

## **Stew Contest Saturday, Oct. 22, will have the most stew cooks EVER!**

As of today, more than 130 stew cooks have registered for this year's World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest!

There are still plenty of spots remaining, so if you would like to cook a pot of stew and see if yours is the best, please stop by the Chamber office and register. For more information, please call the Chamber at 903-885-6515.

**ATTENTION ALL STEW COOKS:** Don't forget the stew cooks' meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 6 at Southwest Dairy Museum.

**Have you chosen your favorite stew contest T-shirt? Go to [www.hopkinscountystew.com](http://www.hopkinscountystew.com) and vote!**

A total of 27 T-shirt entries have been uploaded and just waiting for you to vote on them! Please visit [www.hopkinscountystew.com](http://www.hopkinscountystew.com) and vote for your favorite T-shirt. The winning entry will be the shirt that is sold at the 42nd Annual World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest on Oct. 22 at Buford Park! Voting will run through Oct. 7. If you have questions, please call the Chamber at 903-885-6515.

**Next Business After Hours is tonight at Heritage Christian Counseling Center**

Please stop by Heritage Christian Counseling Center at 212 Connally St. in Sulphur Springs on your way home from work this evening for the next Business After Hours Mixer. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, have great food and possibly win a great door prize. We hope to see you there from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.!

**Huge crowd on hand for ribbon cutting at The Brandin' Iron**



Thank you to the HUGE crowd that attended the ribbon cutting for The Brandin' Iron. Pictured in the photo from left to right are (front) Betty Caudle, Ms. Hopkins County; Thresa Stinson, cook; Logan Pogue; Tammy Powdrill, owner; Chesley McGlamery; Sheryl Paden and Dana Wilhite. 2nd row: Tiffany Kirkland; Jennifer Waters; Heather Winkle; Maria Amaro; Mike Porter; Petra Mooda; Tina McCord; David Fowler; Jimmy Clifton and Mandy Freeman. Back Row: Jason Thompson; Michael Boles; Tammy Feagley; Mary Ellen Hoybook; Emily Glass; Sharla Campbell; Laura Brannon; Bradley Edge; John Sellers; Zane Darlin; James Hulen; Lynda Hager and Mike Horne. The Brandin Iron is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday with daily lunch specials and yummy homemade onion rings! For more information call 903-885-5402 or stop in for lunch or dinner at 900 Gilmer St.

## **City Cemetery Genealogical Walk at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, at the City Cemetery**

Tickets to the Hopkins County Genealogical Society's City Cemetery Walk, scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, are available at City National Bank, Alliance Bank and Guaranty Bond Bank. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 10 and under. For more information, please call the Genealogical Society at 903-885-8523 or John Sellers at City National Bank at 903-885-7523.

## **Pilot Club Alzheimer's Mini Walks being held every Thursday, with the BIG Walk on Oct. 20**

Help support the fight against Alzheimer's disease by participating in in the Pilot Club's "A Walk to Remember" on Oct. 20 at The Gardens at Memorial at Hopkins County Memorial Hospital. In addition to the "big walk" that day, there are also several "mini walks" planned before and after at various locations. The schedule, including contact information:

- Saturday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m., Pilot Club Members' Brain Power Walk, downtown square
- Thursday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m., Hopkins House, 903-439-1202, Jim Teetes
- Tuesday, Oct. 12, 10:30 a.m., Rock Creek Health and Rehab, 903-439-0107, LeaNetta

Pryor

- Thursday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m., A Walk to Remember (community walk), The Gardens at Memorial (in the event of rain, the walk will be held at Wesley United Methodist Church) Monica Littlefield, Jackie Thornton, 214-549-8860

- Tuesday, Oct. 25, 11:30, 1 p.m., First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, "Alzheimer's: The Rest of the Story" presentation by Fran Long, Alzheimer's Alliance of Texarkana, \$5 box lunch will be available for purchase.

### **Seventh Annual John Chester Dutch Oven Cook-off, Saturday, Oct. 1**

Mark your calendars now for the John Chester Dutch Oven Cook-off at Heritage Park on Saturday, Oct. 1. Entry fee is \$25 per team, and there's some great prize money for the top entries. Prizes will be awarded to the highest scoring team in all categories — meat, vegetable, bread, dessert and presentation. If you would like an entry form, please stop by the Chamber of Commerce office and pick one up.

