Mexican
Restaurant

Farmhouse Café
Faust Distributing
Golden Corral
Grand Buffet Restaurant
Jimmy Johns Gourmet Sandwiches
Northside Baptist Church
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers
Sugar & Spice Custom Bakery
The Best Box Ever Bakery
Yummy Yummy Mongolian Grill &
Sushi

Thanks to our Wine Grab Sponsors:

MRC Creekside
PayChex Inc.

Thanks to our Diva Dollar Sponsors:

Citizens National Bank
Community Service Credit Union
First Financial Bank Huntsville
First National Bank-Huntsville
Prosperity Bank
Walker County Federal Credit Union

Thanks to our Goodie Bag Sponsors:

Anytime Fitness
Arbonne
Boys & Girls Club of Walker County
Crossfit Fortem
Huntsville Memorial Hospital
Huntsville Health Care Center
Iron Works
Lake Life Is MAID
Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets
Wynne Home Art Center

Thanks to Our Celebrity Waiters/Chauffeurs/DJ/Emcee:

Buddy Aber
Glen Andrus
Kyle Barnard
Sam Donnell
Danny Dougherty
Jess Ginn
Glenn Green
John Hendricks
Mark Holt
Robert Lindemann

Clint McLaren
Curtis Montgomery
Mike Nokes
Trevor Nokes
Jason Norsworth
Ray Sarno
Gene Shannon
Winston Spencer
Hunter Stephens
Weldon Wallace
Trey Wharton
Kyle Whisenhunt



Costume Contest Winners



A Space Place, AAA Credit Repair, Brookshire Bros.,
Dr. Curtis Montgomery, Evententertainment,
Extreme Signs, FAST SIGNS, Faust Distributing, First National Bank,
Focused Care at Huntsville, H.E.B-Huntsville, Huntsville High School Theatre,
KSAM 101.7 & The HITS, KSTAR Country, Lone Star Liquor,
Lucky Star Cleaners, Patio Café on the Square, Rockin' D Nursery,
Ruby & Marla Rushing, Sam Houston State University, Spirit Expo,
The Huntsville Item, TSC Tractor Supply Company,
Wally's Party Factory...
And all our Entertainers &
Volunteers!

Thank
you

*Photos for Diva Night provided by:
Arielle Montgomery and Wade Thibodeaux*

**Thanks to the Diva
Night Committee:**

Lisa Branch,
Sheila Cannon
Karen Denman
Dava Gordy
Sandra Gray
Laura Green
Margaret Gulledege
Shannon Higbie,
Tish Humphrey
Lori Logan
Lisa Lowery

Gwen Lucas,
Frankie McCaffety
Melissa M. Miller
Lydia Montgomery
Brenda Nichols
Tammie Nokes
Stacey Roberts
Marla Rushing
Ruby Rushing
Carol Smith
Lexie Stoudt
Carol Sullivan
Kristy Vienne

Thanks to our Table Sponsors:

Adams Furniture
AdVantage Specialties
Advantage Travel
BBVA Compass
Double Dave's Pizzaworks
Edward Jones Investments-
Zach Pulling
Heartfield Florist
Stephen Means O.D. & Assoc.
Park & Durham Attorneys at
Law
Ward Furniture & Flooring

Thanks to our Walk of Fame

Sponsors:
K-STAR Country 99.7
Lush Hair Salon
Markham Realty
McGilberry Mechanical
Salt Creek Ranch
Samaritan Women's Care
Schlotzsky's
Sims Dentistry
Snap Fitness
State Farm Insurance-Danny
Dougherty
Tax Express
Unoton Wireless T-Mobile
Woodforest National Bank



Having fun at the photo booth!

