



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

# August 2016



Congratulations to our Kentucky Derby Hat Contest Winners! First Place was Carol Shoemaker, Second Place was Angela Golightly and 3rd Place was Dee Helmers. (pictured 3rd, 2nd, 1st)

# Member Spotlight...



# Welcome New Members:

- Jays Automotive
- Tractor Supply Company #448
- The Best Box Ever Bakery
- Custom Construction & Remodeling (CCR)
- Bankers Life-Jim Baxter
- Tractor Supply

See page 7



PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HUNTSVILLE TX
PERMIT NO. 6

### CAROL'S CORNER



Carol Smitl

Please allow me to share some thoughts on economic development. We look at ED in the broader scope of things that help support our members and businesses. Recently the Chamber became part of a state-wide law suite challenging the new "Overtime Rule" to go into effect December 1, 2016. Recently at our Texas Chamber meeting

there was much discussion regarding the U.S. Department

of Labor decision to enact the rule. This case is moving quickly and if you would like more information, please contact me at 295-8113.

October 11 the Chamber will present the "State of the City" program and will host the Chamber Gala on December 9. Both these events bring to light more economic development. Make plans to attend. In addition, the Chamber sponsors the Business Expo and Fair on the Square which allows 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. During June and July annually parents of freshman students attend Freshman Orientation, which the Chamber shares an indepth look at what's available throughout the city and county. Additionally, the Chamber hosts regular monthly events such as Small Business Breakfast, Business After Hours, along with Diva Night and Shot In the Dark Golf which allows businesses to market to a wide array of

attendees. These are just a few of the events that lend themselves to economic development.

School bells will begin to ring once more throughout Walker County!! Colorful campus flags, maroon, green, orange, etc. will soon be flying proudly all across our community. Children of all ages will 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. <a href="September 13">September 13</a> (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 2017 Walker County Fair. 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. There are no more booth spaces left...call the Chamber if you would like to be a volunteer.

You will be pleased to know that our county/city maps, along with directories/relocation guides 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 82 years young!!

Happy Trails, **YOUR** Chamber President, Carol Smith Member Spotlight...

**American Civil Engineering Services, LP (ACES),** is a full-service engineering design consulting firm dedicated to providing reliable, client-based services. Founded in 2002 with headquarters in Conroe, Texas, now with an office at 1217 Avenue M

Suite 101, in Huntsville. ACES has been successfully serving clients for the past 14 years. The firm operates as a Limited Partnership in Texas and is represented by the Managing Partner, Mr. Brent Sherrod, P.E.

ACES offers services in many areas of engineering design. The effectiveness of the firm's execution is due in part to a project team approach and timely project management. The firm's professional engineers and support staff provide the required expertise needed to meet the most demanding project requirements. ACES offers services in all phases of engineering



Brent Sherrod (ACES)

from initial concept planning through design and construction administration. ACES has worked with commercial, industrial and residential clients on a variety of projects requiring a full range of engineering services. Our company's success is built upon our reputation as a "total package" firm, by utilizing trusted relationships and the ability to work closely with other consultants we are able to provide our clients with a full range of services, from the initial boundary/topographic survey to detailed plans, enhanced by our extensive experience. ACES is committed to providing clients with professional solutions to their engineering needs. Our belief is that through commitment to customer service and satisfaction, ACES can best serve clients in all sectors. ACES has successfully completed the following types of engineering projects:

- · Municipal and other Government entity Engineering
- Residential, Commercial and Industrial Subdivisions and Site Development
- Utility Systems
- Street Paving and Storm Drainage Facilities
- Site/Land Planning
- · Erosion Control Structures and Detention Facilities
- $\cdot$  Hydrology/Hydraulic Studies, Modeling and Design submittals to FEMA and other Government Entities

When asked why is it important to be a chamber member, he replied, "When I opened this business 14 years ago I joined the local chamber and have remained active. When we made the decision to expand and open a Huntsville office, we immediately joined the chamber in Walker County. The chamber has always helped promote my business and the issues that are important to all business owners."

The Chamber V.O.I.C.E. is a monthly publication that highlights people who are the heart of the Chamber, recognizes the countless volunteers who dedicate their time and talents, gives insight to the endless opportunities to network and connect with others, promotes ideas for involvement from businesses and/or organizations that make up the membership, provides communication to the Huntsville-Walker County community, and keeps you abreast of the events within the chamber and our town.



