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*Boys & Girls Club of
Washington County*

Chamber to host Forum on the State of Health Care on March 29

Washington County and surrounding residents will be able to receive an update on the current and future state of health care in our region at a forum hosted by the Washington County Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, March 29, 2023. The event will be held at the Blinn College Student Center Janis Sneed Ballroom beginning with a lunch buffet at 11:30 a.m. Baylor Scott & White representatives Jason Jennings, Eric Alford, M.D., and William Loesch, M.D., will be presenting, along with Washington County EMS Director Kevin Deramus.

Jason Jennings is the president of Baylor Scott & White Health – College Station Region, consisting of two hospitals and 15 clinics, serving the greater Brazos Valley. He previously served as the chief operating officer for Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center, one of the 51 hospitals in the Baylor Scott & White Health system. Jason is a graduate of Texas A&M University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical sciences. He also holds master's degrees in physical therapy from the University of Texas Medical Branch and in business administration from the University of Texas at Tyler. He is board certified by the American College of Healthcare Executives. Jason serves on the Board of Trustees for the Texas Hospital Association and is the recipient of the Texas A&M University College of Biomedical Science Outstanding Alumnus award.

Dr. Alford is the regional medical director for Baylor Scott & White – Brenham. He is board-certified in family medicine and treats Central Texans at Baylor Scott & White – The Brenham Clinic. Dr. Alford specializes in providing comprehensive healthcare for all ages and is dedicated to faithfully caring for his patients. He completed his family medicine residency at the Waco Family Medicine Residency Program, where he served as chief resident.

Dr. Loesch is board-certified in internal medicine and treats

Central Texans at Baylor Scott & White – The Brenham Clinic, specializing in disease prevention. Dr. Loesch serves as the local health authority for Washington County, EMS medical director and air medical director. He has helped the EMS program in its innovation, such as adding a community paramedic program, putting blood products on ambulances and working to improve pre-hospital care in the community.

Kevin Deramus is the Director of Washington County EMS. He started his career in 1993 when he attended EMT school at Kilgore Junior College. He then attended Texas A&M /Scott & White Paramedic Program where he graduated and became certified by the Texas Department of Health as a Paramedic in 1994. Other experience includes flight paramedic, EMS instructor, water rescue manager, and special operations specialist/instructor. In 2022, the Washington County EMS was chosen as the EMS Agency of the Year at the Texas EMS Alliance Awards. Kevin has been employed with Washington County EMS since 1994.

The forum will be moderated by Shirley Herring an active community member and past director and chairman of the Washington County Chamber Board.

"We are pleased to be hosting this forum so citizens can have an opportunity to learn more about this key area that is crucial to our community," said Shay Morrow, 2023 Chairman of the Board of the Washington County Chamber.

A buffet lunch is included with reservations and will begin at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are \$30 per person for Chamber Members (\$40 for non-members). Reserved tables of 8 are available for \$300.

To reserve space at this Forum, contact the Washington County Chamber by March 23 at 979-836-3695 or shae@brenhamtexas.com.



Kevin Deramus



Jason Jennings



Eric Alford, MD.



William Loesch, MD

Exploring Local History

The March session of Leadership Washington County included a step back in time.

The day began in the The Barnhill Center at the Historic Simon Theater in Downtown Brenham, featuring the Step Into The Past film presented by Barry Brass (LWC class of 2008). The film reveals why our city was named after Dr. Richard Fox Brenham and features local actors depicting important trailblazers in the history of the city. Another film, Reese Lockett, was viewed. Lockett served as Brenham mayor for 28 years and helped organize the Texas Prison Rodeo and the Houston Fat Stock Show. He was a cowboy, rodeo performer and merchant. A statue of Lockett, titled “Ready to Ride” is located between North Park St. and North Austin Parkway near City Hall.

The group then traveled by bus to Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site. The group walked to Independence Hall where they heard the history of how “Texas Became Texas” in that very spot. The then traveled a short distance to the Star of the Republic Museum.

They then traveled back to Brenham for lunch at the Brenham Heritage Museum Bus Depot Gallery. After lunch, they walked to the Brenham Heritage Museum to see current exhibits and also visited the Brenham Fire Museum. The muse-

um was designed to house Samantha, a 1923 fire engine. A celebration for Samantha’s 100th birthday was held on March 4th. There are only three left of its kind. There is also a Wall of Honor, a tribute to all the men and women who have served as members of the department since its inception in 1867.