Thanks to our Prize Donors:

Able's Co. Mercantile
Cork & Canvas
Crazy Horse Wines, LLC
Edward Jones Investments-
Scott Francis
Expert Nails
Dene's Kitchen-Dene
Swearingen
Froggy Wines-Knox Circle
Winery
Gibbs Street Manor B&B
Grapeland Messenger
Hot Tops Salon
Huntsville Coffee News
Kim's Home & Garden Center
Lisa's Gift Box
Magnolia Lake
Magnolia Mey Boutique
Pampered Chef-Tracy Stoudt
Independent Consultant
Patio Café on the Square
Rockin' D Nursery
SHSU Athletics
Shader Jewelry & Gifts
The Cellar Wine Lounge
The Facemaker

Thanks to Huntsville Men's Choir:

Jim Bonney
Bobby Cooper
Mickey Evans
Dick Gillum
Raymond Kiser
Bill Marker
Ray Morgan
Kristopher Pickle
Bryan Rathke
Wayne Spivey
Shelby Traylor
Dale Underwood
Norman Ward
Ray Whitney



Huntsville Men's Choir

Thanks to our Murder Mystery

Writer:

Melissa M. Miller

Thanks to NEWSIES: Theatre

Department:

HHS Theatre Director
Velvia Keithley
Johanna Keithley
Alexius Sullivan
Ben Hall
Kathleen Williams
Armando Zapate



Murder Mystery Cast



Charleston Dance Contest Winners



Our Waiters!

**More photos
continued on page 6
You can find a link
to more photos on
the Chamber's
website.**

More Photos from Diva Night



Thanks to our 'NEWSIES'



Having a roaring good time



Prizes, Prizes...all these ladies took home some great gifts!

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS JULY

The following businesses recently joined the Chamber and we extend **A WARM CHAMBER WELCOME**. The information printed was gained from membership applications. For any additions and/or corrections, contact the Chamber as complete membership information is vital to your records with us. **Our most recent new members we welcome:**

Kioku Asian Bistro- An exciting new restaurant has come to Huntsville and is the only restaurant to offer Chinese, Thai, and Japanese cuisine. "Kioku" means memories, and dining with them will be a most "memorable experience" with top shelf beef, fresh vegetables, and fresh fish trucked in overnight. Friendly staff, beautiful ambience, and customer satisfaction are their Number One Priority. You will enjoy this new dining experience. Their Five Man Team has 50 years of collective experience; their special quality dishes and creative plating are made to order; no pre-made dishes. The full service bar and restaurant open Sunday -Thursday 10:30am-10:00pm and Friday -Saturday 10:30 am to 11:00 pm. Orders to go online at www.kiokuhuntsville.com or call at 936-295-3377. Also, dine in at their location at 245 I-45 South, Suite A.

Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets- Everyone wants to be able to sleep in comfort and you can experience sweet slumbering with Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets. Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets are durable bed sheets that have deep pockets and get softer with each wash. They come in multiple sizes, solid colors and thread counts from 1200-1800. You get the feel of Egyptian Cotton, but without the price. For more information, contact Kimberly Johnson, a resident of Huntsville for 31 years at 936-714-9311, or by email at triplessheets@gmail.com. Also visit her Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TriplesSheets.

Hart Comfort Cooling- At Hart Comfort Cooling our #1 goal is our customer's comfort. Not only do we keep you comfortable with the highest quality of service and repairs, we also comfort your mind with our 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. Our expert technicians are friendly and professional, and we always wear shoe covers and respect your home's cleanliness! We provide residential and commercial service, repairs, sales, and maintenance services. Located in Huntsville, TX, Hart Comfort Cooling proudly serves Walker and all surrounding counties. Give us a call today to put the comfort back in your home! Call 936-581-6805 or contact us by email at hartcomfortcooling@gmail.com. Hours are Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, and After-hours and weekend service is available.

