



The Latest News

from **The West I-10 Chamber of Commerce**

February 19, 2015

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In This Issue

- **Upcoming Events**
- **President’s Message**
- **Welcome New Members**
- **Member News and Events**
- **West I-10 Committee News**
- **In Case You Missed It**
- **March 10, 2015 Luncheon**
- **Business Member Spotlight**

Upcoming Events

2015 Calendar - Save the Dates

- March 10-** Member Luncheon/Salt & Pepper in Katy; Speaker- Perri D’Armond
- April 14-** Member Luncheon – La Quinta – Program: Digital Marketing w/Jim Flint
- May 6-** Annual Ice Cream Social Fundraiser - PAVFD
- May 12-**Member Luncheon- location and program TBA
- June 9-**Member Luncheon – Royal ISD and WI-10 Education Committee Update
- July 14-**Member Luncheon – location and program TBA
- Sept 8-**Member Luncheon/BOD Elections
- Oct 13-**Member Luncheon – location and program TBA
- Nov 13 or 14-** Annual Awards Banquet - TBA
- Dec 8-** State of County/Dist Luncheon – WC Judge Trey Duhon & Rep. Cecil Bell, Jr.

President’s Message

Corinne Vahalik/Vahalik & Vahalik



Thank you to all of our members and guests who attended the February membership luncheon at Midway Barbeque. This was our first luncheon at this venue, and I think it was a successful event. There was plenty of room to socialize and enjoy the great food. Our speaker, Waller County First Assistant District Attorney Warren Diepraam, provided a riveting update about where Waller County stands in the criminal justice arena.

Waller County is now in the forefront in many elements of investigation and prosecution.

You will notice from recent emails and articles in the newsletter that much is happening with our committees. There are plenty of exciting opportunities for involvement. If you are interested in any of these committees, please contact Julie at chamber@westi10chamber.org for more information.

The Ice Cream Social will be here soon, and we are looking to break another record this year. We will be sending sponsorship requests soon. This event raises money for our education fund, which provides funding for scholarships for Royal ISD seniors, book fairs, school supplies, and monthly luncheons for at-risk students, not to mention it provides a fun setting to gather as a business community to support the youth of the community. Please take a moment to consider whether your business would like to participate in this event.

Thank you for supporting your Chamber!

Welcome New Members

Main Stream Environmental (MSE) is a family owned and operated water well business located in Pattison, Texas. Here is a note from Paul and Jill Robinson, the proud owners of MSE:

We specialize in new water wells and repair service on existing water wells. We

West I-10 Chamber of Commerce
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Tel: 281.375.8100

www.westi10chamber.org

Board of Directors

Corinne Vahalik President
Vahalik & Vahalik, P.C.

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Economic Development
Greg Turner/ Turner Duran
Arnold England/ Gateway Realty

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Open

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Website
Paul McConnell/Key Insurance Agency

Annual Banquet
Roberta Meader/Cotton Gin LLC

Fundraising
Barry Koch/Ryan Ford

Nominating
Anthony Francis/LJA Engineering

Governmental Affairs
Adam Traweek/Amegy Bank
Jason Holmes/Wyatt Resources

Education
Rachel Hillsman

Membership
Mary Garbett/ Keller Williams Real Estate

Administrative Director
Julie Ormond

Contact us at

chamber@westi10chamber.org

West I-10 Gold Members

Igloo Products Corp
Rooms To Go
Turner Duran Architects
Brookshire Economic
Development Corporation
Severn Trent Services
City of Katy
Goya Foods
Grundfos

Silver Members

Texas Children's Hospital
Janet J. Montgomery, CFP, CWS
Amegy Bank
Memorial Hermann Katy
Texas Automotive Muscle, LLC
Rise Communities, LLC
Helping Hand Pharmacy

service residential, commercial, agricultural and irrigation wells. MSE brings 3rd generation expertise to your door. Contact us at 281-838-4613 or waterprokpr@yahoo.com. We can be reached 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. MSE has 20 years of experience backing us up, we guarantee to get it done right!

