

**The  
Chamber**



# VOICE

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

**Volunteers. Opportunities. Involvement. Community. Events.**

**February 2016**

## Top 10 Benefits of Showcasing Your Business at Business

### Expo 2016

1. Leads
2. Product Feedback
3. Image Enhancement
4. Potential Clients
5. New Sales Opportunities
6. Personnel Recruitment
7. Business Relationships
8. Media Contacts
9. Networking/Referrals
10. Growing Your Business

A product of the Existing Business  
Council of the Chamber



## HIGHLIGHTS of '15



## Business

### Expo 2016

and

**Taste of Huntsville**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

Thursday, March 3, 2016  
Business only 4-5 p.m.  
General Public 5-7:30 p.m.

**Come Join Us At The Business Expo!!**

## Member Spotlight...



## Welcome New Members:

- City Electric Supply
- Americas Tax Office
- Homegrown Marketplace
- Magnolia Mey Boutique
- CASA of Walker County
- K & G Capital Mortgage
- Blake Duncan's Premiere Re-Builders

*See page 6*

**THANK YOU TO OUR  
Platinum Level  
Investors**

**First  
National  
Bank  
OF HUNTSVILLE**



**FIRST  
FINANCIAL  
BANK**

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

**CAROL'S CORNER**



Carol Smith

**ATTITUDE!!** What a powerful word!! A strong positive attitude is vital to our personal happiness and success. Every day we have the option of how we face that day and life in general...will we embrace positive, forward thinking, or will we fall back into despair and a negative, uncaring way of looking at life? All of this brings me to the

topic that is constantly on many of our minds...ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT!!

You might be asking "what does **attitude** have to do with economic development?" My honest opinion is it has **EVERYTHING** to do with it!!

From time to time it is my pleasure to join groups throughout Walker County that share thoughts and ideas on what it is that makes our community enticing to growth, business and industry. Many topics are typically tossed around, including Sam Houston State University, TDCJ, our schools, both public and private, quality of life, availability of workforce, transportation, existing sites, and the list goes on and on. One important aspect that was mentioned multiple times was **attitude**.

I like to think we are open minded and welcoming to business and industry that fits our community. In a recent article, I read that economic development is "anything that improves a community and makes it better for all". This year the Chamber is looking at every conceivable method for improving our community and we seek your input. We have a variety of committees that focus on natural resources and agriculture, tourism, leadership, communica-

tion, and marketing our membership and businesses, just to mention a few. We would love for you to join us in these efforts.

We are convinced Walker County has the best of all worlds, and the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce is proud to be the "**front door**" for all of Walker County! AND, did you know, your Chamber is celebrating its 82nd anniversary this year – 82 years of excellent and proactive partnerships with the business community! We say "congratulations" to all those businesses that have been in our community for 50 plus years!!!

And speaking of attitudes and economic development be sure you are connected to our **29th Annual Business Expo and Taste of Huntsville set for Thursday, March 3rd at the Walker County Fair Grounds**. Cost is \$10 which includes "A Taste of Huntsville". Businesses will not want to miss this opportunity to market your goods and services to the many thousands that will attend. For a heavy dose of great attitude, don't miss this event. Call us at 295-8113 to reserve a booth today! Tickets are available at the door.

Great customer service and positive attitudes are critical for businesses, but also for our community as we welcome growth through new families, businesses and industry to our part of the state. It's our philosophy that customer service is not a department...it is an **ATTITUDE**, and we hope it's contagious all across Walker County!!

So, as stated at the beginning of this article, I am convinced that attitude not only impacts our personal happiness and success, it also impacts the people around us...family, friends, and business associates. Attitude may not be everything, but it comes pretty darn close, and it **IS** contagious!! Let's apply it to economic development in Walker County! Hope to see you soon...stop in for a visit anytime.

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

**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.

**Member Spotlight...**

**Postcards Magazine** is owned and published by Altom Consulting and Marketing, Inc., a local full-service advertising agency with more than 98 years of combined experience in advertising, marketing, design and customer service. Company president Karen Altom shared, "Postcards Magazine was designed and created to be a positive force that helps connect community in a unique and fun way. We are honored by the acceptance and recognition as your 'Hometown Magazine!'"

Postcards Magazine publishes two monthly magazines. The Piney Woods edition distributes 25,000 copies covering Huntsville, New Waverly, Madisonville, Trinity, Riverside and Midway. The Lake Conroe edition of 31,000 is the largest distribution in and around Lake Conroe serving Willis, Conroe and Montgomery. More than 97% of all issues are distributed via direct mail with the remaining copies placed in racks in high traffic areas.

Additionally, PostcardsLive.com hosts all issues online along with an up-to-date calendar of events and a place for readers to share community!