LUSH HAIR SALON- Founders and sisters opened LUSH SALON after one of them attended Paul Mitchell, The School. The entire staff is dedicated to all aspects of beauty and style; from the latest trends in hairstyles to the most effective hair treatments and products. Their goal is to lift and challenge current industry standards in the area and to offer a wide range of services; as well as ensure that each time you visit LUSH they will exceed your expectations with their customer service, professionalism, quality, and consistency of work. The mission is to create a beautiful appearance, nurture the spirit, and relax the mind. For more information, contact Norma or Maria Ramirez at 936-439-6767, or stop by their location at 2100 Sam Houston Ave., Suite C. You may also visit their website at www.lushsalon.org

Hospice Plus- Hospice Plus is an affiliate of Curo Health Services and offers compassionate Hospice Care, with clinical experience to thousands of special patients and families across 21 states. Our goal is to enrich the quality of life as life's journey nears its completion. Through supportive and loving care, we offer patients and their families comfort for body, mind, and spirit. We are committed to being a world class organization that provides the highest quality care to our patients and their families. For more information, contact Kimberly Jackson at 936-337-0300, or visit their website at www.hospiceplus.net

CASA Guardian

For 40 years--since 1977, Court Appointed Special Advocates (or CASA) have been advocating for our nation's most vulnerable--abused and neglected children. To give these children the chance they deserve, CASA sold puzzle pieces in exchange for a commitment to become an honorary 2017 CASA Guardian! On July 18, 2017, the Preferred Partners Leads Group proudly presented a check for \$240.00 to Kim Wieser, the CASA Director for Walker County. Every child has a chance--it's you!



<p>AMERICA'S SBDC TEXAS GULF COAST NETWORK SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY</p>		<p>Seminar Schedule Sept - Nov, 2017</p>	
<p>Choosing QuickBooks for your Business Tues., Sept 12th; 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm SBDC Computer Lab *NO FEE*</p>		<p>intuit qb</p>	<p>We can also customize a training course for your Business. Please contact us for details. 936-294-3737</p>
<p>Compare in detail which version is most suitable for your business: Online or Desktop and explore most popular features and apps available.</p>			<p>FIRST STEP To Starting Your Own Business Tues., Oct. 17th 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm SBDC Computer Lab *No Fee*</p>
<p>SPANISH - El próximo Jueves 7 de noviembre (5:30 pm - 8:30 pm) estaremos dictando una conferencia en Español en el SBDC Sam Houston State University. Desarrollaremos temas inherentes a cómo crear negocios en el estado de Texas y como planea su implementación y crecimiento. Esta Clase es gratis.</p>			
<p>Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least one week in advance.</p>		<p>To register for a seminar or latest updates, visit our website at http://samhoustonstateuniversity.sbdcnetwork.net</p>	

Small Business Breakfast

Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

Thanks to **Gulf Coast Trade Center** for sponsoring the Chamber Small Business Breakfast in August. The Gulf Coast Trades Center (GTC) has been in the Sam Houston National Forest since 1971 helping disadvantaged and adjudicated youth. They come from just about every county in Texas, and staff work to help youth find jobs when they return to their home towns. Executive Director of GTC & Superintendent of Raven Charter School District Dale Underwood shared, "Our mission is to promote the social and economic independence of disadvantaged youth. Teenagers live at GTC's residential facilities which provides for all of their daily child care needs (physical, medical, mental, spiritual, and recreational). The Raven School charter is a year-round high school located on the Center's campus. Efforts focus on completion of high school diplomas or GED's as well as preparing young people for the world of work through teaching vocational skills and ethics."

Contact Dr. Dale Underwood at 936-344-7899 if you are interested in having a youth do a brief internship in your business as part of their vocational preparation.



Pictured are: Nick Briggs, Deputy Director, Brittany McDougald, Human Resources staff, and Dr. Dale Underwood Executive Director

Mark Your Calendars....