Waller County Judge Trey Duhon has hit the ground running since taking office in January 2015. He will play an integral part in the shaping of Waller County as it handles the growth that is coming to the County. He can be reached at (979) 826-7700 or t.duhon@wallercounty.us.

Members news and events

Royal FFA: The Royal FFA Parade to be held in conjunction with the Royal FFA Chapter's **59th Annual FFA Livestock Show and Sale, March 26th-28th**. Participants will once again assemble at the intersection of Koomey Road and Hwy 90, north and west of the Brookshire police station on Saturday, March 28th. The parade will commence promptly at 10:00AM and proceed through downtown Brookshire. The theme for this year's parade is **"Royal FFA Salutes your Favorite Holiday."** Immediately following the parade, plan to attend the BBQ luncheon in the Royal HS cafeteria and then the Livestock Auction which begins with the parade award ceremony held at **Royal High School Agricultural Sales Facility** at approximately 1:00 pm. Help celebrate this special theme and we invite you to be a part of this great community tradition!

Enterprise Bank to Allegiance Bank: Effective February 23, 2015, Enterprise Bank merged with and into Allegiance Bank. This merger will enhance Allegiance Bank to \$1.8 billion in total assets, and 18 banking locations, with most of those locations being in the greater Houston area. The bank's web site is allegiancebanktexas.com.

Brookshire Residence and Rehabilitation Center: *Construction Update*

We are happy to announce that the renovations of two residents' rooms near the therapy suite have been completed. These rooms were given a complete overhaul with new flooring, new walls, new bathrooms and new furniture. They look beautiful and we are excited our residents will get to recover in comfort. We look forward to the completion of more renovations.

We have also begun renovations on our dining room which is getting new floors, new ceilings, new walls and new furnishings. The remodeling should be completed in 4 - 6 weeks and it looks like it is going to be beautiful!

West I-10 Committee news

Education Committee: Chairwoman Rachel Hillsman-Valis (Waller County)

The next At-Risk Student Luncheon is Wed. March 18th. The Education Committee's spring semester will also feature teacher awards and student scholarships. If you are interested in joining this committee or attending a mentoring luncheon please contact Rachel through the chamber at chamber@westi10chamber.org

Governmental Affairs Committee: Chairs Adam Traweek and Jason Holmes

The next meeting will be held March 19, 8:00am at Severn Trent Services, 32259 Morton Road.

Fundraising Committee: (Barry Koch) Wednesday **May 6th** has been set as the date for the Annual Ice Cream Social Fundraiser. If you are interested in joining this fun committee, volunteering, or sponsoring this event please contact Barry through the chamber at chamber@westi10chamber.org

In Case You Missed It

February Member Luncheon - A group of over 40 members and guests gathered at Midway BBQ in Katy, Texas to hear Waller County First Assistant District Attorney Warren Diepraam speak passionately about his mission to make a difference by prosecuting DUI offenders using the nationally recognized No Refusal Program he

2015 Members

907 Cotton Gin LLC
 Allen Boone Humphries Robinson
 Allen Samuels Katy Dodge
 Amegy Bank
 Aradyne Industries, Inc.
 BES Engineering
 Belleza by Patti
 Blinn College – Sealy Campus
 Brookshire Economic Development
 Brookshire Family Medical
 Brookshire Municipal Water District
 Brookshire Steel
 Brookshire's Best Auto Repair
 Brookshire Residence & Rehab Ctr.
 Brookshire Smile Dental
 The Brookwood Community
 Burger King-30/Brookshire
 Career & Recovery Resources
 Cecil Bell, Jr.
 CenterPoint Energy
 City of Katy
 City of Pattison
 Comfy Home, Inc
 Consolidated Communications
 Dalton Discovery Park
 Darleen St. Jean
 Days Inn, Brookshire
 Daystar Publishing, Inc
 Dustin Harwell-Texas Farm Bureau
 Edward Jones
 Enterprise Bank
 Eve's Garden
 Family Medical of Brookshire
 Farmers Insurance Group
 Fast Tags Engraving
 First Service Credit Union
 First United Methodist Church/
 Brookshire
 Fort Bend Family Health Center
 Galileo's Mexican Grill
 Gary Gates
 Gateway Realty
 Goya
 Green Group Holdings, LLC
 Grundfos, CBS Inc
 HDH Instruments, LP
 Helping Hand Pharmacy
 Hillsman & Vahalik
 Houston Executive Airport
 iEnergy North America
 Igloo Products Corp
 L.N. Jones Outreach Ministries
 La Quinta Inn & Suites
 J&J Packing Company
 J.L. Rose
 JNS Consulting Engineers
 Janet J. Montgomery, CFP,CWS
 Jhump & Associates, LLC
 Joe Garcia
 Joe Trimm, Jr.
 Jones & Carter, Inc.
 Katy Area EDC



