

*The
Chamber*



VOICE

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

November 2016



2016-2017 Youth Leadership Institute Class. Junior students from across Walker County, HISD, New Waverly, Alpha Omega Academy, Premier and also includes students who are home schooled. Each school selects a predetermined number of students to participate. The class is from September thru May and focuses on leadership and community awareness.

Member Spotlight...



Welcome New Members:

- East Texas Television
- Eastex Trailers & Eastex Storage
- April Russell Insurance Agency
- Erin McMillan-Plexus Worldwide
- Sandra Richards Farmers Insurance
- Cyclone Graffix

See page 7



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CAROL'S CORNER



Carol Smith

Time is passing so quickly!! Listen carefully....you will hear & feel the holiday season quickly arriving. I don't know about you, but this is my all time favorite season of the year. Not only have we gotten some relief from the summer heat, but real hints appear weekly to remind us that winter is headed our way.

Crisp, cool days are wonderful when a sweater is just perfect. The beautiful colors this time of year are popping up everywhere, both indoors and out. Vibrant orange and yellow leaves are beginning to adorn trees throughout the community, pumpkins are in abundant supply, family and friends are chatting about Thanksgiving plans, and many of us are launching the daunting task of Christmas shopping.

Our special annual celebration, the Chamber Gala, is set for Friday, December 9th in the LSC Ballroom on the SHSU campus. The evening will begin with a 6:30 pm reception and silent auction, followed by dinner and program at 7:30 pm. This year's event will be a fun celebration of 82 years of benefitting businesses. Plan to arrive early, as the silent auction is a great place to get a head start on your holiday shopping! The tables are quickly filling up, so be sure to call the Chamber at 295-8113 to reserve yours. The Gala is always the highlight of the chamber year, and once again promises to be a fun-filled evening, with something for everyone.

We will be honoring the 2016 Chamber Chair, Bart Davis as he passes the gavel to incoming Chair Carol Sullivan. Some Chamber Board members will be recognized for their tenure as they retire off the board, as we also welcome several new ones.

Dr. Mary Frances Park is honored through our Scholarship Fund in her name. You will be pleased to know that a portion of the auction proceeds go to this fund; and, you may also make additional donations to this scholarship that is awarded annually to a student attending SHSU.

The many achievements to be recognized at the Gala are a fun surprise to all. You will want to attend to help celebrate with these individuals. A special announcement of the evening will be the recognition of the "Mance Park Lifetime Achievement Award". The chamber is proud to recognize the legacy of the Mance & Mary Frances Park family's involvement and commitment to our community. The 2015 recipient was Judge Don Kraemer.

The "Ed Sandhop Community Development Award" was established in 2010 to honor Mr. Sandhop, who gave much of his adult life to the betterment of this community. The Chamber can't say "thank you" enough to Ms. Genevieve for sharing her husband with Huntsville and Walker County in so many ways. In presenting this award for the sixth time last year, the Chamber recognized Jim & Nancy Gaetner for their many contributions and commitment to this community. We sincerely look forward to seeing you there...indeed, we have much to celebrate!!

Thanks for being great chamber members and supporters of this community!!

Best Regards, **YOUR** Chamber President,
Carol Smith

Member Spotlight...

Rainbow International of Huntsville/Conroe

Butch and Emily Evans of **Rainbow International Restoration and Cleaning of**

Huntsville/Conroe have proudly served Walker County and the surrounding areas since 1982. With two division to serve you, your home is in expert hands in cleaning and restoration services. They are a locally owned and operated company; the cleaning division will assist you with cleaning carpet, tile and grout, upholstery and fine area rugs. Rainbow International has been voted "Best of" by the Huntsville Item readers every year since 1995. Their technicians are trained in fiber identification, spot removal, odor removal and customer service. "Our customers have come to expect the best because they receive the best."



Butch & Emily Evans

The Organization's Mission Statement is To set the standard in our community by providing superior service to our customers and our community with honesty, dependability and up to date training to all members of our team.

If your home or business has suffered fire, water, or smoke damage, the restoration experts at Rainbow International are ready to help. They dry houses and commercial buildings that have been inundated with an unwelcomed water intrusion. "We have sophisticated tools to determine what is wet and what should be done to get it dry and know when it's dry. Our water restoration technicians are all certified in Water Restoration by the I.I.C.R.C., Institution of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification, the certification and standard setting body for cleaning and restoration. Since, water damage is progressive, items need to be dealt with within the first 48 hours of initial damage. Many of these items may be restored if emergency response is not delayed. Call the experts at 936-291-0968 right now. We are here for you 24 hours a day." Butch Evans is an I.I.C.R.C. Master Water Restorer and he is committed to having trained, certified technicians.

When asked why it is important to be a Chamber member? They replied, "Huntsville Walker County is our home. We have enjoyed being a member of the Chamber. We have found that participation in the activities offered by the Chamber gives us an opportunity to meet people face to face and provides a sense of community. When we chose Huntsville 34 years ago to be our home and to start our business, we chose it for the trees and the college. We had no idea the blessings that were in store for us from our customers. We still enjoy the trees and we love Sam Houston State University... but what makes Huntsville special is the people!"