# Seminar Schedule September, 2016

# Visit our website at:

for upcoming Training opportunities and Seminars

QuickBooks Online Basics
Adobe PhotoShop
Website Design
Social Media
Alicrosoft Office Suite
First Step to Starting Your Own Business
Workforce Solutions HR Training &
Development Seminars

# \*\*\* Facility Rental

Our Meeting/Computer Learning Center facilities can be rented by the day or by the hour.

The Computer Learning Center is equipped with desks and Dell OptiPlex workstations featuring flat screen monitors for maximum workspace.

Our computers are loaded with the latest software and have high-speed Internet access. We can also customize a training course for your Business. Please contact us for details. 936-294-3737

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least one week in advance.

# What's Happening!

- Business After Hours August 25th,
  5:15p.m.; hosted & sponsored by On Pointe
  Dance Company
- Small Business Breakfast- September 8,
   7:30a.m. at Golden Corral sponsored by
   Davis Construction Management
- <u>SAVE THE DATE:</u> Pre- Fair on the Square Concert-Friday, September 30th Featuring Jerrett Zoch & The OSR Band, 8:00pm
- <u>42nd Annual Fair on the Square</u>-Saturday, October 1, 2016, 9am-5pm
- Wine Knot at the Fair on the Square-Tickets
   on sale September 1st at the chamber, \$20
- <u>SAVE THE DATE:</u> Chamber Gala & Auction, Friday, December 9th



# **RECENT MEMBER RENEWALS**

Dee Dee Dretke - Keller Williams Realty

Materia Inc.

Green Acres of Huntsville

Steely Lumber Co. Inc.

Chris deMiliano

Higher One, Inc.

**Grand Buffet Restaurant** 

Huntsville Church of the Nazarene

H.E.A.R.T.S. Veteran Museum of Texas

**Champion Forest Resource Management** 

**Spirit Exposition** 

**CCC Blacktopping** 

City Hall Cafe & Pie Bar

Just Style'N

**Subway - FM 2821** 

Faust Distributing Co.

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

**Lucky Star Cleaners** 

The Brazos Apartments

A-1 Smith's Septic Service & Portable Toilets

Linda Pease

Better Business Bureau of Brazos Valley, Inc.

**Beth Miles** 

**Carnes Funeral Home** 

Huntsville ISD - Rosa Martinez- Readore

Leon O'Neal- Dr. Bar B.O.

First United Methodist Church

Huntsville's Antique Show

**Martin Marietta** 

**TSR Exterior Cleaning Services** 

Pettit Enterprises, LLC

Learning RX

**Oakview Manor** 

Althea Ashworth

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.

# Ribbon Cuttings



CASA of Walker County

CASA of Walker County- celebrated their Ribbon Cutting ceremony with Friends, Staff, Chamber Members, and Ambassadors on July 12, 2016. CASA of Walker, San Jacinto & Trinity Counties provide trained, court appointed volunteer advocacy to every abused and neglected child in the custody of Children's Protective Services that needs one. For more information, contact them at 936-291-6363, or stop by their office at 1300 11th St., Suite 430 B.



Program Insurance Group

Program Insurance Group- Peggy Bishop, along with Chamber Members, Friends, Ambassadors and Team Members celebrated her Ribbon Cutting ceremony on July 20, 2016 at the Chamber of Commerce office. Their agency is dedicated to providing a large range of insurance products and services to meet the needs of their customers. For more information, contact Peggy at 512-739-1515.

# Ribbon Cuttings



Sam Houston Pizza Hut

Sam Houston Pizza Hut- celebrated their Ribbon Cutting ceremony with Friends, Staff, Chamber Members, and Ambassadors on July 28, 2016. Pizza Night should be "Special", so give them a call at 936-295-3580 or better yet, drop by 4030 Sam Houston Avenue, and let them do the cooking



3 Spoons Yogurt

s Yogurt- celebrated with Staff, Friends, Chamber Members and Ambassadors their Ribbon Cutting ceremony on July 28, 2016. They are your "Go To" place for that special frozen treat, or frozen yogurt pies. For a fun, family friendly environment stop by and visit them at 1524 11th St., Suite B, or give them a call at 936-291-0600.