If you have any questions or would like more information on advertising in this popular publication, contact advertising@postcardslive.com or email Karen at publisher@postcardslive.com. Karen says, "Our slogan is, 'Community. It's what we do!' and we mean every word." Call us anytime at 936-293-1188.



Karen Altom

**ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

**HUNTSVILLE & WALKER COUNTY ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

Employment	Huntsville Dec. 2015	Walker Co. Dec. 2015	Texas Dec. 2015	U.S. Dec. 2015	Huntsville Dec. 2014	Walker Co. Dec. 2014	Texas Dec. 2014	U.S. Dec. 2014
Total Labor Force	11,354	22,858	13,077,390	157,245,000	11,441	23,003	13,152,203	155,521,000
Total Employed	10,790	21,780	12,522,151	149,703,000	10,900	22,002	12,612,084	147,190,000
Total Unemployed	564	1,078	555,239	7,542,000	541	1,001	540,119	8,331,000
Percent Unemployed	5.0%	4.7%	4.2%	4.8%	4.7%	4.4%	4.1%	5.4%

Huntsville Building Permit Values	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	% Change
Building Residential	137,350	365,082	-0.62%
Commercial Building	1,720,500	1,287,732	0.34%
Certificate of Compliance	0	0	0
Other	114,403	132,645	-0.14%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,972,253</b>	<b>1,785,459</b>	<b>0.10%</b>

Walker County Sales Tax Payments	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	% Change	2016 YTD	2015 YTD	% Change
Huntsville (1.5%)	869,903.21	828,287.64	5.02%	1,440,559.78	1,402,686.48	2.70%
New Waverly (1.5%)	53,164.91	68,239.34	-22.09%	96,973.22	105,622.38	-8.18%
Riverside (1.5%)	13,445.91	12,549.47	7.14%	23,719.03	21,984.77	7.88%
Walker County (.5%)	338,929.82	338,684.20	0.07%	580,296.10	585,631.18	-0.91%

**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)

**NUPLISTEN UPLISTE**

Join Huntsville Memorial Hospital and Dr. Rabab Mohsin, Cardiologist, for a seminar on "Living with Heart Disease" Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 6:00 p.m. HMH Conference Room C. RSVP to 936-291-4599.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates that over 26 million Americans have been diagnosed with heart disease, and nearly half of all Americans have one of the major risk factors for heart disease: high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or smoking.

**Come meet Dr. Mohsin, a cardiologist new to our community!** She will share some simple tips that can help you control heart disease, potentially prevent a first or even a second heart attack, and increase your chances for a long and vital life. If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with heart disease, plan to join us on Feb. 23 to learn more about controlling the disease and living well.

Please make reservations by replying to this email or calling 936-291-4599. Thank you!

**Huntsville Community Theatre** would like to announce the opening of "**Jake's Women**," a comedy by renowned playwright Neil Simon.

The performances are scheduled for Feb 19, 20, 26, and 27 at 7:30pm, and Feb 21 and 28 at 2pm.

**Our Ticket Rates are:** Adults (18 & over) \$12, Senior (65 & over) \$10, Military (w/ID) \$10 High School & College Students (w/ID) \$6, Children (17 & Younger) \$6. Tickets can be reserved online by visiting our website at www.HuntsvilleCommunityTheatre.org or by calling 936-291-7933.

Congratulations to **NobleMotion Dance!** The gritty television drama "American Crime" seems an unlikely stage for contemporary dance. But four full minutes of the episode premiering Wednesday, February 3 on ABC featured a commissioned performance by the choreographers of Houston's NobleMotion Dance Company.

NobleMotion Dance Company specializes in driving movement and flashy lighting effects. During their recent show, "Storm Front" at the Hobby Center in Houston, one of the "American Crime" producers saw the show and hired the Nobles. They created the dance for "American Crime" in eight days, mostly at a studio in Austin, though they tried out early versions with students at Sam Houston State University, where they teach.

NobleMotion's next performance, "La Dor Vador" (Generation to Generation) will premier on April 9 and 11 at the Jewish Community Center. It is unusual autobiographical based on the story of his grandparents, who were Holocaust refugees and poets.