The day ended with a tour and history of the Giddings Stone Mansion, given by Barry Brass. The mansion’s construction was completed in 1870 when J.D. Giddings moved his family from the low-lying area to avoid mosquitoes after the yellow fever epidemic. He chose the location because it is the highest hill in Washington County.

One quote given by one of the

participants when asked if this session was helpful to their growth as a leader was, “Yes, absolutely! To be a leader in the community you must know of the community and why it is what it is. I really enjoyed this session; pieces of Brenham’s history that I knew already came together with facts that I was not aware of, for a better understanding of the history Brenham.”

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber aimed at educating and motivating current and future leaders. This year’s class will graduate in May and the next class will form in July 2023.



Barry Brass gives a tour of the Giddings Stone Mansion.



The class tours Independence Hall at Washington on the Brazos and learns how “Texas Became Texas” in that very spot.



Spencer Kunkel checks out at exhibit at the Star of the Republic Museum

MARCH 2023 | GECKO

FORGIVENESS

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Partners for P.E.A.C.E.

Public Education Ambassadors for Community Engagement

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT
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A Partner for P.E.A.C.E. (Public Education Ambassador for Community Engagement) is encouraged to share the monthly value and promote that value within the company so that possible employees and customers will see that you also support public education. It is in hopes that the adults who see these values at their workplace will share with the children in their lives who are also seeing this at school. These Core Essential Values are taught at both Brenham and Burton ISDs.

Thank you to these Partners for P.E.A.C.E. who have signed up so far to continue to make this program a success in Washington County. They help reinforce the **Core Essential Values** students are learning in local public schools at their businesses and through their employee interactions:

- Ant Street Inn • Associated Credit Union of Texas • Bank of Brenham • Blue Bell Creameries
- Boys & Girls Club of Washington County • Brand It Graphix • Brenham National Bank
- Brenham Nursing & Rehabilitation Center • Brenham Veterinary Hospital • Citizens State Bank
- Floyd’s Wine Lounge • Germania Insurance • Kruse Village • Schleider Furniture & Mattress Company
- Seidel Schroeder • Thielemann Construction Co., L.P. & Stegent Thielemann Plumbing
- Unity Theatre • Washington County Landscapes

Welcome New Members

BEAUSOLEIL CREATIVE
 Owner: Amanda Beausoleil
 Bellville, Texas 77418
 Phone: 832-465-6806
 www.beausoleilcreative.com
Advertising & Design

PREMIERE EVENTS
 Contact: Amy Kujawa
 1816 Ponderosa Drive
 College Station, Texas 77845
 Phone: 979-696-5555
 www.premiereeventsonline.com
Wedding & Event Services

GATHER N GRACE
 Owner: Tara Steele
 2758 FM 389
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 512-626-3316
 www.gatherngrace.org
Community Outreach

HOFMANN ADVISORS
 Contact: Keith Hofmann
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 832-260-3615
Chamber Friend

CCM TOWING AND RECOVERY LLC
 Contact: Chris Malone
 51 New Wehdem Road
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-421-4242
 www.ccmtowing.com
Towing & Recovery

SOUTHWEST RESOURCES, INC.
 Contact: Keith Sanders
 205 N. Market #207 (Physical Address)
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 P O Box 1805 (Mailing Address)
 Brenham, Texas 77834
 Phone: 979-836-5500
Oil & Gas

THE KENJURA LAW FIRM, PLLC
 Owner: Catherine Kenjura
 303 N. Park Street
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-836-5297
Attorneys

TEXAN INJECTIONS
 Owner: Ashley Webb
 706 Seelhorst Street
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 979-599-9313
 www.texaninjections.com
Spa & Facial Treatments

KIPPERS KOUNTRY STORE
 Owner: Kelli Atwood
 5084 Main Street
 Chappell Hill, Texas 77426
 Phone: 281-389-9040
 www.kipperskountrystore.com
General Merchandise-Retail

JANNA ALSOBROOK, INDEPENDENT HEALTH INSURANCE BROKER
 Contact: Janna Alsobrook
 2628 HWY 36S., PMB 249 (mailing address)
 Brenham, Texas 77833
 Phone: 713-392-3831
 www.mustbeready.com
Insurance