Huntsville Pizza Hut

Huntsville Pizza Hut- Staff, Friends, Chamber Members, and Ambassadors celebrated their Ribbon Cutting ceremony on July 28, 2016. At Pizza Hut, they just don't make pizza, they make people's day. Their slogan is "We are the pizza company that lives life unboxed." Stop by for a visit at 3010 Hwy. 30 West, Suite F, or give them a call at 936-294-9191.

## Mark Your Calendars....

# Friday, December 9 2016 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.

Coporate Sponsor: Wiesner, Inc. - Huntsville Dinner Sponsor: Huntsville Memorial Hospital Auction Sponsor: CHI St. Luke's Health Emergency Center



# Diva 2 Vight 2016...

# Kentucky Derby Style



Thanks to our

Restaurants/Caterers/

Beverage Providers:

1836 Steakhouse

3 Spoons

Annette's Touch of Class

Best Box Ever Bakeru

Best Western

Buffalo Wild Wings

City Hall Café

Classic Fare Catering-Aramark

Domino's

Double Dave's Pizzaworks

Eclectic Cafe & Coffeehouse

El Rancho Viejo

Farmhouse Café

Faust Distributing

Golden Corral

Grand Buffet Restaurant

Homestead Personal Chef Services

Northside Baptist Church

Raising Canes

Subwau

Yummy Yummy Mongolian Grill

& Sushi

### Thanks to our Diva Night Vendors:

Barbwire Barbie Boutique

Barefoot Campus Outlitter

**BCJ** Leather

Carra's Floral

Cross Mu Heart

Damsel in Defense

Elizabeth Shae Photography

Ernst Jewelers

Farm Gupsies

Homegrown Marketplace

It Works-Marlene Garza

Lisa's Gift Box

Lucy's Graz'n Green

Magnolia Mey Boutique

# Thanks to the guys at Diva Night...our Waiters & Chauffeurs

**Buddy** Aber

Glen Andrus

Kule Barnard

James Cole

Bart Davis

Sam Donnell

Danny Dougherty

Scott Francis

Kevin Ednu

Glenn Green

Aaron Heils

### **MARII**

Mary Kay Ind. Beauty Consultant-

Charlotte McConnell

McAdams Dru Goods

Parklane Jewelru

Rodan + Fields

Salon Chic & Boutique

Scentsy-Dusty Stoughton

Shaggy Dog Bloody Mary

Snap Fitness-Young Living Essential

Oils

Triple "S" Soft Silky Sheets

Unique Tan & Boutique

Walker County Ace Hardware Classy

Country Corner

Mark Holt

Clint McLaren

Andrew Miller

Dr. Curtis Montgomery

Mike Nokes

Trevor Nokes

Ray Sarno

Winston Spencer

Weldon Wallace

Trey Wharton

Mark Wheeler

Wilson Winn

# Thanks to our Entertainment!

M.C.

Tish Humphrey

Sound & DI:

Steve Fox & Joe Leggett

Evententertainment

Bugle Player:

Katy Williams

Vocals:

Mike Nokes

"Belting for Nosh":

Jake Bevill, Conner Morgan and Bradley Whittington



Our Celebrity Waiters



Thank you to Team Texas Fire

Photos provided by: Libby Rogers-Elizabeth Shae Photography For more photos visit www.elizabethshaephotography.com

# Thanks to the Diva Night Committee:

Lisa Branch Shelly Bush Sheila Cannon Elizabeth Cole Dava Gordy Sandra Grau Laura Green Margaret Gulledge Michelle Hebert Shannon Higbie Tish Humphrey

Special Thanks to our Wine, Prize & Advertising Donors:

A Space Place Best Western Huntsville Carra's Floral City Hall Café CosMedic Solutions **Brookshire Brothers** Cork This! Wineru Davis Construction Momt. Dene's Kitchen Denim & Diamonds Pre-School Dockline Magazine Dolores Moreno Dr. Curtis Montgomery Eclectic Coffeehouse Studio & Gallery Eventertainment - Steve Fox

& Joe Leggett Expert Nails Extreme Signs First National Bank Froggy Wines Huntsville ISD Cosmetology HEB. Homes of Huntsville, Inc.-Lauren Holik & Claudia

Kirkwood Homestead Personal Chef Services

Inspirational Graphics Kim's Garden Center

## Thanks to our Goodie Bag Sponsors:

Annette's Touch of Class Buckner's Jewelers, Inc. City of Huntsville-Sam Houston Denim & Diamonds Pre-School