# RECENT MEMBER RENEWALS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Sam Houston Memorial Museum                   | Madilene's Piano Tuning                           |
| Carriage Inn                                  | Gus Hernandez Insurance Agency                    |
| CenterPoint Energy                            | Tri-County Behavior Healthcare Services           |
| Trinity River Authority                       | Beckham & Jones                                   |
| Sam Houston State University                  | Stephen H. Means & Associates                     |
| Huntsville ISD                                | Community Service Credit Union                    |
| Jimmy Henry                                   | Walker County Title Company                       |
| Hyundai of Huntsville                         | Villages at Huntsville                            |
| Huntsville Pets Helping People                | Huntsville Pediatrics & Adult Medicine Associates |
| Walker County Fair Association                | Mitcham Industries                                |
| Len George                                    | Kim's Home & Garden Center                        |
| SAAFE HOUSE                                   | City of Huntsville                                |
| Bethy Creek Resort                            | North Lakes Pain Consultants                      |
| Haney,Moorman, Paschal, P.C.                  | La Quinta Inn                                     |
| Fresh Donuts                                  | Sam's Club  |
| Tomorrow's Promise                            | Ridgewood West Apartment Homes                    |
| Huntsville Lions Club                         | Prosperity Bank, New Waverly                      |
| Samuel Walker Houston Museum                  | Davis, Heinemann & Company                        |
| Wiesner                                       | Forest Glen Christian Camp                        |
| 1st Choice Insurance Agency                   | Wharton Insurance                                 |
| Pete Johnson Towing & Transportation          | MediaGenics Company                               |
| Southwestern Consolidated Directory Co.       | Heartfield Florist                                |
| Advantage Specialties, Inc.                   | Griggs Automotive                                 |
| Physical Therapy Associates                   | The Lexington Center                              |
| Gibbs Brothers                                | Hospitality House                                 |
| Timbers Apartments                            | Carbonero Rotisserie Chicken & Steak              |
| Citizens National Bank                        | Visibly Clear Window & Elegant Walls by Design    |
| Elkins Lake Recreation Corporation            | Dusty Stoughton- Scentsy                          |
| Jane Monday                                   | Divine Life Chang LLC                             |
| Town and Country Cleaners                     | Curves  |
| Huntsville High School EX-Student Association | Joe Monteleone, State Farm Insurance              |
| Sammy R. Bryan, DDS                           | Classic Fare Catering Aramark                     |

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.**

## See You At The Expo!

**Business Expo 2016 and Taste of Huntsville** is right around the corner. **Thursday, March 3, 2015** from 4:00-7:30 pm will be an exciting opportunity for you to market your business and sell your product to many consumers and nearly 100 local businesses. New as well as long-established businesses showcase themselves and their services to the Huntsville-Walker County community. This is the perfect venue for businesses to obtain leads and referrals, to promote their image, receive product feedback, make media contacts, and network! There will be a Business Only hour from 4-5 pm. Visit us during this hour and bring your business card for a chance to win a \$100 gift certificate to 1836 Steakhouse.

Admission to the event is \$10 and includes entry to the Taste of Huntsville area with food from some of Huntsville's favorite restaurants. Children 10 and under get in for only \$5.

Booths are going fast on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve your spot today. Vendor hospitality will be provided by Texas Grand Ranch. Contact Shannon Higbie at the Chamber for a booth or more information, 295-8113.

**Taste of Huntsville & Vendor Hospitality Sponsor**

**Communications Sponsor:**

**Transportation Sponsors**



## Ribbon Cuttings



**El Rancho Viejo Mexican Restaurant**

**El Rancho Viejo Mexican Restaurant**- celebrated their ribbon cutting ceremony with Staff, Chamber Members, and Ambassadors on January 26, 2016. Located at 828 S. Robb in Trinity, TX they offer fabulous Mexican food and GREAT margarita's. Call them at 936-594-1494 or by email at elranchoviejorestaurant@gmail.com



**George's Garage**

**George's Garage**- located at 744 Hwy. 19 celebrated their ribbon cutting ceremony along with Chamber Members and Ambassadors on January 12, 2016. If you need someone who specializes in gasoline and diesel automotive repair, give them a call at 936-291-3525, or by email at service.georgesgarage@gmail.com



**Marji, LLC**

**MARJI, LLC**- celebrated her ribbon cutting with friends, Chamber Members and Ambassadors on January 14, 2016. With an eye of an expert in today's luxury cosmetic lines, MARJI helps you develop confidence with **WHAT WORKS FOR YOU, WHAT YOU NEED, WHY YOU NEED IT, and HOW** to use it. For more information you may contact her at 860-878-8172, or visit her website at [www.BEAUTYBYMARJI.com](http://www.BEAUTYBYMARJI.com)





I want to be a

Presenter

Remember being a teenager? If you knew then just a little of what you know now wouldn't it have been easier?

CHOICES is an interactive decision-making workshop that empowers teens to achieve academic success in pursuit of their career and life aspirations.

In two 45-minute sessions, local business and community volunteers take students through real-world exercises on academic self-discipline, time and money management, and goal setting. Teens discover that they can take charge of their lives.

We presented CHOICES to New Waverly Middle School in October, 2015 and Mance Park Middle School 8th grade students January, 2016.