SAVE THE DATES

MAR 29	STATE OF HEALTH CARE FORUM & LUNCHEON
APR 24	ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Guest Speaker Tara Royer Steele
APR 28	3RD ANNUAL CHAMBER CLASSIC Golf Tournament
AUG 24	TAILGATE 2023 Community Pep Rally & Fundraiser



Jamie RankinPresident
 Jane Hinze.....Member Services Manager
 Shae Janner.....Business Programs Manager
 Dawn Konieczny.....Communications Coordinator
 Sarah Hansen.....Financial Coordinator



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 BROKER ASSOCIATE

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www.infintechllc.com

Renewals

RR Donnelley	50 years	Enterprise Products	31 years	Honest Builders LLC	13 years
Seidel Schroeder	45 years	Artesian Park RV Campground	30 years	Prairie Wind Farm	13 years
Brenham L-P Gas	41 years	Altman Dentistry	29 years	Clover & Marak PLLC	12 years
Brenham Maifest Association	41 years	Farmers Mutual Aid Assoc. of Washington C	28 years	Jo's Wood Gallery	12 years
Detering Brothers Investments	41 years	Unity Theatre	28 years	Texas Country Title	12 years
Medi-Care Equipment Specialties, Inc.	41 years	Hermann Furniture Company	27 years	Peeka Ranch Alpacas	9 years
Schleider Furniture & Mattress Company	41 years	Goss Communications, Inc.	26 years	Chappell Hill Moving & Storage	8 years
Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative	39 years	Hodde Real Estate Company	26 years	Christy Schlottmann Farmers Agency	7 years
Brenham Banner Press	39 years	Boys & Girls Club of Washington County	24 years	LJ'S BBQ	7 years
Brenham Memorial Chapel	39 years	Barnhill House Toys & Books	23 years	The Barnhill Center at Historic Simon The	7 years
Faske's Jewelry	39 years	Culligan of Brenham	23 years	The Errand Lady	7 years
Fischer Tile & Floor Covering	39 years	Edward Jones-Financial Advisor-Justin Jer	23 years	Kniec Construction LLC	6 years
Kohring Monument Company	39 years	Ehlert, Paul A.	23 years	Tippit Dental Group-Brenham	6 years
Bevers Kitchen	38 years	Pooltex American, Inc.	23 years	Brazos Transit District	5 years
Brenham Veterinary Hospital	38 years	Voelter, Dr. Donald	23 years	Chappell Ridge Farm	5 years
Grocery Supply Brenham	38 years	Martha's Bloomers	22 years	Cy-Fair Tire	5 years
Lone Star Southern Grill	38 years	Brenham Insurance Center	21 years	GarzaEMC, LLC	5 years
Moeller Electric Company	38 years	Brenham Pregnancy Center	21 years	Prasek's Family Smokehouse Sealy	5 years
Thielemann Construction Co., LP & Stegent	38 years	Kountry Boys Sausage	18 years	Skincare by Shari at Euphoria	4 years
WCTractor	38 years	Brazos Valley Food Bank, Inc.	18 years	Legacy Texas Realty, LLC	3 years
Wellmann Insurance Agency, Inc.	38 years	Hodde Real Estate Company-William "Boo"	18 years	Betty W Channing PC	2 years
Woodson Lumber Company	38 years	Horseshoe Junction Family Fun Park	18 years	Victorem Performance Nutrition	2 years
Hi-Line Industries II, Inc.	35 years	Preservation Storage, LLC	16 years	BRE Longhorns	1 years
Phillips Painting Company	34 years	Margaret E. Blizzard Senior Activity Cent	15 years	Brenham Quality Meat Market	1 years
Collier Construction LLC	33 years	LaBahia Turn Verein Event Center	14 years	Computer Accounting & Tax Service	1 years
Lete Phillips Exercise Program	33 years	Don's Appliance Service	14 years	Hi-Tech Machine Tool Services, Inc.	1 years
Market Realty, Inc.	33 years	Downtown Art Gallery, LLC	13 years	Home Town Properties LP	1 years
Toubin, Leon	33 years	Cannery Kitchen & Gift Shop	13 years		
Tegeler Toyota	32 years	Cowboy Church of Brenham			

Thank you to our 2023 Chairman's Circle members...



Thank you to our 2023 Presidential Level members...



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 9

Ribbon Cutting - Antique Rose Emporium

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting at Antique Rose Emporium, 10000 FM 50, Brenham, 4pm.