Butch and Emily Evans have 3 grown daughters, 4 grandkids, 1 dog, 2 cats, 15 chickens and 3 "late in life" sons (married to their daughters). Butch and Emily are both members and Elders at First Presbyterian Church of Huntsville, TX.

Please phone them at 936-291-0968; stop by the office at 7130 State hwy 75 S A-1, Huntsville or visit their website at www.rainbowintl.com/huntsville

Christmas Open House
 Thursday, December 1st * 4:00-6:00 p.m. (come & go)
 The Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce
 Board of Directors and Staff
 invite you to stop by the Chamber, located at 1327 11th Street,
 for refreshments and holiday cheer!

Beverages provided by Faust Distributing

AMERICA'S SBDC
 TEXAS GULF COAST NETWORK
 SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Seminar Schedule
 November - December, 2016

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.

Visit our website at:
www.samhoustonstateuniversity.sbdcnetwork.net
 for upcoming Training opportunities and Seminars

QuickBooks Desktop & Online
 Adobe PhotoShop
 Website Design
 Social Media
 Microsoft Office Suite
 Banker's Seminar
 Celebration Luncheon

What's Happening!

- **Business After Hours -December 15, 5:15p.m.;** hosted & sponsored by Texas Grand Ranch
- **Chamber Annual Holiday Open House, Thursday, December 1st, 4:00-6:00 p.m.**
- **Small Business Breakfast- December 8, 7:30a.m. at Golden Corral sponsored by Huntsville Lions Club**
- **Chamber Gala & Auction, Friday, December 9th, sponsored by Wiesner**



RECENT MEMBER RENEWALS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Kiwanis Club of Huntsville | Eagle Graphics |
| Hampton Inn | Postcards Magazine |
| Edward Jones- Kevin Edney | Raven Property Management, LLC |
| Woodforest National Bank | Pack and Ship |
| SHSU- Career Services | Marji, LLC |
| Huntsville HISD - Susan Cryer | Reid Office Supply |
| Huntsville HISD - Jessie Anderson | Roche Dentistry |
| Bennie J's Smoke Pit | Moore Veterinary Clinic |
| David Standlee | American Civil Engineering |
| Farmhouse Cafe | Region VI Education Service Center |
| STAT Home Health Houston , LLC | Waters Construction Company, Inc. |
| Liberty Dialysis | |

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



The Library Daiquiris, Spirits and More

The Library Daiquiris, Spirits and More- celebrated their Ribbon Cutting with Family Members, Staff, Chamber Members, and Ambassadors on October 19, 2016. The newest location to Huntsville that offers New Orleans style daiquiris, beer, margaritas, and hurricanes. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the atmosphere located at 2301 Sam Houston Avenue, or give them a call at 281-780-5943.



Lonestar Interiors

Lonestar Interiors- Clint and Amber Willenberg along with Family Members, Staff, Chamber Members and Ambassadors celebrated their Ribbon Cutting on October 27, 2016. If you are looking to update your home or business, contact Clint, who is the third generation in home building, painting, and remodeling. Stop by their showroom at 1329 University Avenue, Suite G, or give them a call at 936-295-3797.

Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

2016 Annual Gala

*We will honor 2016 Chairman Bart Davis
and celebrate the arrival of 2017
with Chair Elect Carol Sullivan*

*Friday, December 9, 2016
Louman Student Center Ballroom
Sam Houston State University*

*Reception/Silent Auction 6:30 p.m.
Dinner/Live Auction/Program 7:30 p.m.
Auction proceeds support the
Mary Frances Park Scholarship Fund*

*Contact the chamber for reservations
295-8113
Tickets \$55 Table of 8 - \$440
After Five Attire*

*On behalf of the Huntsville-Walker
County Chamber of Commerce Board
of Directors and staff, we would like
to wish everyone a wonderful and
happy Thanksgiving holiday! May
you all be blessed during this season
of giving and thanks!*



2016 Gala Auction Items

as of Nov. 17, 2016 - Check out items listed on the Chamber website,
www.chamber.huntsville.tx.us. Check often as the list will be updated frequently.

Gala Sponsored by:

Auction Sponsored by:

 **CHI St. Luke's Health**
Baylor St. Luke's Emergency Center

WIESNER

HUNTSVILLE

Dinner Sponsored by:

 **HUNTSVILLE**
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



1. 3 Spoons Yogurt for a full YEAR! One coupon, approximately \$5, each week for a year!- Huntsville location only **donated by:** 3 Spoons
2. Sweet Tea candles, Wine Stopper, Christmas Ornaments & More Basket! **donated by:** Able Glass & Mercantile
3. Top Golf Gift Card - \$250 value. May be used for play, food and beverage! **donated by:** Air Handlers HVACR-Lynn & Twilia Killingsworth
4. 2017-2018 Curriculum for one student **donated by:** Alpha Omega Academy
5. Bowie Knife with custom leather sheath (handmade) **donated by:** B.K. Knives
6. Basketfull of Backwoods Candle Products **donated by:** Backwoods Candle Company- Amanda Wallace
7. "Backyard BBQ" Treat family/friends to a backyard barbeque for 20 **donated by:** Bennie J's Smoke Pit
8. 1 Night stay for your holiday guests at The Huntsville Best Western AND wine, chocolate and more basket! **donated by:** Best Western - Huntsville & Basket provided by Texas Grand Ranch
9. 1 Night stay for your holiday guests at The Huntsville Best Western AND wine, chocolate and more basket! **donated by:** Best Western - Huntsville & Basket provided by Texas Grand Ranch
10. Houston Broadway Theatre Tickets to Lion King! **donated by:** Bryan Orthodontics- Sammy Bryan, DDS, PA
11. Southwest Style Handcrafted Blanket & Pillow **donated by:** Buddy Aber & Maureen McIntyre
12. 2 Night All Inclusive Package for Family of 4 - Includes hotel lodging, meals, & usage of lakes/pools/hiking trails, etc!; **donated by:** Camp Allen Conference & Retreat Center
13. Celebrate Spring Wreath for your door! **donated by:** Carra's Floral
14. 4 Movie Passes PLUS all the trimmings...candy, popcorn, etc!And a \$35 gift certificate to Los Pericos **donated by:** Cinestar Cinema Huntsville & Los Pericos
15. Yeti 2 Quart Roadie Cooler **donated by:** Coburn's Supply Company
16. Handcrafted Jewelry **donated by:** Cross My Heart Jewelry – Brenda Wells
17. Show Your Hornet & SHSU Spirit with this RTIC Cup! **donated by:** Dipstix Graphix
18. **PIZZA FOR A YEAR!** 2 FREE Pizza Vouchers EVERY Month for a YEAR! **donated by:** Domino's
19. Golf Package- Round of Golf for 4 at Elkins Lake, ALSO included Titleist Golf Balls & Titleist Golf Cap, **donated by:** Elkins Lake Golf
20. ALOR Hope Bangle -18kt. Rose Gold with stainless steel and pink sapphire HOPE charm-Supports Breast Cancer Awareness through the Here for the Girls organization **donated by:** Ernst Jewelers
21. Kendra Scott Rose Gold Earring & Necklace Gift Set **donated by:** Farm Gypsies
22. Kendra Scott Madison Earrings & Gilded Muse Pink Grapefruit & Prosecco Candle **donated by:** Farm Gypsies
23. One Dessert of your choice each month for 5 Months **donated by:** Farmhouse Café
24. Miller Lite Electrical Guitar **donated by:** Faust Distributing
25. Pkg 1:Camp Out Pkg 1 – One Week Day Camp-kindergarten -6th grade student-summer 2017 session-\$200 value **donated by:** Forest Glen Christian Camps
26. Pkg 2:Camp Out Pkg 2 – One Week Day Camp-kindergarten -6th grade student-summer 2017 session-\$200 value **donated by:** Forest Glen Christian Camps
27. "Sharing Moment's Work Horse Series #7 Print. Autographed by Doug Prather, #199 of 1500. Print is framed with leather matte **donated by:** Frameworks & Gallery
28. Beveled Edge Oval Mirror **donated by:** Gardner Glass Products
29. Beveled Edge Mirror **donated by:** Gardner Glass Products
30. Beveled Edge Mirror **donated by:** Gardner Glass Products
31. One Night Stay At Gibbs Street Manor & Basket of Treats! **donated by:** Gibbs Street Manor
32. Certificate for 5 guests to play Laser Tag, Lazer Frenzy, Mini Golf and bumper cars- Expires 6-9-17 **donated by:** Grand Station Entertainment
33. 4 Houston Rockets Tickets- Rockets vs. Phoenix Suns on December 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Toyota Center; **donated by:** HBI Office Solutions, Inc
34. One Night stay for 2 at the Hodge Podge Lodge in Montgomery \$50 VISA Gift Card for dinner or spending- **donated by:** Hodge Podge Lodge & Preferred Partners
35. Gourmet Food Basket **donated by:** Homegrown Marketplace
36. **Dinner & The Theatre Package #1!** \$25 Gift Certificate to Farmhouse Café AND 4 Tickets to any 2016-2017 performance of the Huntsville Community Theatre plus concessions **donated by:** Huntsville Community Theatre & Farmhouse Cafe
37. **Dinner & The Theatre Package #2!** \$25 Gift Certificate to Farmhouse Café AND 4 Tickets to any 2016-2017 performance of the Huntsville Community Theatre plus concessions **donated by:** Huntsville Community Theatre & Farmhouse Cafe
38. Earn Your Wings with this iFLY High Flying Adventure! Three 1st Time Flyer tickets for indoor skydiving! includes rental of flight suit, helmet & goggles, videos available for purchase **donated by:** iFLY Indoor Skydiving in The Woodlands
39. Mug with hot chocolate & marshmallows, desk calendar, Gift Certificate for custom T-shirt, portrait package and \$25 print order **donated by:** Inspirational Graphic Designs
40. 4 PREMIUM All Day Passes to inSpire ROCK! Includes all gear rental and yoga! **donated by:** inSpire Rock
41. 2 Gold Metal framed Prints **donated by:** Jim & Gerda Sessions
42. Brown Willow Screen Divider and 2 Decorative Vases **donated by:** Jim & Gerda Sessions
43. 2 -23 x 27 Framed Palm Tree Prints **donated by:** Jim & Gerda Sessions
44. SHSU Hoodie, SHSU cap, Coffee Mug, Camelbak Water Bottle and Football **donated by:** Kampus Korner Bookstore
45. Scentsy Basket **donated by:** Karen Denman-Scentsy Independent Consultant
46. Mark Roberts Collectible Fairy **donated by:** Kim's Home & Garden Center
47. Gourmet Food Basket **donated by:** Kim's Home & Garden Center
48. One Night Stay in a Tower Suite at La Torretta Resort on Lake Conroe and round of golf for 2 Players! **donated by:** La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa
49. *Dr. Seuss at the Symphony* with the Houston Symphony. 2 Adult & 2 Child tickets for the April 29, 11:30am performance at Jones Hall in Houston **donated by:** LearningRx
50. Wood & Metal Arrows Wall Hanging Wine Rack **donated by:** Lisa's Gift Box
51. Dry Cleaning Basket includes \$50 Gift Card PLUS Laundry Items **donated by:** Lucky Star Cleaners
52. Dry Cleaning Basket includes \$50 Gift Card PLUS Laundry Items **donated by:** Lucky Star Cleaners
53. Bridgewater Basket & \$50 Gift Card to Magnolia Mey Boutique **donated by:** Magnolia Mey Boutique
54. MARJI cosmetics AND a 2 Hour Cosmetic Lesson **donated by:** MARJI LLC, Skin Care & Cosmetic Studio
55. Collection of MK Men products and Mary Kay at play lip and eye products. Plus \$25 gift certificate to be redeemed at first appointment **donated by:** Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultant-Charlotte McConnell
56. Gift Basket and Gift Certificate **donated by:** McAdams Dry Goods