created. He also informed attendees of the issues facing the D.A.'s office as Waller County enters a period of extreme growth. Waller County District Attorney Elton Mathis and Assistant D.A. Diepraam are implementing a proactive plan to curtail criminal activity that usually comes with such growth. The D.A.'s office is also using cutting edge technology making case files digital so that all parties have access to all case information.

First Assistant District Attorney Warren Diepraam (*pictured left*) answered a lot of questions regarding trends in criminal activity in Waller County.



Pictured above: Waller County Commissioner Pct. 4 Justin Beckendorff and guest Al Soto. And Royal ISD Deputy Superintendent Ryan Steele and Deonte Lewis, Director of RISD Boys and Girls Club

Pictured left: Waller County Pct 4 JP Ted Krenek, Doyle Callender of Amegy Bank and guest Tim Davis



Waller County Day at the Texas Capital- February 3rd

An event-filled day trip from Waller was coordinated by the West I10 Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee Chairs Adam Traweek and Jason Holmes along with Vince Yokom, Director of the Waller County Economic Development Partnership.



A great group of citizens journeyed to Austin to visit their Capitol.

Katy Family YMCA
 Katy Heritage Society
 Ken Carter Photography
 Key Insurance Agency
 Kyle Custom Homes LLC
 LJA Engineering, Inc.
 La Quinta Inn & Suites, Brookshire
 Mainstream Environmental Water Well
 Services
 McDonald's Carmichael Ent.
 Memorial Hermann Katy
 NAVCON GROUP, LLC
 New Life Beginnings Church
 Oliver S. Kitzman, Sr.
 One 2 mini Ranch Tack & Feed
 Orizon Industries, Inc.
 Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Dept
 Pattison United Methodist Church
 Priority Emergency Room
 Radcliffe Bobbitt Adams Polley PLLC
 Ray's Grill
 Repka's Grocery & Kitchen
 Rhino Solutions
 Right Time Real Estate LLC
 Rise Communities, LLC
 Rooms To Go
 Roosevelt Alexander
 Royal I.S.D.
 Ryan Ford
 Saturn Machine, Inc.
 Severn Trent Services, Inc.
 Shanco Equipment Specialists
 Shelter House America
 Southwest Properties
 Stan Kitzman
 State Rep. John Zerwas MD
 Stewart Title, Fulshear
 Ted Krenk, JP, WC Pct 4
 Texas Automotive Muscle LLC
 Texas Children's Hospital
 Texas First Industrial Corporation
 Texas Landman, Inc.
 Thomas Instrument
 Turner Duran Architects
 Vahalik & Vahalik, PC
 Waller County Economic Development
 Partners
 Waller County D.A. Elton Mathis
 Waller County Fair Association
 Waller County Judge Trey Duhon
 West Engineering Services
 Wyatt Resources, Inc.



The day started out with a meeting with State Rep. Cecil Bell, Jr. and State Senator Lois Kolkhorst. Our group was then recognized by Representative Bell before the Texas House of Representatives and Senator Kolkhorst on the floor of the Texas Senate.