We are looking for presenters for the 2016-2017 school year. You only need to commit to 45 minutes each day during the two day program. You can become a "certified presenter" by going to this link: <http://tinyurl.com/choices-presenter-training>. For more information visit their website at [www.choices.org](http://www.choices.org) or call the Chamber at 936-295-8113.

We would like to recognize the wonderful volunteers for the 2014-2015 school year that makes this great program possible.

- Carol Sullivan—Community Service Credit Union
- Nancy Gaertner—Retired Educator
- Michelle Hebert—Arbonne International
- Kim Williams—Prosperity Bank-New Waverly
- Steve Fisher—Walker Co. Sheriff's Dept.
- John Davidhizar—Forest Glen Camp
- Sherry Ingram—KSTAR Country
- Gene Barteo—Walker County Constable
- Lori Logan—SBDC
- Jessica Abram—Green Acres of Huntsville
- Shelia Cannon—On Pointe Dance Co.
- Rebekah Filson—SHSU
- Kelsey Smith—First Financial Bank
- Jimmy Henry—Walker County

- Reginald Watkins—Praise & Glory Worship
- Scott Francis—BBVA
- Aron Kulhavy—City of Huntsville
- Kim McLerran—SBDC
- John Cole—Cole Insurance Co.
- Lee Woodward—City of Huntsville
- Sam Donnell—Rockin' D Services, Inc.
- Margie Tidwell—Bickley Prescott
- Jonathan Hunter—Green Acres of Huntsville
- Karen Denman—Community Ser. Credit Union
- Joseph Wiggs—City of Huntsville
- Shirley Jackson—Retired Educator
- Natalie McDaniel—Quality Suites

We would also like to recognize and thank the generous support of our sponsors.



Leadercast-Huntsville-Walker County



# HLI Class 34 making a difference at Mance Park Middle School

One of the graduation requirements for Huntsville Leadership Institute (HLI) participants is to create, and implement a worthwhile project in our community. The project is reviewed by the HLI Board and once given the all go signal, class members coordinate, organize, plan, fund raise and bring the project to completion by the end of the year.

Written by HLI Class 34 member Drew Miller

On January 28th Huntsville Leadership Institute class 34, (the absolute BEST class!), joined with business leaders and professionals from the Huntsville community to present "OPTIONS", a career fair, to the 8th grade class at Mance Park Middle School. The OPTIONS program is a close cousin to the CHOICES program, during which professionals deliver brief presentations to the students about their chosen careers. OPTIONS is an important addition to the CHOICES curriculum in that students have the ability to interact directly with professionals throughout the day.

The opportunity to ask questions and get a more realistic understanding of the journey to a specific career is an invaluable experience for students at this stage of their development, and something that the students were clearly eager to take advantage of. "At one point in the morning I pulled one of my other class members over to the side to point out a student who had stayed after the other 8th graders left to ask more questions about what it takes to be a welder," current HLI class member Kyle Barnard said. "We realized it was worth all the time and effort to put this event even if we only impacted that one student."

Mance Park Counselor Tori Oliphant believes that the OPTIONS was largely successful because it gave students positive exposure to the options they have in life.

"We were so happy to see our students engaged and interested in the presentations," Oliphant said. Feedback from the professionals who spent the day with the students was overwhelmingly positive and many described feeling as though they got just as much out of the experience as the students did. "I liked having the opportunity to introduce young minds to a career that I love but that is unknown even to most adults," local translator Andie Ho said. "What a thoughtful and truly beneficial project this was!"

HLI class 34 is the second group to have brought the OPTIONS experience to the students of Mance Park Middle School. The members of HLI class 31 originally conducted the OPTIONS program for their class project and also received positive feedback from all involved. Based on the consistent success and overall impact of this program, the HLI board of directors and Chamber board of directors recently voted to make OPTIONS the permanent class project for all future HLI classes.

HLI Coordinator Laura Green shared, "The vision that class 31 and now class 34 had for OPTIONS has proven to be a success. I am so excited that future classes will be able to participate in this program and help it become even bigger and better for future students. This is perfect opportunity for us to catch these kids before they go to high school and start making choices along a chosen career path. We hope they will learn how to be successful in fulfilling their dreams and career choices."

For more information on this program or HLI, please contact the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce at 936-295-8113.

Below is a list of sponsors and presenters who were vital to the success of this project. HLI Class 34, the HLI Board and the Chamber Board of Directors and staff wish to express their sincere thanks for the generosity of time given to these students.