A portion of the proceeds raised will provide dollars for the Mary Frances Park Scholarship Fund to be awarded to a Walker County senior attending Sam Houston State University next fall.

57. Dale Tiffany Peacock Mosaic Vase and Bowl with Stand Hand Blown Art Glass
donated by: McCaffety Electric Co., Inc.
58. Scentsy Basket *donated by:* Missy Grider-Scentsy Independent Consultant
59. 4 Tickets to the Woodlands Children's Museum AND Gingerbread House Workshop (Dec. 14th or Dec. 17th), 4 Tickets to the Ice Rink at the Woodlands AND \$50 Gift Card to the Cheesecake Factory *donated by:* Moak & Moak, Attorneys at Law & Spectrum Events
60. Round of Golf for 4 with Cart-Take your friends or family!
donated by: Raven Nest Golf Club
61. Cater Your next party or lunch meeting with Schlotzskys sandwiches, salads, pizzas and MORE! \$200 gift certificate; *donated by:* Schlotzskys
62. Santa's Wonderland – Tickets for Family of 4 for Hayride and Santa's Town in College Station; good thru January 1, 2017, *donated by:* Scott A. Logan, DDS
63. SHSU Basket *donated by:* SHSU Division of Student Affairs
64. 4 Tickets to the Trans Siberian Orchestra at the Toyota Center on Friday, December 23 at 8:00 p.m. *donated by:* Sims Dentistry, PLLC
65. Bud Light & NFL Ice Chest *donated by:* Stevenson Distributing
66. Texans Bud Light BBQ Pit *donated by:* Stevenson Distributing
67. 4 Tickets to the George Bush Presidential Library & Museum and 4 Tickets to the Children's Museum of Brazos Valley *donated by:* Summit Christian Academy
68. 10 Oil Changes from Team Dodge, \$250 Plus Value *donated by:* Team Dodge
69. Mario Andretti Racing Experience...Ride Along in a 2 Seat Indy-Style Race Car!
donated by: Team Dodge
70. Hand Carved Plant Stand *donated by:* Terry Ramback-Black Creek
71. Leather Portfolio with The State of Texas seal *donated by:* Texas Prison Museum
72. Texas Flag flown over the Texas State Capitol on July 4, 2016 *donated by:* Texas State Senator Charles Schwertner
73. Wine Basket and Gift Certificate *donated by:* The Cellar Wine Lounge
74. \$100 Certificate to The Facemaker can be used for any service they provide
donated by: The Facemaker
75. Food Basket *donated by:* Third Coast Gifts & Gourmet, Inc.
76. Complete Tuxedo Rental-Tuxedos By Al's Formal Wear *Includes tuxedo, vest, tie & shoes; \$150 value* *donated by:* Town & Country Cleaners
77. \$50 Gift Certificate to Town & Country Cleaners *Valid for laundry and/or dry cleaning*
donated by: Town & Country Cleaners
78. Pampered Chef Bar Pan with utensils *donated by:* Tracy Stoudt, Pampered Chef Independent Consultant
79. Flag flown over the United States Capitol Building (*certificate with personalization upon request*) and an Autographed Congressional Cookbook
donated by: U.S. Congressman Kevin Brady
80. Nora Fleming Christmas Chip & Dip Bowl, Christmas Linen Towel, Warming Joy Christmas Teas & Warmth of the Season Mug *donated by:* Walker County ACE Hardware-Classy Country Corner
81. Snowman Warmer Gift Set, Christmas Pillow, Snowy Warm Wishes Sign
donated by: Walker County ACE Hardware-Classy Country Corner
82. Portable Stainless Gas Grill with Propane Bottle *donated by:* Walker County LP Gas
83. Framed Texas Declaration of Independence with Seal
donated by: Ward Furniture & Flooring
84. WHEN PIGS FLY...Decorate your home, office, porch with this fun/playful Purple Flying Pig! *donated by:* Williams Farm & Treasures
85. Get in SHAPE in 2017...Advocare Exercise Ball, Athlete's Palate Cookbook, Advocare O2 Gold Dietary Supplement, Work out Gear! *donated by:* Anonymous
86. Chanel No. 5 Eau De Parfum 3.4oz, Colab Genuine Leather Bag & 3 Decorative Scarves
donated by: Anonymous
87. Bombay Wine Cabinet *donated by:* Adams Furniture
88. Leather Pistol Case *donated by:* BCJ Leather
89. Metal Shotgun Shell Necklace, Bracelet & Earring Set *donated by:* Oh Shoot Shotgun Shell Jewelry-Starla Williams
90. Gatsby Collection Necklace & Earring Set
donated by: Park Lane Jewelry-Rosie Ledezma
91. Creme De La Creme Collection Necklace & Earring Set *donated by:* Park Lane Jewelry-Rosie Ledezma