After lunch, speakers included: Michael Treyger, Office of the Governor Manager of International Business & Economic Development; Andrea Godfrey, Office of the Governor Manager of Research of Economic Development & Tourism; and Department of Public Safety Director Steve McCraw. This day trip was provided free of charge due to the generosity of our sponsors....

**Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, -
 Amegy Bank, - Brookshire EDC, -
 Edminster Hinshaw & Russ (EHRA), -
 JNS Engineers - LJA Engineering -
 NewQuest Properties - Severn Trent
 Services - Waller County Judge Trey Duhon
 Wayne LeBlanc - and Wyatt Resources.**

Photos: Courtesy of Vickie Casto of Brookshire Economic Development Corp.

Economic Development Committee Meeting- Feb 19th

At a meeting in the beautiful facilities of Houston Executive Airport, a dozen members of the Chamber and its Economic Development Committee received an update regarding the progress of the airport from its Executive Director, Andrew Perry. In the nine years since its opening, the facility has come to cover 2400 acres of land, on which sits a 6,625 foot runway, 17 buildings including a recently opened large hangar, and now a control tower. A total of 116 aircraft now call Houston Executive home, including over 30 corporate jets. The opening of the Grand Parkway, coupled with the expansive development in the western reaches of the Houston metropolitan area, is creating the base for a bright future for the airport. We thank Andy for the gracious hospitality shown to the Chamber. The committee will meet again in April (more details to follow). Additional photos are available on West I-10 Chamber of Commerce facebook page.



Working together for our future

Send us your news
chamber@westi10chamber.org

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March 10, 2015 Luncheon/Meeting

Perri D'Armond of West Houston Association will address the Chamber Luncheon on March 10th at 11:30AM at Salt & Pepper in Katy, Texas.

Send your news to:

Chamber@westhcochamber.org



Perri D'Armond is President and Chief Executive Officer for the West Houston Association, an organization of major developers, landowners, employers and service firms dedicated to quality growth in fast growing Greater West Houston. The organization promotes sustainable growth-oriented projects and addresses public policies and regulations on major infrastructure issues, land use, environment and education. Prior to joining the West Houston Association, D'Armond was Vice President of Government Relations for the Greater Fort Bend Economic Development Council for over 15 years. Her responsibilities included strategic

planning for the organization, providing comprehensive legislative briefings for Council members, local and state elected officials, and the facilitation of infrastructure initiatives with an emphasis on mobility and congestion relief, air quality, education and other environmental issues. Special projects of note include the coordination of public advocacy campaigns that led to the successful passage of Fort Bend County's Mobility Bond election in 2000, 2007, and 2013, the 2006 Facilities Bond election, the 2007 Fort Bend ISD Bond election, and the 2008 Fort Bend County Judicial Complex Bond election.

D'Armond is a proud graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Education and a Master of Agriculture in Agriculture Development.

Save the date and bring a guest!

Business Member Spotlight

Spotlighting two Members who made huge financial investments on Front Street in Brookshire in the recent year and have brought high quality services to the community.

Brookshire Smile Dental, 3303 Front St, Suite 107, Brookshire Tel:281.934.1010 M-F 9-5, Sat 9-2 by appointment – Over 2000 sf state-of-the-art equipped office space and exam rooms, including Netflix in every exam room for the patients. Since its opening in April 2014, Drs. Giv and Moridnia and staff have been providing excellent dental care to our community. As well, Brookshire Smile Dental has actively participated in community and school district events.

Helping Hand Pharmacy, 4015 Front Street, Brookshire; Tel: 281.375.6072 – open M-S 9-5. This is a full-service prescription pharmacy complete with free delivery service (including after 5). In addition to the full-time pharmacist, the store is stocked with every needed sundry, greeting card, food and beverage items, etc. – if they don't have it, they will order it. On street parking right in front and additional off-street parking behind the store. Helping Hand Pharmacy has 3 other locations in Katy, Stafford, and Houston.

Working together for our future.