Audrey Biggar - Attorney  
Colby Johnson - Golf Professional  
Dalene Zender - Realtor  
Dr. James Featherstone - Pastor  
Lindsay Lewis - Correctional Officer  
Tracy Hutto - Correctional Officer  
Mike Legerski - Police Officer  
Rian Kaaa - Police Officer  
Zach Duer - Police Officer  
Scott McClatchy - Athletic Trainer  
Victoria White - Victim Advocate  
Ashlea Doss - Nurse  
Chace Fryar - Paramedic  
DJ Casburn - Paramedic

Toi Williamson - Banker  
Dale Byrd - Welder  
Demetrius Thompson - Welder  
Lisa Cruz - Welder  
Greg Mathis - Firefighter  
Margaret Gullede - Occupational  
Therapist  
Haley Hensley - Residence Hall Director  
Christopher Mitchell - Plumber  
Anne Prouty - Teacher / Realtor  
Donna Pinon - Realtor  
Sherri Barrett - Realtor  
Andie Ho - Translator  
Rina Abril-Walker - Nurse

Madison Fontana - Cosmetologist  
Ondira Collins - Cosmetologist  
Vanessa Tindall - Cosmetologist  
Yazmin Salinas - Cosmetologist  
Carol Reed - Public Works  
Shannon Ramsey, LVT - Vet Tech  
Mary Anne Tyler - Realtor  
Pamela Carr - Nurse  
Michelle Castanon - Psychologist  
Vanessa Thuesen - Massage Therapist  
Mike McDowell - TDCJ Industrial  
Tricia Rowe - Accountant  
Karen Altom - Journalist  
Mike Nokes - HVAC

Gold Sponsors: Walker County Federal Credit Union and Community Service Credit Union, The Agrestic Group, LLC, and Lions International

Silver Sponsors: Subway, McGilberry Mechanical, Sam Houston State University, Double Dave's Pizzaworks, Danny Dougherty - State Farm Insurance, American Storage, Jimmy John's, First Financial Bank, Rockin' D Services, Inc, Bill Tutor, White Ivy Real Estate, Sherri Barrett, Celeste Slatter, Hudnall Family Cattle and Scott Francis, Branch Retail Executive at BBVA Compass



Presented by Huntsville Leadership Institute Class 34 (AKA Best Class Ever)



## Michelle Hebert, MD Receives Prestigious Pathology Society Award

Michelle Hebert, MD of Huntsville, Texas has received the George T. Caldwell, MD Distinguished Service Award from the Texas Society of Pathologists. Dr. Hebert was honored at the Society's 95th Annual Meeting in Dallas on January 16, 2016. Established in 1954, the award recognizes distinguished service and teaching excellence among pathologists. The award is the Society's most prestigious award and represents the highest ideals in service to medicine, community, and humanity as exemplified by the late pathologist, Dr. George T. Caldwell (1882 – 1947).



Michelle Hebert

She received her MD degree from UT Health Sciences Center in San Antonio in June 1990. After finishing her anatomic and clinical pathology residency at the UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, she completed fellowships in surgical pathology, under the director of Dr. Jorge Albores-Saavedra and hematopathology, under the direction of Dr. Robert McKenna, at the same institution. She is board certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and Hematopathology.

Michelle now spends her time consulting and doing locum tenens pathology work. She enjoys the flexibility this affords to pursue her many other interests, including community service work. Michelle serves on the Boards of Directors of the Huntsville Family YMCA and the Huntsville Walker County Chamber of Commerce. She was recognized by the Chamber for her efforts on their behalf with the Warm Welcome Award.

Michelle enjoys exploring new cultures and has travelled extensively with her dear friends and family. She continues to enjoy the performing arts, particularly the symphony and theater. She is an avid, life-long fan of the Houston Astros and Dallas Cowboys, and is always hopeful for a championship season for either team, or preferably, both.

The Texas Society of Pathologists is honored to confer the 2016 George T. Caldwell, MD Distinguished Service Award to one of Texas' most distinguished physicians, Dr. Michelle Hebert.

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS IN JANUARY

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:**

**City Electric Supply**-is dedicated to providing quality supplies for customers in the residential, commercial, and industrial markets. A family owned electrical wholesale distributor since 1983, providing the best customer service in the United States. Visit them at 420 FM2821, or give them a call at 936-293-8393. You may also visit their website at [www.cityelectricsupply.com](http://www.cityelectricsupply.com)

**Americas Tax Office**-located at 1101A Sycamore, is your newest tax preparation service in Huntsville operated by David Harden and Lisa Issac- Harden. Hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. They offer E Filing and E Filing with \$500 Advances as well as a free android tablet with tax preparation. For more details call the office at 877-421-0898 or 936-661-3024. They can be reached by email at [letusfileurtaxes@netzero.net](mailto:letusfileurtaxes@netzero.net)

**CASA of Walker County**-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, please contact Debbie Sapp, Executive Director at 936-291-6363, or stop by their office at 1300 11th St., Suite 430B.