LIVE AUCTION

Romantic Getaway for 2 to Fredericksburg - 2 Nights at Cotton Gin Village Cabin and Gift Certificate to the Cabernet Grill PLUS \$150 Gift Card for Spending! AND a Texas Hill Country Cuisine Cabernet Grill Cookbook autographed by Chef Ross Burtwell *donated by:*

Bart Davis-Davis Construction Management & Carol Sullivan-Community Service Credit Union • 2016 Chamber Chair and 2017 Chamber Chair Elect!!!

LIVE AUCTION

GIRLS NIGHT OUT! - Ladies Retreat at the Hodge Podge Lodge in Montgomery! Overnight stay for up to 6 people, breakfast delivered & \$100 Visa gift card for spending *donated by:* McGillberry Mechanical Heating & Cooling, Inc., K&G Capital Mortgage & Tyler McCaffety

LIVE AUCTION

House in Pagosa Springs, Colorado-Enjoy 6 nights/7 days, 3 bedroom/3.5 bath log home (sleeps 10). Mountain views, walking distance to bike path, hiking trails, fishing & nearby access to the National Forest. Limited availability & blackout dates including holiday weeks;
donated by: The Story Team-Keller Williams Realty, Dale & Donna Story

LIVE AUCTION

Coushatta-Louisiana's Best Bet!!! - Overnight Stay at the Seven Clans Hotel for 2 guests, Dinner for 2 at the Seven Clans Buffet and \$250 cash! Must be 21 or older, expires December 9, 2017 *donated by:* Community Service Credit Union and Coushatta Casino Resort

LIVE AUCTION

Promote Your Business Package Wisely!

• One Full Page Full Color ad in the Huntsville Item • \$500 in Radio Advertising on KSAM-FM 101.7 • \$500 in Radio Advertising on 104.9 The Hits • Quarter page Full Color ad in the Postcards Piney Woods Edition and Montgomery Edition • 1000 Custom Full Color Double Sided Business Cards • Full Color Page in the Walker County Press • 4 ft x 8 ft Full Color Banner 5 Double Sided Full Color Yard Signs w/Stakes • A Chamber Email Blast- one per quarter for a year *donated by:* Huntsville Item, KSAM-FM 101.7&104.9 The HITS, Postcards Magazine-Pinewoods and Montgomery County Texas Media, Extreme Signs & Rigging and Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

LIVE AUCTION

EAT em' Up Kats! SHSU Commemorative Battle of the Piney Woods Game Day Football Autographed by the **VICTORIOUS 2016 Bearkat Players and Coaches!**
donated by: Huntsville Memorial Hospital

LIVE AUCTION

Mudbug Party! *42 Quart Aluminum Pot w/Strainer Basket, Outdoor Cooker Stand & Single Propane Jet Burner *38 lb. Sack of Crawfish, Package of Boil, 5 lb. Bag of Potatoes, 8 Count of Corn and Liquid Butter AND *\$100 Gift Certificate to Best Catch for MORE crawfish or shrimp AND \$50 Wal-Mart Gift Certificate for extras! AND *30 pack of Miller Lite & Coors Light AND *Miller Lite Crawfish Canopy *donated by:* Faust Distributing, Home Depot, Best Catch Seafood and Preferred Partners

LIVE AUCTION

DOZER WORK! General Dozer work to include land clearing, pond construction, etc. Value \$2000! *Walker County only, expires August 31, 2017, full value must be used at one time* *donated by:* Wilder Dozer Service, LLC