Mar 9-11

2023 Annual Spring Open Collection Days

County residents only must present proof of residence and ID upon arrival. Non-hazardous materials only. 8am-5pm, Citizens Collection Station, 2009 Old Chappell Hill Rd., Brenham. For more information, call 979-922-5958.

Thursdays

Thirsty Thursdays Tacos & Trivia

The taproom is open from 3-9pm on Thursdays with trivia from 6pm to close. 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham (brazosvalleybrewery.com).

Thursday - Saturday

Music at Grapevine on Main

Music from 6-9pm on the deck under the trees, with an always present cool breeze. Wagyu burgers, Artisan thin-crust pizzas, charcuterie boards and other light bite menu items available. 5120 Main St., Chappell Hill.

Thursdays - Sundays

Chapelton Vineyards Wine Tastings & Tours

Taste & Tour the newest winery in Washington County. Open Friday-Sunday 11am-5pm. Reservations recommended, but not required. Tour included in purchase of a tasting flight. Charcuterie & cheese plates available for purchase; 14858 Whitman Rd., Washington (chapeltonvineyards.com).

Wednesday - Saturday

John & Mary Marks: A Love Store That Transcend Time and Boundaries

Brenham Heritage Museum. This exhibit is available during regular Museum hours, Wednesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm, at 105 S Market Street in Brenham. Groups of 10 or more can call the museum at 979-830-8445 to schedule specific times for tours (brenhamheritagemuseum.org).

Mar 10

Little Red Riding Hood

Join Blinn College Opera Outreach for staged version of Seymour Barab's classic children's opera. This morning performance is especially aimed at children. Finke Recital Hall C.F. Schmidt Building, 800 College Ave., Brenham. Free tickets available at the Blinn College Ticket Office (blinn.edu/boxoffice).

Mar 10

Ribbon Cutting - Wonderhill Farm

Ribbon Cutting at Wonderhill Farm, 2800 Caney Creek Rd., Chappell Hill.

Mar 10

Lifetime Learning Luncheon: The State of Mental Health in Texas: How Did We Get Here? What is Available Now?

Lifetime Learning welcomes Dr. Barbara Dole-shal to discuss changes in mental health care in Texas over the last three decades with an emphasis on currently available services. Blinn College Janis Sneed Banquet Room, Brenham, 11:30am-1pm, \$25 (lifetimelearningbrenham.org).

Fridays

Friday Vibes

Live music, beer, and bites at Brazos Valley Brewery. Taproom is open from noon to 10pm every Friday. Family and dog friendly. 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham (brazosvalleybrewery.com).

Mar 11

Texas Ranger Day

The Burton Heritage Society hosts the twelfth annual Texas Ranger Day in historic Burton, Texas at the Burton Railroad Depot, 507 N Railroad Street (burtonheritagesociety.org).

Mar 11-12

Antique Rose Emporium Spring Celebration

Spring Celebration with garden tours, speakers, roses, perennials, gifts and much more, 9am-5pm, 10000 FM 50, Brenham (antiqueroseemporium.com).

Saturdays

Sound on Stage Saturdays

Brazos Valley Brewery and Taproom is open Saturday from 12pm-10pm with live music every Saturday from 6pm-9pm and all day on a beer release day. Playground for the kiddos and lots of outside seating for the doggos. 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham (brazosvalleybrewery.com)

Mar 11

James Dick, Concert Pianist

An afternoon of Solo Piano Virtuosity in the Festival Concert Hall. James Dick, Founder and Artistic Director of Round Top Festival Institute will perform on the Festival Concert Hall stage, 48 Jaster Rd., Round Top, 3-4:30pm (festivalhill.org).

Sundays

Sunday Funday at Brazos Valley Brewery

Open 12pm-7pm serving Big "A" Pretzels and Nachos and rotating Food Trucks. Playground for the kiddos and lots of outside seating for the doggos. Live Music for amazing Texas Artists from 3-6pm. 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham (brazosvalleybrewery.com).

Mar 13-15

Lifeguard Training Classes

Lifeguard training classes are being held at the Blue Bell Aquatic Center, 1800 E. Tom Green St., Brenham. Please call if you have any questions 979-337-7260

Mar 14

Brenham Elks Lodge Sweetheart Bunco Night Second Tuesday of every month. \$5 to play

and bring a gift. Men are welcome to join in on the fun. You are welcome to bring a finger food item. Brenham Elks Lodge, 400 E. Germania St., Brenham, 6:30-9pm. For more information call 979-836-2261 after 5pm.