**Homegrown Marketplace**- a new and fun Boutique Clothing store, that also offers Texas merchandise, and many arts and craft items made by local artisans. Stop by and visit their shop located at 1108 16th St., or give them a call at 936-295-5771. Their store hours are Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Magnolia Mey Boutique**-located at 1116 10th St., is a place that offers women trendy, yet practical clothing and accessories at an affordable price. They offer lines of clothing that help international and local organizations by donating a portion of their sales to help those in need. Shop with a Purpose! Stop by and visit, or give them a call at 936-755-8107. They are opened Monday thru Friday 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and on Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**K & G Capital Mortgage**-a premier lender in Huntsville who pride themselves in complete customer satisfaction, and providing mortgage services for all residential properties. If you are looking for a home and/or home mortgage, please contact Tyler McCaffety at 936-661-7618 or by email at [tyler@kgcm.com](mailto:tyler@kgcm.com) or stop by their office located at 1013 10th Street, Suite 210. You may also visit their website at [www.kgcm.com](http://www.kgcm.com)

**Blake Duncan's Premier Re-Builders**- has a mission to provide excellent workmanship and complete customer satisfaction from start to completion of a project. They install Composition, Standing Seam, Single ply TPO and Modified Flat Roofing Systems. Their reputation is based on service, safety, and quality, regardless of how large or small the job. For more information, contact Brian Cones, Branch Manager at 936-730-4054, or visit their website at [www.premiererebuilders.com](http://www.premiererebuilders.com)

**SHOT in the DARK**  
Night Golf Tournament

**Friday, May 6**  
Raven Nest Golf Club  
4:00 p.m.

Thanks to our Sponsors

**4 Person Scramble**  
**18 holes of Golf**  
**9 in daylight; 9 after dark!**  
*Dinner, cart, glow accessories and MORE...all included*  
**CHANCE to WIN GREAT PRIZES**  
**Including \$10,000 Hole-in-One!**

AND

Helicopter Golf Ball Drop!

WIN \$1000

*Not a Golfer? You can still participate AND you do not have to be present to WIN!!!*

Call 936-295-8113

www.chamber.huntsville.tx.us

## What's Happening!

- **Business After Hours – February 25th, 5:15p.m.**  
sponsored by Magnolia Mey Boutique
- **Business Expo & Taste of Huntsville- Thursday, March 3**
- **Small Business Breakfast- March 10, 7:30a.m. ,**  
sponsored by Rockin' D Services
- **13th Annual Shot in the Dark Golf Tournament & Helicopter Golf Ball Drop-Friday, May 6th at Raven Nest Golf Club**
- **SAVE THE DATE: DIVA NIGHT, Friday, August 12th**  
Theme: Kentucky Derby

TEXAS GULF COAST NETWORK  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

### Seminar Schedule

January - March, 2016

**QuickBooks Online Basics**

Wed, March 23rd  
8:30am - 11:30am; 1:00pm - 4:00pm  
Location: SHSU SBDC Computer Lab  
Fee: \$60

**Key Topics:** Bookkeeping basics, General navigation within QuickBooks applications \* Create a company and meaningful Chart of Accounts \* Customers and vendors \* Accounts receivable \* Managing bank accounts \* Adding entries, Job estimates, Billing and invoicing, Receiving payments \* Purchase orders, Paying bills and printing checks, Accounts Payable \* Understanding financial reports, budgeting and planning.

**Adobe Photoshop**

**Introduction - Tues. Feb. 16th 6-8pm**  
Intro to Photoshop will cover basic principles for editing and enhancing photos, basic photo Terminology, navigating Photoshop, editing topics such as resizing and rotating and red eye removal, using the history brush and how to select different areas of a photo. Layers and text will also be explained and displayed as well as brushes. Students will also be shown how each of these tools can be put together in one giant project.

**Advanced - Tues. Feb. 23rd - 6-8pm**  
This course will build on the principles learned in Introduction to Photoshop. Regardless of the version of Photoshop that you use, there are only a handful of tools you need to do some spectacular work. Topics covered in this course include: clone stamp tool , layers panel, working with layers, layers masks, adjustment layers, layer effects, advanced text options and effects

**Location:** SHSU SBDC Computer Lab  
**Fee: \$20 each class**

Please register and reserve your spot at :  
<http://samhoustonstateuniversity.sbdcnetwork.net>

# Small Business Breakfast

Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce

Thanks to **Dr. Casey Frazier, DDS, Pediatric Dentistry** for sponsoring the Chamber Small Business Breakfast in February.