Lori Logan Lisa Lowery Gwen Lucas Frankie McCaffety Lydia Montgomery Tammie Nokes Mona Peck Rubu Rushing Carol Smith

Kroger KSAM 101.7 & 104.9 The Hits KSTAR Countru

Lexie Stoudt

Carol Sullivan

Kristy Vienne

Lisa's Gift Box Lone Star Liquor Lori Logan-SHSU SBDC Lucky Star Cleaners Magnolia Lake

MARJI Messina Hoff Pampered Chef-Tracy Stoudt

Independent Consultant Pathfinder Home Health Patio Café on the Square PauChex

Rockin' D Services, Inc. Sam Houston Race Park Sam Houston State University

SHSU Athletics Specs Spirit Expo

The Cellar Wine Lounge The Facemaker

The Huntsville Item Therapeutic Touch by Vanessa

Tractor Supply Company Walgreens

Walker County Ace

Hardware-Classy Country Corner Wilson Winn-Edward Jones

Investments

Friends of the Wynne Home Art Center

Homes of Huntsville, Inc. Lauren Holik & Claudia Kirkwood-

Realtors Huntsville Health Care Center Huntsville Memorial Hospital

Thanks to our Table & Walk of Dr. Stephen Means & Fame Sponsors:

Adams Furniture AdVantage Specialties Advantage Travel Arctic Cryotherapy Edward Jones Investments-Scotti Castro First National Bank Huntsville Heartfield Florist K-STAR Country 99.7 Markham Realty, Inc. McGilberry Mechanical

Heating & Cooling, Inc.

Associates Park & Durham Attorneys at Law Re/Max 1st Source - Stacey Roberts Samaritan Women's Care Schlotzsku's Sims Dentistry Snap Fitness State Farm Insurance-Danny Doughertu

Ward Furniture & Flooring

Woodforest National Bank



Bugle player, Katy Williams. Katy is a junior at Huntsville High School, a proud member of the Huntsville Hornet Military Marching Band, and a member of the jazz band and the pep band!



2016 Diva Night Committee





Ladies showing off their Derby hats!



Iron Works Madilene's Piano Tuning & Repair MRC Creekside SAAFE House Tupperware-Kay Taylor Unoton Wireless T-Mobile



Ladies at Diva Night

Thanks to our Diva Dollar Sponsors:

BBVA Compass Citizens National Bank Community Service Credit Union Edward Jones Investments-Kevin Edny

Edward Jones Investments-Tyler Johns First Financial Bank Huntsville First National Bank Huntsville Walker County Federal Credit Union

# Ambassador Spotlight ~ Joe Smith

Joe has been a member of the Kiwanis Club of Huntsville since 1976 and enjoy helping and working with the kids. " Our local club sponsors the Key Club at Huntsville High School and the Circle K at Sam Houston State University. The Kiwanis mission is both local and global and impacts things like disease and poverty, as well as helping children reach their full potential.

Additionally I am a charter member of the Optimist Club of Huntsville and our mission is aimed at helping the kids as well." Childhood cancer is an ongoing project with the Kiwanis Club.

Joe is a Real Estate broker and a provider of life and health insurance and annuities. When asked why he participates in the Ambassador program with the Chamber of Commerce he replied, "the Ambassador program is one of the premier projects of the Chamber. I love the spirit of the entrepreneur and we visit several businesses on a monthly basis, getting to meet



Joe Smith

them, learn about their business and thank them for being a member and supporting our local Chamber. If they are not a current member then we invite and encourage them to join.

In closing remember- never put both feet in your mouth at the same time because then you won't have a leg to stand on."

# ISTEN

CONGRATS to Cindy and Danny Pierce on the birth of their new grandson, Carson Robert. Carson weighed in at lbs. and 14 ozs. Cindy says "He's beautiful"!! Proud parents are Natalie and Casey Cox.

Magnolia Mey Boutique has been selected to partner with Bridgewater Candle Company to attend the Orphanage Service Project in Haiti. Lauren Blinki, Owner of Magnolia Mey Boutique, will travel to Spartanburg, SC on Sept. 15, 2016 to meet up with the Bridgewater Candle Company and tour the manufacturing facility. On Sept. 16th the group will travel to Haiti and spend time at the orphanage getting to know the kids and delivering supplies.