LIVE AUCTION

Eat Drink & Sip... at the 33rd Annual Wine & Roses Festival at Messina Hof Winery on Saturday, April 22, 2017. ALSO included a one night stay at the Villa Bed & Breakfast AND Messina Hof wine, and \$200 Visa gift card for spending *donated by:* Messina Hof Winery & Resort & Scott Francis-Edward Jones Investments

LIVE AUCTION

Fisherman's Paradise! 1/2 day Fishing Trip for 4 on Lake Conroe. Includes everything you need, except your fishing license. Also included is Bud Light & NFL Ice Chest, 2 30 packs of beer (Budweiser & Bud Light) \$50 Gift Card to Academy AND \$50 Visa card for accessories/food! *donated by:* Fish Dude's Guide Service, Stevenson Distributing & Walker County Federal Credit Union

Ambassador Spotlight ~ Gina Heinemann Bradford

Gina Heinemann Bradford has been employed with Carnes Funeral Home for the past five and a half years; they are based out of Texas City, Texas, owned and operated by Jay Carnes. "My position consists of providing options and closure for family and friends after the passing of a loved one within the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. I also represent Carnes Funeral Home at the viewings at Grace Baptist Church before the final resting place at Joe Byrd Cemetery in Huntsville. Other facets of my job are family services, marketing, counseling, selling pre-needs and monuments."



Gina Bradford

When asked "why is it important for me to be an Ambassador Member?" Gina replied, "Since I work in marketing being part of the Chamber of Commerce is very rewarding. The advantage of being an Ambassador helps me to put the word out that Carnes Funeral Home is also a part of Huntsville. Even though we don't have our main office here, we do our viewings and burials in Huntsville where I have a home office."

"I enjoy being an Ambassador because it gets me out among the community and therefore I can tell others what Huntsville has to offer. This is very gratifying and it enables us to get out there among friends and neighbors that otherwise we may never meet or even know; we learn about their businesses and make our business known to them. It is my pleasure to be a part of the Huntsville community and the Chamber of Commerce and I will serve whenever possible."

Gina has been a local resident since 2003 and she worships at Grace Baptist Church in Huntsville. Gina has two sons and is newly wedded to Mr. Vern Bradford. Gina is a Notary Public and an Ordained Minister; her services are open to the community.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS IN OCTOBER

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:**

East Texas Television- With generations of experience, Darren and Martin Gaston offer endless possibilities to capture life's key moments. They offer turnkey video production with live streaming capabilities, that will bring your vision to life. If you are looking for ways to help your business grow and how to get your business noticed, let East Texas Television produce your creative campaigns for Commercials, Live Streaming, Advertising, Web Sites, and even YouTube videos. For more information, contact Darren or Martin Gaston at 832-863-0703, or visit their website at www.etxtv.com

Eastex Trailers & Eastex Storage- Eastex Trailers specializes in selling "Diamond C" trailers, utility and equipment trailers, auto haulers and dump trailers. They also offer trailers for rent and trailer "parts", as well as repairs of most brands of trailers. "American Steel Carport" is a well known brand they offer for your carport or steel building needs. Wood sided "Cook" portable warehouses in various sizes are available. Hunting season is around the corner and they have DOX outdoor hunting blinds for sale. Eastex Storage offers RV & Boat Storage with the storage size buildings of 14 X 50 ft. For more information, contact John Cole at 936-291-0404, or stop by their location at 3156 State Highway 19 and take a look for yourself.

April Russell Insurance Agency- April Russell Insurance Agency is a full service, independent agency caring for the needs of Walker County and the surrounding areas. With multiple carriers to choose from, she will work hard to find you the best price for the coverage you need. She offers portable, voluntary, participating whole life insurance and term for worksite environments. This benefits the employee should they leave the company, they can take it with them. Call April today for a presentation at 936-355-9755.

Erin McMillan-Plexus Worldwide- Health and wellness company that focuses on leveling blood sugar and lipid levels. They offer nutritional supplements for a balanced digestive tract, "easing" joint and muscle pain, as well as weight loss support. Plexus Worldwide offers products for individuals use or business opportunities for flexibility and freedom. For more information, contact Erin at 936-777-2235.

Sandra Richards Farmers Insurance- As your local Farmer's agent in Huntsville, I am here to help customers like you identify the insurance coverage that best fits your needs. With over 30 years experience, my staff and I can help you better understand your coverage options-whether that's auto, home, renters, business insurance and more. We also support various charities with different fundraising events throughout the year. Give us a call at 936-291-9227, or stop by our location at 1403-B Avenue M. "We are Farmers", the company with competitive rates.

Cyclone Graffix- Want to get noticed driving down the road? Get your car or truck wrapped! Have a design in mind? If not we will work together to create for you the perfect vision. We use the best quality products in the industry to better serve you. Our services include: Commercial Fleet and personal wraps, wall and floor graphics, Brick and Textured Surfaces, and store front banners. All designs and installation are done In-House. For more information, call 936-439-6711, or stop by our location at 2703 Sam Houston Avenue and take a look at our unique Graffix!