Dr. Casey Frazier has been providing high quality dentistry to children of Huntsville and Walker County for almost 20 years. As the only Board Certified Pediatric Dentist in Huntsville, Dr. Frazier is trained to treat infants, children and teenagers as well as medically compromised children. She is also specially trained to administer medications and sedations to calm even the most anxious child, as well as offer IV medications when necessary. As a pediatric specialist, Dr. Frazier and her team cater to her patients with everything from a bright "sea themed" office to video games, movies and of course.....prizes from the treasure chest! Dr. Frazier and her team consider it a true blessing to serve the children of Huntsville and Walker County and to serve God in the process.

February is Children's Dental Health Month and as such, Dr. Frazier's team volunteers at most of the schools and daycares in the area to educate the children about the causes of decay, as well as perform screenings to pinpoint students that are truly at high risk of a dental infection. These visits always include a visit from the "Tooth Fairy" and "Olivia" the Octopus, the office mascot. Dr. Frazier and her team are very excited to now be in network with Humana PPO policies as well accepting others PPO insurances. Not only do we value our active patients yet always welcome new patients to the practice as well!



Pictured are: Raney Dickey, Casey R. Frazier D.D.S., and Shanda Coleman

## HUNTSVILLE RESIDENT NAMED MCDONALD'S CREW PERSON OF THE YEAR

*Houston Region Crew Member, Magda Castaneda, recognized for outstanding performance as a McDonald's employee.*

On February 8 our local McDonald's and our community celebrated as employee Magda Castaneda was recognized as Crew Person of the Year! Magda Castaneda is a leader among the crew in the McDonald's restaurant located at 2719 11th Street in Huntsville, Texas. Throughout her five years of employment at McDonald's, she has continued to excel and elevate her performance from starting at the grill to working her way up to the premier hospitality ambassador. She constantly earns praises from not only her co-workers, managers and supervisors, but also from guests and has now been honored with receiving the McDonald's 2015 Crew Person of the Year award in the Houston Region which covers a very broad area!



Magda Castaneda

With about 60-70 employees at the restaurant, each and every crew member meets Castaneda when they first start. She is the official greeter of new crew members and acts as their guide to shadow when they first start working at the restaurant. She has had such an impact training employees on hospitality that the restaurant now has daily shift "hospitality heroes" that model the behaviors she teaches. Not only is she a great hospitality ambassador, Castaneda excels in the restaurant on a daily basis. She welcomes guests at the door, offering free samples of McDonald's items and chats with them during their visit. Friday business has even increased due to Castaneda's recent position move from the drive-thru to working in the dining room of the restaurant.

"Magda is the most deserving woman I know," stated Jeanie Smith, longtime Huntsville Owner/Operator. "She never asks for anything, is always giving and expects nothing. When she gets compliments from her loyal guests, she just smiles and says she loves her job and loves serving them. She has come so far during her time here and represents all that is good about McDonald's. I am so proud of her accomplishments and to have her on my team."

Magda received over 60 letters from the restaurants' guests supporting her nomination for Crew Person of the Year. The letters of support were submitted by friends and family, members of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, various car dealerships, trucking company employees, police officers, public servants, university professors and the many others in our community in general. Magda received \$500 in cash, a newly designed etched cube award and a Crew Person of the Year pin. The Mayor of Huntsville also honored with a proclamation stating February 8th as "Magda Castaneda Day in Huntsville!"

# business after hours

Thanks to **Preferred Partners** for sponsoring the Chamber Business After Hours in January. Preferred Partners is a program of the Huntsville-Walker County Chamber of Commerce designed for area businesses to trade business leads. It is a "business roundtable" approach for a group of non competing businesses to discuss and exchange leads and referrals. The objective each week is to provide a networking agenda, for the purpose of generating new business. There is an application fee of \$50.00 to register, and \$30.00 per quarter for dues, which includes admittance to the Small Business Breakfast that is held on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:30 am at Golden Corral. The Preferred Partners group meets every Tuesday at 8:00 am in the Chamber Conference Room, where breakfast is provided by the featured business. For an application or more information, stop by the Chamber, or call 936-295-8113.

### Our Current Members are:

Jessica Jones - Allegiance Mobile Health, John Cole - Cole Insurance, Dava Gordy - Bridge Benefit Solutions  
 Lisa Paul - Ample Computer Services, Frankie McCaffety - McCaffety Electric, Bobby Pettit - PressureWashTX.com  
 Nancy Reeves - Tax Express, Karen Denman - Community Service Credit Union, Joe Smith - Kiwanis Club of Huntsville and  
 Wilson Winn - Edward Jones



Pictured left to right: Karen Denman - CSCU, John Cole - Cole Insurance, Gwen Lucas - Chamber of Commerce, Frankie McCaffety - McCaffety Electric, Nancy Reeves - Tax Express, Dana Gordy - Bridge Benefit Solutions and Wilson Winn - Edwards Jones Investments