On Wednesday, September 7th local businesses have a unique once a year opportunity at BEARKAT MANIA to develop business opportunities with the "Bearkat Nation" at Sam Houston State University.

This is an opportunity that only 101.7 KSAM and 104.9 THE HITS can bring to you. This is the ONLY business trade show allowed on the campus, and it only comes once a year and for one day only! It takes place outside 10-2 in the beautiful Bearkat Plaza in front of the LSC.If you are interested in doing business with the student population of about 20,000 and nearly 4,000 people on faculty and staff you have the option for a booth and/or coupons (in 10,000 coupon books) for the event. It's all available by calling your local radio stations, 101.7 KSAM and 104.9 THE HITS at (936) 295-2651.

### HUNTSVILLE & WALKER COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS Walker Co Walker Co U.S. Employmen June 2015 2015 2016 2016 2016 2015 2015 11.637 23,306 13,338,824 160.135.000 Total Labor Force 11,580 23,160 13,127,106 158,283,000 10.883 12,504,082 Total Employed 754 1.380 644 663 8 144 000 726 1 292 623 024 8 638 000 Total Unemployed 6.5% 5.6% 6.3% 5/5% Percent Unemployed

Huntsville Building Permit Values	July 2016	July 2015	% Change
Building Residential	892,230	1,112,375	-0.20%
Commercial Building	1,566,750	196,196	6.99%
Certificate of Compliance	0	0	0
Other	24,075,099	1,101,373	20.86%
TOTAL	26,534,079	2,409,944	10%

Walker County Sales Tax Payments	Aug 2016	Aug 2015	% Change	2016 YTD	2015 YTD	% Change
Huntsville (1.5%)	762,700.42	753,649.60	1.20%	5,295,556.57	5,298,870.59	-0.06%
New Waverly (1.5%)	35,606.59	48,590.65	-26.72%	300,577.52	304,694.39	-1.35%
Riverside (1.5%)	14,061.56	13,343.43	5.38%	95,320.46	89,468.81	6.54%
Walker County (.5%)	303,796.87	300,050.15	1.24%	2,170,900,.43	2,194,459.79	-1.07%

Texas Workforce Commission (www.tracer2.com)

xas Comptroller of Public Accounts Window on State Government Web Site (http://www.window.state.tx.us)

### WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS IN 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:

Jays Automotive - If you are looking for the full-service auto repair shop that will handle all your automotive needs with honesty and integrity and offers you quality service at a competitive price, stop by and visit Steve Knight and Jerry Metcalf. Their shop is located at 517 11th St. and they want to make sure they provide excellent customer service, the highest quality of work and products, and the state-of-the-art equipment so you know your car or truck is getting the best vehicle maintenance. Give them a call at 936-

The Best Box Ever Bakery - Annie Sherman and Julie Knight, a daughter-mother team have always dreamed about opening a bakery together. The Best Box Ever Bakery was born over a conversation with Annie's grandmother delivering care packages to college students; soon after, they began to add homemade baked goods to the packages and the rest is history. For specialty cookies, rum cakes, and more all made from scratch, please stop by their location at 1329 University Avenue, Suite B, and check out their luscious baked goods, or give them a call at 936-755-8036 to place your order.

Custom Construction & Remodeling (CCR) - Designing a home can be a daunting task. Our commitment to you is to bring you the highest quality of work and to provide a pleasant experience while updating or renovating your home. Fully insured, bonded, and licensed, we go the extra mile to make your vision come to life. For more information, contact Michael Frazier at 936-730-6826 and start Building

Bankers Life-Jim Baxter - Our goal is simple: to offer solutions that meet your needs TODAY! Everything you need in insurance coverage, whether it be Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Long Term Care, or a Medicare Supplement. When you make these important decisions, you want to be able to rely on someone you trust. Jim Baxter can recommend specific Bankers Life insurance solutions to provide you peace of mind. Call him today at 936-355-0871, or visit their website at www.bankerslife.com

Tractor Supply - Tractor Supply Company is the largest operator of rural lifestyle retail stores in the United States. The company was founded in 1938, and serving Huntsville since 1998. Stores supply the unique products to support their customers' rural lifestyle, from welders and generators to animal care products and men and women's work-wear and seasonal goods. You can also find pet supplies, animal feed, power tools, riding mowers, lawn and garden products and more. Store employee teams includes welders, farmers and horse owners who collectively provide an exceptional depth of knowledge and resources. Visit them at 960 Veterans Memorial Parkway, or call 936-291-8000.