Thanks to the following from the POP Committee @ the Chamber

- Local churches for helping HISD campuses
- Sears for donating a new washer/dryer to HISD

HUNTSVILLE & WALKER COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Employment	Huntsville Sept. 2016	Walker Co. Sept. 2016	Texas Sept. 2016	U.S. Sept. 2016	Huntsville Sept. 2015	Walker Co. Sept. 2015	Texas Sept. 2015	U.S. Sept. 2015
Total Labor Force	11,644	23,370	13,416,799	159,636,000	11,425	22,925	13,067,230	156,607,000
Total Employed	10,925	22,010	12,754,685	151,977,000	10,779	21,716	12,480,453	148,980,000
Total Unemployed	719	1,360	662,114	7,658,000	646	1,209	586,777	7,628,000
Percent Unemployed	6.2%	5.8%	4.9%	4.8%	5.7%	5.3%	4.5%	4.9%

Huntsville Building Permit Values	October 2016	October 2015	% Change
Building Residential	1,102,123	2,034,027	-0.46%
Commercial Building	670,800	3,554,304	-0.81%
Certificate of Compliance	25.00	25.00	-0-
Other	21,154,993	850,127	23.88%
TOTAL	22,927,941	6,438,483	2.56%

Walker County Sales Tax Payments	Nov. 2016	Nov. 2015	% Change	2016 YTD	2015 YTD	% Change
Huntsville (1.5%)	813,453.67	827,132.70	-1.65%	7,286,821.44	7,284,514.40	0.03%
New Waverly (1.5%)	38,248.08	46,099.17	-17.03%	409,523.22	417,267.01	-1.85%
Riverside (1.5%)	13,476.61	14,254.42	-5.45%	131,746.91	125,552.59	4.93%
Walker County (.5%)	312,520.28	326,826.24	-4.37%	2,998,176.64	3,034,339.78	-1.19%

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>)

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M.A.S.H. - Wednesday and Thursday, November 30-December 1 local radio stations **KSAM 101.7 and 104.9 THE HITS** will once again be spending two days in a camouflage tent in order to **MAKE A SMILE HAPPEN (M.A.S.H.)**. Stationed in front of Shenanigans/McKenzie's the radio team, along with ATO fraternity and members of the National Guard will collect toys, gifts and food for the less fortunate in our community - all to "make smiles happen" during the holidays. Every year they begin with some HUGE empty tents and by the end of the two days it is overflowing with generous donations. No toy, gift or food item is too small or too large - they just ask that all merchandise be new, not used. All food will stock the Good Shepherd Mission and toys and teen gift items will be distributed among SAAFE House, Santa's Helpers of Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, Huntsville YMCA, HISD Social Services and items of need will be given to the Rita B. Huff Animal Shelter. Every bit of food, merchandise and cash donated is immediately given to the agencies at the end of M.A.S.H. to be distributed to those in need. **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO HELP MAKE A SMILE HAPPEN!** For info call Dee Everett 291-2651

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.

Small Business Breakfast

Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

Thanks to **Walker County Federal Credit Union** for sponsoring the November Chamber Small Business Breakfast. Walker County Federal Credit Union is a full service financial institution with over 4,000 members. Chief Executive Officer Toi Williamson shared, "Providing excellent member services to our membership is what we do best, and we wish to extend these services to everyone in Walker County. Since our Establishment in 1957 we've remained dedicated to our member's financial needs. Walker County Federal Credit Union takes pride in the community we serve and we invite you to come join our credit union today. We look forward to serving you!"

Walker County Federal Credit Union provides their members with the following services:

- Savings Accounts
- Checking Accounts
- Auto Loans
- Personal Loans
- Recreational Vehicle Loans
- IRA Accounts
- Land Loans

Walker County Federal Credit Union is located at 1802 Normal Park Dr. For more information about joining the credit union or the products and services they offer you may visit their website at www.walkercountyfcu.com or call their office and speak to one of their friendly member services representatives at 936-291-2171.



Pictured are CEO Toi Williamson, Marketing Claudia Alvarez, Loan Officer Will Mejia

business after hours

Thanks to **Alpha Omega Academy** for hosting and sponsoring Business After Hours in October! Alpha Omega Academy is celebrating its 20th year of operation in Huntsville/Walker County. Headmaster, Paul Davidhizar shared, "With 27 students and 5 staff members in 1997, Alpha Omega opened in the strip center on Lake Road where the laundromat and beauty school are today. This school year opened with an enrollment of 406 students on our 27 acre campus on Hwy 30 by the Walker County Fairgrounds. Over 200 students have graduated from Alpha Omega since the first graduating class of 3 students in 2002. The school board is very thankful for all of the families who have been involved in the school and all of the committed staff who have served faithfully for many years."

"The board is now making plans for the future. Having recently paid off the mortgage on the existing property, we are working on designs for a new fine arts facility and fieldhouse. These projects are only in the planning stages, but the board is excited about the possibility of meeting the needs of our school. Thank you to all who attended the Business After Hours, and thank you to all of the families, staff, and board members involved in making Alpha Omega a vibrant, excellent educational opportunity in our community."

For more information you can find them on the web at www.alphaomegaacademy.org or stop by their location!