Friday, December 8 2017 Chamber Gala & Auction

*It is not too early to make your plans....
The Silent and Live Auctions at the Gala provide
an excellent opportunity to market your
business in addition to supporting the Mary
Frances Park Scholarship Fund. If your business
would like to make a donation to this cause
please give the Chamber a call today.*

Corporate Sponsor:

Wiesner, Inc. -Huntsville

Auction Sponsor:

American Civil Engineering Services

business after hours

Thanks to the **Boys & Girls Club of Walker County** for sponsoring and hosting the July Chamber Business After Hours. Operating since 2003, the Boys & Girls Club of Walker County (BGCWC) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation which is affiliated with Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Chief Executive Officer Michelle Spencer stated, "the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs is to enable all young people, especially those that need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens."

BGCWC serves Walker County with before/after school and summer programs for K-8th grade children with outreach serves to 9th-12th. During the school year BGCWC serves over 240 children each day in two club sites... Scott Johnson Elementary (a licensed childcare facility) and Martin Luther King Recreation Center --- with 33 part-time, direct service staff. During the summer session, BGCWC serves an average of 80 children per day with 10 direct-service staff.

BGCWC provides the following age-appropriate services to Walker County youth through BGCWC staff and outside volunteers: academic tutoring, mentoring, fine arts and craft activities, life skills training, youth leadership training, low-organized recreation, case management and human services referrals.

BGCWC is a public-private partnership. In 2016 donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations made up 68% of operating funds with 20% of funds came from the very modest program activity fees charged to families. The public sector contributed the remaining 12% of funding and also provided in-kind donations of facilities, utilities and food.

BGCWC has embarked upon the Building HOPE a Home Capital Campaign to build a 22,000 square foot facility to double youth services and include teenagers. BGCWC has raised 58% of the \$2,000,000 project and look forward to breaking ground in the very near future.

For information about how you can get involved, i.e. volunteering and or donations, please contact Boys & Girls Club of Walker County at 936-291-6054 or email info@walkercountykids.org.



What's Happening!

- **Business After Hours**-August 24 at 5:15, sponsored by Walker County Federal Credit Union
- **Small Business Breakfast**- September 14, 7:30a.m. at Golden Corral, sponsored by Thursday Leads Exchange
- **Pre Fair on the Square Concert**-Friday, October 6th, 8-midnight-FREE featuring Cody Joe Hodges
- **43rd Annual Fair on the Square**, Saturday, October 7th, 9-5, sponsored by Faust Distributing, Stevenson Distributing, & Team Dodge
- **Wine Knot at the Fair on the Square**-Tickets ONLY \$10 this year! On sale at the event and on eventbrite.com-look for the big tent on University Avenue-sponsored by Wiesner, Inc.-Huntsville
- **Save the Date, December 8th - GALA** at the LSC Ballroom

Your 2017 Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

2017 Officers

Carol Sullivan, Chairman of the BoardCommunity Service Credit Union
Bart Davis, Immediate Past Chair/NominatingDavis Construction Management
Ken Holland, Treasurer/SecretaryUniversity Heights Baptist Church
Sam Donnell, Vice Chair Community AffairsRockin' D Services, Inc.
Scott Francis, Vice Chair Eco. Dev./Tourism & 2018 Chair ElectEdward Jones Investments
Tammie Nokes, Vice Chair Membership/CommunicationMcGilberry Mechanical
Dr. Kristy Vienne, Vice Chair Business ServicesSam Houston State University
Trey Wharton, Vice Chair Community GrowthWharton Insurance Network
Carol Smith, PresidentChamber of Commerce

Directors

Glen Andrus, Community Events CouncilHuntsville Rental Center
Jason Bay, Community Services CouncilFirst Baptist Church
Daniel Bayes, Existing Business CouncilBayes Achievement Center
Jack Choate, Communications/Resource CouncilSpecial Prosecutors Unit
Jennifer Davis, Networking CouncilFirst National Bank of Huntsville
Tom Fordyce, Economic Development CouncilSalt Creek Ranch
Jimmy Henry, Economic Development CouncilWalker County Commissioner
Mark Holt, Economic Development CouncilJustice of the Peace, Precinct 3
Tim Hooks, Education CouncilHuntsville ISD
James Logan, Existing Business CouncilMRC Creekside
Jacob Paschal, Natural Resources/Ag CouncilHaney, Moorman, Paschal, P.C.
Marcus Payne, Community Growth CouncilCitizens National Bank
Murphy Smith, Community Events CouncilGlobal Financial Partners
Kyle Whisenhunt, Community Growth CouncilFirst Financial Bank
Lee Woodward, Membership Development CouncilCity of Huntsville