Wednesdays

Hop Day Wednesday

Open 3pm to 9pm with Dapper Bear Food Truck from 4pm to 9pm serving their famous crabcakes and other seafood goodies. Family and pet friendly with plenty of outside seating and playground. 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham (brazosvalleybrewery.com).

Mar 16

YPO at Top Floor Cars

Network with the Young Professionals Organization of Washington County at Top Floor Cars, 301 S. Market St., Brenham, 5-7pm, free.

Mar 16

Friends of Bluebonnet Opry

Featuring Tony Booth, Kari Hlaninka, and the Bluebonnet Opry House Band. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Show Starts at 7:30 p.m. Grill is open for great tasting food. Silver Wings Ballroom, 4100 Hwy. 105, Brenham. Tickets \$8 at the door (friendsofbluebonnetopry.com).

Mar 18

Living History Saturday

Travel back in time to where a nation was born in 1836. On the third Saturday of each month, staff and volunteers dress in period clothing to bring to life the people and events of Old Washington for a unique opportunity for the entire family to discover various aspects of life during the Republic of Texas. The program features family activities including writing with a quill pen, signing a copy of the Texas

Mar 18

Lucky Spring Market & St. Patty's Day Party

Spring Art Market and St. Patrick's Day festivities complete with green beer specials, Brazos Valley Brewery, 206 S. Jackson St., Brenham, noon-10pm (brazosvalleybeer.com).

Mar 21

BVH Senior Discount Day

Brenham Veterinary Hospital offers a senior discount day on the third Tuesday of each month. Pet owners over age 50 save 15% on wellness exams, wellness vaccines, spays and neuters. By appointment only, please call 979-836-2472 to schedule. Small animals only, does not apply to large animals - cattle, horses, llamas, donkeys etc. (brenhamvethospital.com).

Mar 21

Ribbon Cutting - Insight Brazilian Jiu Jitsu - Team Renzo Gracie

Ribbon Cutting for Insight Brazilian Jiu Jitsu - Team Renzo Gracie, 707 S. Austin St., Brenham, 3pm.

Mar 22

Master Works of the Baroque

This concert, featuring works from some of the most esteemed composers of the Baroque era (1600-1750), features Dr. Daniel Johnson, Professor of Voice, and faculty and student performers from the Blinn College Department of Music. Includes works by Handel, Bach, Rameau, Charpentier, and Monteverdi. Finke Recital Hall C.F. Schmidt Building, 800 College Ave., Brenham (blinn.edu/boxoffice).

Mar 23

Ribbon Cutting - Emergency Room Renovation Baylor Scott & White Medical Center - Brenham

Ribbon Cutting for Emergency Room Renovations, 700 Medical Parkway, Brenham, 10am.

Mar 24-31

LaBahia Antique Show & Sale

31st Annual LaBahia Antique Show & Sale. Free Parking check website for updates (labahiaantiques.com).

Mar 24

Basic QuickBooks Workshop

This is an all-day, basic level course, intended for people who have no experience or limited experience using the QuickBooks software. A.W. Hodde, Jr. Technical Education Center, 2910 S. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, \$100. Register online (sbdc.uh.edu).

Mar 25

Ribbon Cutting - Flown The Coop

Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Reopening of Flown The Coop, 701 N. Main St., Burton, 9am.

Mar 25

Spring Market

High Hope Care Center is having a Spring Market, 401 E. Blue Bell Rd., Brenham, 10am-2pm.

Mar 29

State of Health Care Forum

Panelists are Baylor Scott & White representatives Jason Jennings, Eric Alford, M.D., and William Loesch, M.D., will be presenting, along with Washington County EMS Director Kevin Deramus. Blinn College Student Center, Janis Sneed Banquet Room, Brenham. 11:30am-1pm, \$30 for Chamber Members, \$40 for non-members, \$300 reserved tables. Ticket on sale until March 23. Lunch included. 979-836-3695, info@brenhamtexas.com (brenhamtexas.com/stateofhealthcare).

Mar 29-30

Waltz Across Texas

Bluebonnet Garden Club Presents "Waltz Across Texas" through a floral interpretation of yesteryear. Giddings Stone Mansion, 2203 Century Circle, Brenham, 1-5pm. For more contact: rebeccaehlert@sbcglobal.net 511-914-6148 or Gayle Lechler at lechlergf@gmail.com 979-277-2317.