# Saturday, October 1st







Food & Wine Pairings Wine Glass

September 1st at the chamber 10 Tastings

\$20 Ticket on sale



# ENTERTAINMENT

**PRE-FAIR CONCERT** FRIDAY NIGHT, September 30 featuring

JERRETT ZOCH & THE OSR BAND

Tickets \$10 at gate \* Gates Open 8:00 p.m.

# FOOD \* KIDS KORNER \* WINE TASTING BEER GARDEN\*CLASSIC CARS

936-295-8113 or 877-646-8068 \* www.faironthesquare.com



















Thanks to **Texas Grand Ranch** for sponsoring the August Small Business Breakfast. Debbie Burkhalter in Customer Service stated, "Texas Grand Ranch has grown into an incredible community since our Grand Opening this time last year. In this time, we have had the privilege of working with so many great businesses and individuals from Huntsville and look forward to introducing and bringing together new community members as we open up many brand new homesites this fall."

"One of the things that defines Texas Grand Ranch is our commitment to giving back to the community, and especially the ways we support our veterans. We take pride in working with a number of charities, including Marcus Luttrell's Lone Survivor Foundation and the PTSD Foundation of America's Camp Hope with Michael Berry."

"Aside from the direct donations we make, we actively participate in fundraising for these institutions, and invite you to make contributions from \$5 to \$500 for either or both of these charities, which we will double in your honor! We also invite you to bring some friends and family to the Grand Opening celebration for our newest section of Texas Grand Ranch on September 17th, where Marcus Luttrell and Michael Berry will be joining us to kick off the fall season with live music, great barbecue and lots of fresh faces - we look forward to seeing you there!"

For more information about Texas Grand Ranch contact Debbie at 936-755-2712.



Pictured are Customer Service Debbie Burkhalter and Land Expert Gary Sumner

# business after UIS

Thanks to **Unoton Wireless T-Mobile** for sponsoring the July Business After Hours. Unoton Wireless has been the proud Premier Partner of T-Mobile in Huntsville for over 13 months. Over this time they have managed to provide exceptional service which helped them receive a number 1 ranking in Texas for their Huntsville store and number 5 in the USA! They aren't stopping there; they are continuing looking for ways to contribute further to the community they are proud to serve.

Store Manager Carolina Vazquez shared, "T-Mobile is officially the nation's third largest network ahead of Sprint with 65.5 million customers. T-Mobile is the fastest growing network in the country, adding over 1 million new customers for 13 consecutive quarters. T-Mobile has the fastest 4G LTE network in the nation, ahead of Verizon and AT&T. 311 million Americans enjoy the 4G LTE service from T-Mobile and over 190 million enjoy its 700 Mhz low band which has better penetration and is the frequency used in Huntsville for excellent reception and service."

"In addition, Nielsen's Mobile Insights voted T-Mobile number 1 in Customer Satisfaction ahead of all its major rivals. Stop by our store located at 3010 Hwy 30, Suite C and we will be happy to help you with all your cellular needs."



Pictured are: Joe Ortiz Business specialist at Bryan Store, Brenda Lopez Sales Associate at Huntsville Store, Hemant Bhakta Operation Manger, Carolina Vazquez Store Manager Huntsville Store, Rachel Haacke Sales Associate Huntsville Store, Liana Guitierrez Sales Lead Bryan Store, Shoa Abedi (not pictured) CEO

# Prize Patrol Makes Stops All Over

The Chamber Ambassador "Prize Patrol" continues to be very busy celebrating with many business members. The Ambassadors make "surprize" visits, complete with balloons and cookies to show appreciation to Chamber business members. Shown here are July visits made to (1) Pilot Travel Center (2) Moore Veterinary Clinic (3) Salon Chic/Boutique (4) Mid South Synergy (5) Walker County LP (6) Chicken Express. Don't be alarmed if you notice a group of excited individuals entering your business soon with balloons and goodies to share. This is a great way the Chamber is helping to highlight and market our members. For more information on being an Ambassador call the Chamber at 295-8113.