Chamber Staff

Carol SmithPresident
Laura GreenEvents & Communications Manager
Lydia MontgomeryMembership Coordinator
Shannon HigbieOffice Manager
Gwen LucasReceptionist/Secretary

OUR MISSION:

*To promote an environment to enhance the economic
success of business in Walker County.*

Contact Us

The Chamber V.O.I.C.E. is the monthly newsletter of the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce. For story ideas, calendar of events, advertising information or any other contributions to this publication, please contact the Chamber at 295-8113 or toll free 877-646-8068, by mail at PO Box 538-Huntsville, TX 77342, by fax at 295-0571 or by e-mail at chamber@chamber.huntsville.tx.us. The chamber web site can be viewed at <http://www.chamber.huntsville.tx.us>. The Chamber office, located at 1327 11th Street in Huntsville, is open from 9-5 weekdays. Switchboard from 8:30-5.

Chamber Calendar

AUGUST

- 22 Preferred Partners, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 22 Ambassador Meeting @ Chamber-10:30 am
- 23 POP Committee Meeting, 2:00 pm @ Chamber
- 24 Thursday LEADS Exchange, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 24 Business After Hours, 5:15-6:15 pm sponsored by Walker County Federal Credit Union
- 29 Preferred Partners, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 30 Ribbon Cutting for Candi's @ 11:30 am located at 228 Hwy. 75 N
- 31 Thursday LEADS Exchange, 8:00 am @ Chamber

SEPTEMBER

- 4 LABOR DAY-Chamber Office closed
- 5 Preferred Partners, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 7 Thursday LEADS Exchange, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 12 Ribbon Cutting for Duke's Home Inspections @ 11:30 am @ Chamber
- 12 HLI Class 36 Orientation, 5:30 pm @ Chamber
- 13 Tourism Meeting, 8:30 am @ Chamber
- 14 Small Business Breakfast, 7:30 am @ Golden Corral sponsored by Thursday LEADS Group
- 14 Ribbon Cutting for Domino's @ 11:00 am located at 2411 Avenue I
- 18-19 HLI Class 36 Retreat
- 19 Executive Board Meeting, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 19 Preferred Partners, 8:00 am @ Holiday Inn Express
- 21 Board Meeting, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 26 Preferred Partners, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 26 Ambassador Meeting @ Chamber-10:30 am
- 28 Thursday LEADS Exchange, 8:00 am @ Chamber
- 28 Business After Hours, 5:15-6:15 pm sponsored by Texas ENT & Allergy

Community Calendar of Events

AUGUST

- 27 6:00 pm SHSU vs. Richmond Football @ Bower Stadium, tailgating begins at 4PM

SEPTEMBER

- 2 6:00 pm HHS @ Houston Waltrip
- 4 LABOR DAY Chamber Office Closed
- 7 6:30 pm SHSU vs. Prairie View Football
- 8 7:30 pm HHS @ China Spring
- 15 7:30 pm HHS @ Conroe
- 15-16 8:00 am- 6:00 pm HEARTS Veterans Museum Garage Sale @ 463 SH 75 N
- 18 5:30 pm WCFA Jamboree @ Walker Cty. Fairgrounds
- 22-24 SHSU Family Weekend
- 23 TBD SHSU vs. Nichols State Football @ Bower Stadium
- 29 7:30 pm HHS vs. Tomball GREEN OUT @ Bower Stadium
- 30 6:00 pm SHSU vs. Central AR Football