EVENTS Continued from page 5

Mar 30
Ribbon Cutting - Washington County Landscapes
 Ribbon Cutting for Washington County Landscapes, 4579 Hwy. 290 W., Brenham, 4pm.

Mar 30
Washington County Fair Shrimp Boil
 Silver Wings Ballroom, 4100 Hwy. 105, Brenham. Call 979-836-4112 for more information.

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Apr 1
Central Texas Beekeepers School
 The school is 8am-5pm, includes a catered bbq meal, Blue Bell Ice Cream, and a book with information about beekeeping. Register at tinyurl.com/2023beeschool. For more information, call 979-277-0411 or email: centraltexasbeekeepers@gmail.com (centraltexasbeekeepers.org).

Apr 1
Burton Farmers & Artisans Market
 All local Home Grown and Hand Crafted items. Sponsored by Burton Chamber of Commerce, Texas Cotton Gin Museum Roy Winkler Family Pavilion, 307 N. Main St., Burton. First Saturday of every month, 9am-1pm (burtontexas.org/farmersmarket).

Apr 1-2
Texas Select Custom Cutlery Event
 This family friendly event features Forged in Fire bladesmiths and a wide range of custom knifemakers - from Master Smiths to new talent - from across the nation. Live forging demonstrations, chopping competition, tomahawk

throwing and more. Austin County Fair Convention and Expo Center, 1076 Hwy. 159 E., Bellville, 9am-5pm (texasselectevent.com).

Apr 1
Texas Wildflowers 2nd Annual Meet-up & Fish Fry
 Fish fry, silent auction, door prizes. Green Meadows Event Center, 9655 FM 50, Brenham. Email texaswildflowersnow@gmail.com to reserve your space.

Apr 1
April Fools: A Vocal Studio Recital
 Come join the Blinn College Vocal Department students in sharing their best comedic music with you! Join in the afternoon fun as the students make "April Fools" out of all. Finke Recital Hall C.F. Schmidt Building, 800 College Ave., Brenham, 2-3:30pm (blinn.edu/boxoffice).

Apr 1
Heritage Society of Washington County Spring Gala
 The annual Heritage Society Spring Gala is the primary fundraising event of the year for the Society. The event includes an open bar, dinner, dancing as well as a live and silent auction. Giddings Stone Mansion, 2203 Century Circle, 6-11pm (giddingsstonemansion.com/latest-news). For information about Gala Tickets and/or underwriting opportunities please call or text Tracy Ross 281-709-5111 or email tracyross243@gmail.com

Apr 4
Walk with a Doc
 Hear a talk from the doctor as you walk on the inside track at The Kruse Recreation Center, 208 Blinn Blvd., Brenham, 12-1pm.

Leadership at the State Capitol

On February 8, the Leadership class traveled to Austin for the State Government session. The group received a guided tour of the Capitol and learned about the historic artwork, statues and layout of the impressive building. Since the 88th Legislative Session is in progress, they were not able to tour the House or Senate floors, but did get to peak from the Senate Gallery to see the floor in action. State Representative Kyle Kacal and State Senator Lois Kolkhorst each took time out of their busy day to meet the class and gave updates on their committees and top priorities. They also answered any questions the class had for them.

Lobbyist Joel Romo of Texana Public Affairs also met with the group and gave insight to his profession and the role it plays in assistance to legislators in Austin and around the state. Lunch was enjoyed in the Capitol Grill and the class was able to visit the Capitol gift shop as well. When asked about the highlight of the day, one class participant stated, "All of it was awesome to me. It's been ages since I've toured the Capitol, and seeing the activity and bustle of our government at work was amazing. I liked the tour (which seemed like a maze!) and having the break out time with the 3 people mentioned

STATE CAPITOL Continued on page 8



Stats – from the month of: February 2023

Walk-In's
Chamber of Commerce 312

Website – www.BrenhamTexas.com

Unique Visitors **5,492**

Total Pages **11,274**

Washington County Blue Blazers

The Blue Blazers is a club with 20-25 members and more than 50 years of tradition. They support the mission of the Washington County Chamber. The volunteers in the club act as official greeters and hosts of our community. Their activities include monthly meetings, greeting at Chamber functions, recruiting new Chamber members, and conducting ribbon cuttings and grand openings.