### **Business After Hours mixer at Muddy Jakes Thursday, Oct. 13, from 5 p.m.-6 p.m.**

Please mark your calendars for the next Business After Hours mixer at Muddy Jakes on Thursday, Oct. 13. This is a great opportunity to have delicious food, beverages and possibly win a door prize!

### **'An Evening with Jim Ainsworth' at Sulphur Springs Library on Oct. 13**

Please make plans to attend "An Evening With Jim Ainsworth," award winning local author, on Oct. 13. An interview will be conducted by Terry Mathews, arts editor of the Sulphur Springs News-Telegram, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sulphur Springs Public Library Meeting Room. The evening will be presented by the Friends of the Sulphur Springs Public Library.

### **Fourth Annual Help-A-Child Tractor Pull, Chili Cook-off and Hot Rod Tractor Pull on Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Bartley Auction Complex**

The Bartley Auction Complex located at 4163 State Highway 19 south of Sulphur Springs will be hosting the annual Help-A-Child Antique Tractor Pull and Show beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15. There is no admission fee, but donations will be accepted for Scottish Rite Hospital, Northeast Texas Child Advocacy Center and Southern Christian Home. Then enjoy the chili

## **The Chamber Connection for Sept. 29, 2011**

Written by Meredith Caddell, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO  
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cook-off and auction that follow! They will have great prizes, and it's only \$5 for all you can eat. Then come back at 6 p.m. for a very special evening with a different type of tractor pull — the Texas Truck and Tractor Pullers Association Hot-Rod Tractor Pull! This is the only event of this type in the area, so make plans to attend. The cost to enter is only \$10.

### **Free marriage education class scheduled Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Extension office**

If you would like to attend the free marriage education class from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15, please contact Hopkins County Extension Agent Johanna Hicks at 903-885-3443. Married couples, engaged couples and seriously dating couples may attend. Topics will include communication, conflict resolution, money management and goal setting. Engaged couples will receive a certificate for a \$60 waiver upon applying for a marriage license.

### **1st Annual Hopkins County Turkey Trot Benefits Mother's Culture Club and Hope4Harper**

There will be a Kid's Fun Run at 7:30 a.m. for \$5 and a 5K Run/Walk at 8 a.m. for \$25, on Thursday, Nov. 24, 2011, at Buford Park, Early registration forms are at the Chamber of Commerce office, Alliance Bank and Fieldhouse. T-shirts will be guaranteed to 5K early registrants. Late registrants will receive shirts on a first-come, first-served basis. All kid participants will receive medals. Please contact Holly Ragan for more information at 903-348-5626 or hollyragan@hotmail.com

2011 Fall Diabetes Series to be presented by Johanna Hicks at the Extension Office

A new slate of diabetes seminars will begin Monday, Oct. 17, and continue Oct. 20, 24, 27 and 31. The fee for the entire series is \$20. The cost will be prorated if you are unable to attend all sessions. Please pre-register with Johanna Hicks by calling 903-885-3443. The sessions will be held at the AgriLife Extension office at 1200 Houston St. from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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### **Don't miss these opportunities**

- Sept. 29 — Business After Hours Mixer, Heritage Christian Counseling Center
- Oct. 1 — John Chester Dutch Oven Cook Off at Heritage Park, 11
- Oct. 5 and 6 — Temple Grandin to speak at Civic Center
- Oct. 11 — Stew Cook Meeting at the SW Dairy Museum at 6 p.m.
- Oct. 13 — Business After Hours at Muddy Jakes 5-6 p.m.
- Oct. 13 — An Evening with Jim Ainsworth at 6:30 p.m., SS Library
- Oct. 14 — United Way Cookout
- Oct. 15 — Breast Cancer Walk
- Oct. 15 — Chili Cook-off and Tractor Pull, Bartley Auction Complex, 9 a.m.
- Oct. 15 — Marriage Education Seminar, Extension Office
- Oct. 20 — A Walk to Remember, Gardens at Memorial at 6 p.m.
- Oct. 22 — World Champion Hopkins County Stew Contest
- Oct. 29 — Downtown Business Alliance Car Show
- Nov. 24 — Turkey Trot 5K at Buford Park

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