

Mardi Gras ... Hopkins County Style! Tickets on sale now for Feb. 12 Chamber Membership Banquet

Can't make it to New Orleans for Mardi Gras? Don't fret — the Civic Center will be transformed into the French Quarter, filled with masks, beads, jazz music, tons of color and lots of fun! The 83rd Annual Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held Thursday, Feb. 12, in the Exhibit Hall at the Civic Center with dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. Who will win the awards for Large and Small Business of the Year, Educator, Lady, Caregiver, Ambassador and Citizen of the Year ... will it be the one that you nominated??? Tickets will be on sale next week for only \$20, so make plans NOW to attend! For more information, call the Chamber at 903-885-6515.

Cultural Arts Winners Displayed at Chamber Office

If you didn't have a chance to see the winners of the PTO Cultural Arts Contest, just stop by the Chamber office at 300 Connally St. and see the winning displays. Don't just look in the windows — come on inside and see how talented the young people are in our community!

Chamber of Commerce Website Under Construction

If you have attempted to access the Chamber's website in the last few days, you have noticed that it is under construction. Postcom is currently designing the new site, and it is going to be FANTASTIC! We are planning to have it up very soon, so stay tuned!

High School Leadership Class Education Day Feb. 4

The High School Leadership Class will spend the day of February 4th getting an education on "Education." The seniors will start the morning off with an introduction to the courses offered at Paris Junior College from Linda Bennett, then will set out for Texas A&M University-Commerce. There, the students will spend the day learning how to write competitive application letters, how

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Written by Meredith Caddell, Chamber of Commerce President
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to apply for financial aid, what to expect from college life, what college cafeteria food tastes like and what a difference dorm life is from home!

Memorial Physician Services Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting



Wow! What an amazing turnout we had at the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of Memorial Physician Services! The office was literally packed with the doctors, Ambassadors, Chamber of Commerce members, hospital employees, patients and community supporters! Among those attending were Nelda Winkle, Jackie Thornton, Linda Mobley, Fall Festival Cover Girl Kayla Phillips; Dr. Reginald Cole, neurologist; Dr. David Sargent, otorhinolaryngologist (ear, nose & throat); Dr. Annette Horne, Family Practice; Dr. Darrel Pierce, Family Practice; and Dairy Festival Queen Hayley Reynolds. Behind them are all of the many people who came out to show their support! Not pictured is Dr. Jeffry Huffman, urologist.

Have you ever said, “If only we had ONE community-wide calendar?” Now we do!

Joey Baker and Marc Maxwell listened to our call for a community-wide calendar and have created one ... www.hopcal.org! This calendar will only be useful and successful if everyone uses it! So please bookmark it and use it. It is very simple, just log on to www.hopcal.org and submit your event. You may also check the calendar so that you don't plan your big event on the same night as another group! We are hoping that other businesses will place links on their websites to direct visitors to this one calendar. If you have questions, give us a call at the Chamber and we will give you more information.

National Day of the American Cowboy Crockpot Chili Contest

The Hopkins County Sheriff's Posse and KSST radio present the National Day of the American Cowboy Crockpot Chili Contest at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 30. Entry fee is only \$10, with the

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grand prize being \$250! If you don't want to cook, then go out and try ... tickets are only \$5! For more information, contact Enola Gay Mathews at 903-438-3568.

Boot Scootin' for Kids

The Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center will be presenting "Boot Scootin' for Kids" on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Civic Center. Dinner will be served from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and the entertainment will begin at 7:30. This will be a great opportunity to kick up your heels for a good cause. All ticket proceeds go directly to the Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center. For more information, contact Tina Phillips at 903-885-7571.

Don't miss these opportunities

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Jan 19 — **18th Dr. MLK Jr. Awards Celebration**, 7 p.m. Morning Chapel Baptist Church

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Jan. 24 — **HCMH Foundation "Lights of Life" Gala**, 7 p.m., Civic Center

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Jan 28 — MDA Lock-up ... **Get ready to bail me out!!!**

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Jan 28 — **Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting, County Extension Agents' Office**, 1200 Houston, 1-5

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Feb 4 — **High School Leadership Class** Day of Education

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Feb 7 — **NETCAC Book Scootin' for Kids**, Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

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Feb 12 — **83rd Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet**, Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

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Apr 3 — **Chamber of Commerce Golf Tourney** — SS Country Club! More details to come!

Chamber of Commerce Business of the Week

Congratulations to the Business of the Week:

Morningstar Foods, Inc.

P.O. Box 488

Sulphur Springs, TX 75483

903-885-0881

www.deanfoods.com

Tip of the Week: Continuing with the Wildcat Team Spirit ... Joe Wallace, Morningstar Plant Manager said, "I would hope we can maintain that 'Team Spirit' and relate that to the workplace. We must all work together as a Morningstar Team to be successful. It takes every one of us following a "plan to success" to make that happen. Just as a Team would do, if a teammate is

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struggling, we need to encourage and help them to be successful. Keep that mindset and we will all be successful with a lot less stress!"

That's all for now ... have a GREAT week!