Justin Colley
BIG — Brannon Industrial Group

Tammy Jaster
City of Brenham-Blue Bell Aquatic Center

Pita Pangan
Associated Credit Union of Texas

Christy Schlottmann
Christy Schlottmann Farmers Agency

Joyce Dickschat
Brenham National Bank

Genna Lechler
Brand It Graphix

Linda Pipes
Retired-School Teacher

Chris Ann Stroech
Washington County Landscapes

Melissa Duckworth
Thielemann Construction

Lauren Maass
Germania Insurance

Carl Prihoda
Citizens State Bank

Amy Supak
Kruse Village

Brianna Edmunds
PLANNORTH Architectural Co.

Kristie Marth
Brenham Iron Works

Teresa Rosales
Brenham Washington County Economic Development

Kristie Wensel
Brenham State Supported Living Center

Brooke Huckert
ValuePoint Wealth Management

Courtney Mason
Brenham ISD

Jeffrey Sadler
BRIANNAS Fine Salad Dressings

Barbara Wilganowski
Chamber Friend

Tiffany Holmes
Bluebonnet Abstract and Title

Rachel Nordt
Edward Jones

“Chamberversary” Celebration Visits

The Blue Blazers have begun celebrating our member’s “Chamberversaries” by surprising them with Celebration Visits and thanking them for their investment.



RR Donnelley
50 years



Seidel Schroeder
45 years



St. Paul’s Christian Day School
10 years



First Baptist Church School & Early Education Center
5 years

Ribbon Cuttings



Lifetime Learning
PO, Box 513; Brenham, TX 77834



Kenjura Law Firm
303 North Park St., Brenham, TX 77833



Glamfetti
219 E. Main St., Brenham, TX 77833



Kippers General Store
5084 Main St., Chappell Hill, TX 77426



Emerge Naturally by Emaleigh
2542 Ryan St., Brenham, TX 77833

3rd Annual
Chamber Classic
 Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Friday, April 28th, 2023
 Brenham Country Club

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors:



Thank you to our Gold Sponsor:



Thank you to these Silver Sponsors:

Appel Ford / Hyundai of Brenham, BIG Brannon Industrial Group
 Blue Bell Creameries, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative
 CB4 Services, Citizens State Bank, Corrosion Resistant Alloys
 Mariachi's Mexican Restaurant, Mattrezzz Guys
 PLANNORTH Architectural Co.
 Southern District Sotheby's International Realty
 Wellmann Insurance

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Gold Sponsor

Logo included on select marketing materials and event website
 - 1 team of 4 golfers - Beverage Cart sponsor
 - Business mentions in media and articles
 - 2 Hole sponsorships - Tent sponsor

\$2,500

Silver Sponsor

Business name included on select marketing materials
 - 1 team of 4 golfers - 1 Hole sponsorships

\$1,250

Beverage Cart Sponsor

Signage on all beverage carts

\$500

Player Cart Sponsor

Signage on all player carts

\$500

Tent Sponsor

Ability to promote business at a hole and have giveaways

\$250

Hole Sponsor

One sign with sponsor name

\$100

STATE CAPITOL Continued from front page 6

above. It was also amazing that we were able to step into the Senate Gallery, when it was in session."

Leadership Washington County is a program of the Washington County Chamber aimed at educating and motivating current and future leaders. This year's

class will graduate in May and the next class will form in July 2023.



Group with Senator Kolkhorst and Representative Kacal.



LWC Class of 2023 at the State Capitol in Austin.

Brenham-Washington County



Networking Happy Hour
Thursday, March 16

5 – 7 p.m.

Top Floors

301 S. Market St., Brenham

Expand your business network and make new friends!

For more information about the Washington County YPO, send your contact information to washcoypo@gmail.com. or visit online: www.Facebook.com/YPOwashingtoncounty

Beverages Sponsored by Mike Hopkins Distributing

Get Noticed

The ChamberWorks newsletter is published inside The Banner-Press. Chamber members have the opportunity to advertise in this newspaper. Rates start at only \$25 per month.

If you are looking for a new opportunity to advertise, just call Jane Hinze at 836-3695.

Another great way to promote your organization is through targeted emails. The Chamber will forward your "e-message" to all members, as long as it meets certain criteria. For non-profits, it should not have a strong-sell for sponsorships or donations. The message should be newsworthy, typically about an upcoming event. For regular business, it should also be about upcoming special events, as long as there is no purchase required for the reader to experience the event.

E-messages are sent a maximum of once per quarter per member during each calendar year.