## 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 January visits made to (1) Wilkisons Hardware and Furniture Store (2) Stevenson Beer and Distributing (3) Faust Distributing Company (4) Heavenly Threads Quilt Shop. 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/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 .....Arbonne, Int. Consultant  
 Aron Kulhavy, Vice Chair Economic Development & Tourism .....City 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 Gulledege .....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 ..... Citizens National Bank  
 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.....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](mailto: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

### FEBRUARY

- 23 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 23 Ambassador Meeting @ 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 25 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 25 Ribbon Cutting at Grace Baptist Church @ 10:30 a.m. 248 State Hwy. 19
- 25 Business after Hours, 5:15 p.m. sponsored by Magnolia Mey

### MARCH

- 1 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 3 Business Expo, 4-7:30 p.m. @ Walker County Fairgrounds
- 7-11 HISD/SHSU/New Waverly Spring Break
- 9 Tourism Meeting, 8:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 10 Small Business Breakfast sponsored by Rockin' D Services, 7:30 a.m. @ Golden Corral
- 13 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 15 HLI-Natural Resources
- 15 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 15 POP Meeting, 2:00 p.m. @ Chamber
- 17 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Walker County LP Gas
- 17 Board Meeting, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 17 YLI @ 10:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at SHSU
- 20 SPRING BEGINS
- 22 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 22 Ambassador Meeting @ 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 24 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 24 Business after Hours, 5:15 p.m. sponsored by HMH Multi-Specialty Clinic @ 125 Medical Park Lane, Suite D (Behind hospital)
- 29 Preferred Partners, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber
- 29 Ambassador Meeting @ 10:30 a.m. @ Chamber
- 31 Thursday Leads Exchange, 8:00 a.m. @ Chamber

## Community Calendar of Events

### FEBRUARY

- 23 7:30 p.m. SHSU Symphonic & Concert Band, Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 25-28 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Painting the Impressionist Landscape-Lois Griffel
- 1:00-5:00 p.m. Sunday Four Day Workshop @ The Wynne Home Arts Center
- 26-27 8:00 p.m. "Graceless Grace", Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 26-28 Fri-Sat 7:30 p.m. "Jakes Women" HCT, Old Town Theatre
- Sun. 2:00 p.m.
- 27 7:30 p.m. SHSU Symphony Orchestra, Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 28 Mennonites in Texas Exhibit, Sam Houston Memorial Museum

### MARCH

- 1 7:30 p.m. SHSU Wind Ensemble Concert, Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 2 All Day, Sam Houston's Birthday, and Texas Independence Day, Various Locations
- 3 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 56th Annual SHSU Dept. of Art Faculty Exhibit, Gaddis-Geeslin Gallery
- 3 4-7:30 p.m., 29th Annual Business Expo & Taste of Huntsville
- 5 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Spinning & Weaving Demonstration, Guerrant Cabin-Museum Grounds
- 5 Raven's Revenge Bike Ride, Begins at West Hill Mall
- 12 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Rusty Chippy Show, Walker County Fairgrounds
- 12 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Woodworking Demonstration, Guerrant Cabin-Museum Grounds
- 13 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Rusty Chippy Show, Walker County Fairgrounds
- 15 SHSU Mass Comm. Film Screening, Old Town Theatre
- 15 7:30 p.m. SHSU School of Music , Percussion Ensemble, Gaertner Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall
- 16 5-6:30 p.m., National Book Awards, Huntsville Library Community Room
- 16 SHSU Theatre present "Orlando", University Theatre Center Showcase
- 18 6:00 p.m., National Book Awards Main Event, Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 18 4:00 p.m., SHSU Theatre: Children's Production: According to Coyote, Old Town Theatre
- 18 7:30 p.m., SHSU School of Music: Tandem Duo-Percussion, Gaertner Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall
- 19 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Kick Wheel Pottery Making Demonstration, Raven's Pottery Shed-Museum Grounds
- 21 5:00-7:00 p.m., 17th Annual Juried Student Exhibit, Gaddis Geeslin Gallery
- 22 7:30 p.m., SHSU Chorale & Concert, Choir Spring Concert, Gaertner Performing Arts Center
- 26 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Blacksmithing Demonstration, Joshua's Forge-Museum Grounds
- 28 5:00-7:00 p.m., 17th Annual Juried Student Exhibit, Gaddis Geeslin Gallery (runs through April 7th)
- 29 7:30 p.m. Women's Invitational Choir Concert, Gaertner Performing Center, Concert Hall
- 30 7:30 p.m., Guest Artist: Mike Forbes: Tuba, Gaertner Performing Center, Recital Hall
- 31 8:00 p.m., SHSU Dance Dept. presents Dances@8, Gaertner Performing Arts Center