

The Chamber Connection for Aug. 18, 2011

Written by Meredith Caddell, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO
Thursday, 18 August 2011 16:28

Who can design the coolest T-shirt for the Stew Contest?

If you have an idea for a “cool” T-shirt, then submit it to the Chamber for the 42nd Annual World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 22.

Send it to meredithcaddell@suddenlinkmail.com and we will ask the community to vote for the best one. The winner will receive \$50 cash, AND the opportunity to be a judge at the stew contest, AND the winner’s design will be the T-shirt that we sell at the stew contest! As for the rules:

1. The design must be received no later than Friday, Sept. 16.
2. All designs become property of the Chamber of Commerce.
3. It must be e-mailed to the above email address (if you don’t have a computer, bring it to my office and we will scan it for you).

I will enter all of them on a specific website and we will have the community vote on it. Voting will begin on Sept. 19 and run through Oct. 7. If you have questions, please call the Chamber at 903-885-6515.

Ribbon cuttings set for Flesher Coaching & Counseling, Personal Safety Source

The Chamber of Commerce and its Ambassadors invite one and all to join them at two upcoming ribbon-cutting ceremonies recognizing recent additions to the Hopkins County community.

The first is a ribbon cutting for Flesher Coaching & Counseling at noon on Friday, Aug. 19. The

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ceremony will be held at the Chamber of Commerce offices, located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Connally and Davis streets.

The second ceremony is for Personal Safety Source at noon on Tuesday, Aug. 23, and will also be held at the Chamber offices.

Business After Hours for the Fall Festival, Thursday, Sept. 8, at Civic Center

Please make plans to attend the Business After Hours hosted by the Fall Festival on Thursday, Sept. 8, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Center. This is a great opportunity to meet and mingle with lots of people from our community, hear about the Fall Festival events, eat yummy food and possibly win a door prize!

Renowned Dr. Temple Grandin to address Northeast Texas cattlemen and educators Oct. 5-6

The Northeast Texas Beef Improvement Organization (NETBIO) is bringing Dr. Temple Grandin to Sulphur Springs for two speaking engagements on Wednesday, Oct. 5, and Thursday, Oct. 6.

Dr. Grandin is a designer of livestock handling facilities and a professor of animal science at Colorado State University. She has designed facilities all over the world. In North America, almost half of the cattle in processing plants are handled in a center track restrainer system that she designed specifically for this industry.

She obtained her bachelor's degree at Franklin Pierce College and her master's degree in animal science at Arizona State University.

Dr. Grandin received her doctoral degree in animal science from the University of Illinois in 1989.

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Today she teaches courses on livestock behavior and facility design at Colorado State University and consults with the livestock industry on facility design, livestock handling, and animal welfare.

She has appeared on television shows such as 20/20, 48 Hours, CNN Larry King Live, PrimeTime Live, The Today Show, and many shows in other countries. She has been featured in People Magazine, the New York Times, Forbes, U.S. News and World Report, Time Magazine, The New York Times book review, and Discover magazine. In 2010, Time magazine named her one of the 100 most influential people.

She is the author of "Thinking in Pictures," "Livestock Handling and Transport," "Genetics and the Behavior of Domestic Animals," and "Humane Livestock Handling."

Her books "Animals in Translation" and "Animals Make Us Human" were both on The New York Times best seller list. Her life story has also been made into an HBO movie titled "Temple Grandin." The movie portrays her life as a teenager and how she started her career.

Dr. Grandin is also well known by educators for her work and insight into helping autistic children. Because of her own unique experiences in dealing with autism on a personal basis she is one of the most respected and sought after speakers on this subject.

On Wednesday evening, Oct. 5, Dr. Grandin will address cattlemen and other guests during the NETBIO annual meeting at the Hopkins County Civic Center. Tickets for this event are currently on sale at Texas Heritage National Bank, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce and Sulphur Springs Livestock Auction or may be obtained by mail by calling 903-449-6079.

On October 6, Dr. Grandin, along with Alex Plank, will be addressing an estimated 1,500 educators and parents from school districts in Education Service Regions 7, 8 and 10 in an Autism/Aspergers Conference at the Hopkins County Civic Center Auditorium.

Tickets for this event may be obtained by going online to register for the conference through the Region VIII Educational website at www.reg8.net.

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NETBIO, with the help of many industry supportive sponsors and local businesses, is proud to provide area cattlemen and educators with this unique opportunity to hear Dr. Grandin speak. Major sponsors for both of these events include: The First National Bank of Mt. Vernon; City National Bank, Texas Heritage National Bank, AgriLand Farm Credit, Hopkins-Rains County Farm Bureau, Gold Standard Labs, IDEXX Laboratories, Northeast Texas Farmer's Co-op, Wood County Electric and Atmos Energy. Other sponsors include: Farmer's Electric Cooperative, Lowes Distribution Center, Feeder's Supply of Sulphur Springs, Alliance Bank, AgriLabs, AgWorker's Insurance, Pfizer, Pott's Feed Stores, Sulphur Springs Livestock, Novartis, Boehringer Ingelheim and Farm Country.

NETBIO is a non-profit organization composed of more than 550 beef producers and agribusiness members from over 40 Northeast Texas counties and six other states. Since the organization's inception in 1998 they have sold over 277,000 head for approximately \$166.6 million.

We need your business cards!

If you are a member of the chamber of Commerce and we don't have your business cards in our office to display, please bring some to our office. This is a great opportunity to showcase your business to the many visitors that visit the Chamber of Commerce daily!

Be cool – cook stew in October!

Finally, the opportunity to cook stew in cooler weather — this year's World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest will be on Oct. 22 at Buford Park! If you cooked stew last year, the time has come to start preparing for this year's competition. Entry forms are in the mail and stew sites are open for "reclaiming" until Sept. 23. If you have never cooked stew before, but would like to, you may register now, and the remaining stew sites will be available for selection on September 26! For more information, please call the Chamber at 903-885-6515.

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Don't Miss These Opportunities

- Aug. 19 — Flesher Coaching & Consulting Ribbon Cutting at noon at Chamber
- Aug. 23 — Personal Safety Source Ribbon Cutting @ noon at Chamber
- Aug. 27 — Hot August Nights, Civic Center
- Sept. 8 — Business After Hours at Civic Center, 5-6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 10-17 — Hopkins County Fall Festival
- Sept. 29 — Business After Hours at Heritage Outreach Ministries
- Oct. 5 and 6 — Temple Grandin to speak at Civic Center
- Oct. 22 — World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest

Business of the Week postponed due to rain (and the lack thereof)

We will resume selecting a Chamber Business of the Week as soon as we get some rain — I can't get the sign in the ground to showcase the business that was selected!

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