Pictured are: Nancy Davidhizar – Teacher/Superintendent of the school, Paul Davidhizar – Headmaster, Matt Hannes – Food Service Manager, Amber Van Roekel – Academic Advisor, Amy Stoerner – Business Manager, Clint Allen – Asst. Headmaster, Barbara Kent – Teacher, Kristen Hester – Board Member, Bobby Walls – School Board Chairman, Pam Payne – Teacher

Prize Patrol Makes Stops All Over

The Chamber Ambassador "Prize Patrol" continues to be very busy celebrating with many business members. The Ambassadors make "surprise" visits, complete with balloons and cookies to show appreciation to Chamber business members. Shown here are October visits made to (1) **Danny Dougherty State Farm** (2) **Education Service Center-Region VI** (3) **McNease Drugs** (4) **Huntsville Women's Center** (5) **Huntsville Techs** (6) **City Hall Cafe**. 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.



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Your 2016 Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

2016 Officers

Bart Davis, Chairman of the Board.....Davis Construction Management
 Robert Pate, Immediate Past Chair/NominatingFirst Financial Bank
 Carol Sullivan, TreasurerCommunity Service Credit Union
 Lisa Branch, Vice Chair Community AffairsLearningRx
 Scott Francis, Vice Chair Community GrowthEdward Jones Investments
 Michelle Hebert, MD, Vice Chair Business Services.....Pathology & Lab Services
 Aron Kulhavy, Vice Chair Economic Development & TourismCity of Huntsville
 Tammie Nokes, Vice Chair Membership/Communication.....McGilberry Mechanical
 Carol Smith, PresidentChamber of Commerce

Directors

Daniel BayesBayes Achievement Center
 Brandon Cooper.....Sam Houston State University
 Jennifer Davis..... First National Bank of Huntsville
 Sam Donnell.....Rockin' D Services, Inc.
 Margaret Gulledege.....Huntsville Memorial Hospital
 Jimmy HenryWalker County Commissioner
 Ken Holland.....University Heights Baptist Church
 David Markham.....Markham Realty, Inc.
 Jacob PaschalHaney,Moorman,Paschal, P.C.
 Marcus Payne..... Citizens National Bank
 Kristy Vienne.....Sam Houston State University
 Reginald WatkinsPraise & 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.....Receptionist/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

NOVEMBER

22 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 23 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
 24 THANKSGIVING DAY
 25 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
 29 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 29 Ambassador Meeting, 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber

DECEMBER

1 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 1 Christmas Open House @ Chamber, 4:00-6:00 p.m. (Come and Go)
 8 Small Business Breakfast, sponsored by Huntsville Lions Club, 7:30 a.m. @ Golden Corral
 8 Executive Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m. @ Chamber
 8 Preferred Partners Christmas Party, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Los Pericos Mexican Restaurant
 9 Chamber GALA, 6:30-9:30 p.m. @ LSC Ballroom
 13 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 14 Tourism Meeting, 8:30 a.m. @ Chamber
 15 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ TBD
 15 Board Meeting, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 15 Business After Hours, sponsored by Texas Grand Ranch
 21 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
 22-23 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
 27 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
 27 Ambassador Meeting, 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
 28 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON FOR NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY
 29 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY
 30 CHAMBER OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY
 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Community Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

21 10:30 am Mother Goose Lapsit @ Public Library
 21 4:30 pm Huntsville Pets Helping People @ Public Library
 22 Check Website for Hours Trace Echo Exhibition @ Gaddis Geeslin Gallery
 23 10:45 am Come to Story Time @ Public Library
 24-27 Huntsville Library closed for Holiday
 TBD Rocky Raccoon 50K/25K Trail Run @ Huntsville State Park
 26 10:00 am-2:00 pm Blacksmithing Demonstration @Museum Grounds
 28 10:00 am Huntsville Library Opens
 28 10:30 am Mother Goose Lapsit @ Public Library
 29 6:00 pm SHSU Film Screening of "Love & Basketball" @ Old Town Theatre
 30 10:45 am Come to Story Time @ Public Library
 30 4-5:30 pm Comic Book Club @ Public Library

NOTE: SHSU Jazz Ensemble CD featuring 2015 and 2016 Jazz Ensemble Purchase Online

DECEMBER

1 4:00-6:00 pm Christmas Open House @ Chamber of Commerce
 1 6:00 pm Special Education Parent Night 2016 @ HISD Student Center, @1010 8th Street
 2 5:30-7:30 pm Gingerbread House Contest & Reception @Wynne Home
 2-3 6:00-9:00 pm Journey through Bethlehem @ Walker Cty. Fairgrounds
 3 6:00 pm Cider on the Porch @ Wynne Home
 3 6:30 pm 2016 Christmas Parade Downtown Huntsville
 3 10:00 am-2:00 pm Houston Family Christmas Museum Grounds
 3 8:00 am Santa Fun Run 5K @ 125 Medical Parkway
 4 2:00-5:00 pm Historic Homes Tour @ Wynne Home
 5 5:00-6:30 pm 7th Annual Photography Contest @ Walker Education Ctr.
 6-10 6:00,7:00,8:00, 9:00 pm A Wynne Home Nutcracker @ Wynne Home
 9 6:30-9:30 pm Annual Chamber GALA-Passing of the Gavel @ LSC Ballroom