4







3



# Your 2016 Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

### 2016 Officers

Bart Davis, Chairman of the Board	Davis Construction Management
Robert Pate, Immediate Past Chair/Nominating	First Financial Bank
Carol Sullivan, Treasurer	Community Service Credit Union
Lisa Branch, Vice Chair Community Affairs	LearningRx
Scott Francis, Vice Chair Community Growth	BBVA Compass
Michelle Hebert, MD, Vice Chair Business Services	Pathology & Lab Services
Aron Kulhavy, Vice Chair Economic Development & To	ourismCity of Huntsville
Tammie Nokes, Vice Chair Membership/Communication	McGilberry Mechanical
Carol Smith, President	Chamber of Commerce

### **Directors**

Daniel Bayes	Bayes Achievement Center
Brandon Cooper	Sam Houston State University
Jennifer Davis	First National Bank of Huntsville
Sam Donnell	Rockin' D Services
Margaret Gulledge	Huntsville Memorial Hospital
Jimmy Henry	Walker County Commissioner
Ken Holland	University Heights Baptist Church
David Markham	Markham Realty, Inc.
Jacob Paschal	Haney,Moorman,Paschal, P.C.
Marcus Payne	
Kristy Vienne	Sam Houston State University
Reginald Watkins	Praise & Glory Worship Center
Trey Wharton	Wharton Insurance/Investments

### **Chamber Staff**

Carol Smith	President
Shannon Higbie	Office Manager
Laura Green	Events & Communications Manager
Lydia Montgomery	Membership Coordinator
Gwen Lucas	
Lexie Stoudt	Summer Intern

# **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 HISD, New Waverly ISD School Starts
- 23 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 23 Ambassador Meeting, 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 24 Ribbon Cutting, American Civil Engineering Services, 1:00 p.m. after Rotary
- 25 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Carriage Inn
- 25 Ribbon Cutting, TX Hwy. 19 Storage, 10:00 a.m. @ 3150 State Hwy. 19
- Business After Hours, 5:15-6:15 p.m. sponsored by On Pointe Dance, 1309 15th St.
- 26 HHS vs. Houston Waltrip-Home game @ 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber

### **SEPTEMBER**

- Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 1 Ribbon Cutting, Auldwolf Woodcraft, 10:15 a.m. @ Chamber
- 1 Ribbon Cutting, Custom Construction Remodeling @ Chamber
- 2 HHS vs. China Spring, 7:30 p.m. Home Game
- 5 Labor Day, Chamber Office Closed
- 6 HLI Orientation in Chamber Board Room @ 5:00 p.m.
- 8 Small Business Breakfast sponsored by Davis Construction, 7:30 a.m. @ Golden Corral
- 8 Executive Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 9 HHS vs. Conroe, 7:30 p.m. Home Game
- 12 HLI Retreat @ Camp Allen
- 13 HLI Retreat @ Camp Allen
- 14 Tourism Meeting, 8:30 a.m. @ TBD
- 15 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 15 Board Meeting, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 16 HHS- By Week
- 20 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 22 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- Business After Hours, 5:15-6:15 p.m.
- sponsored by Magnolia Lake @ 2001 Hwy. 30E
- 23 HHS vs. Tomball Memorial 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 27 Ambassador Meeting, 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 29 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 30 Pre-Fair on the Square Concert, 8:00 p.m.
- HHS vs. Willis, 7:30 p.m. Home Game

# **Community Calendar of Events**

### **AUGUST**

- 21 6:30 pm SHSU vs. UTSA Soccer Pritchett Field
- 22 HISD and NWISD School Starts

### **SEPTEMBER**

- 03 6:00 pm SHSU vs. Oklahoma Panhandle State (Orange Out) Bower Stadium
- 04 St. Joseph's Catholic Church Bazaar New Waverly, TX
- 16 7:30 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 17 7:30 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 17 TBD SHSU vs. Lamar Out of Town
- 17-18 13th Annual Huntsville Antique Show Walker Co. Fairgrounds
- 18 2:00 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 20 6:30 pm SHSU vs. A & M Corpus Christi Volleyball Johnson Coliseum
- 23 7:30 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 24 7:30 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 24 TBD SHSU vs. Houston Baptist Out of Town
- 25 2:00 pm Proof, written by David Auburn Huntsville Com. Theatre
- 29 6:30 pm SHSU vs. Nichols \* Volleyball Johnson Coliseum
- 30 6:30 pm SHSU vs. McNease State Soccer Pritchett Field
- 30 8:00 pm to Midnight Pre-Fair on the Square Concert featuring Jerrett Zoch & The OSR Band