

## The Chamber Connection for Jan. 14, 2010

Written by Meredith Caddell, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO  
Thursday, 14 January 2010 14:39

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### **'A Night to Remember in the Heart of Hopkins County'**

The 84th Annual Chamber of Commerce Member Banquet will be held, Thursday, February 11, at 6:30pm at the Civic Center.



The evening will be filled with a fabulous speaker: Cindy Brinker Simmons who is a philanthropist, founder of "Wipe Out Kid's Cancer," and daughter of Norman Brinker of Brinker International; enjoy a fabulous meal AND see who wins the much deserved awards for Small and Large Business of the Year, Lady, Agriculturist, Caregiver, Educator and Citizen of the Year along with the winners of the Growth and Renewal Award and Community Pride Award!

### **'Caregiver of the Year' forms available at the Chamber**

Each year, the Pilot Club recognizes the Caregiver of the Year at the Chamber Banquet. This individual should perform voluntary caregiver service for an individual(s) for which they receive no compensation.

The nominee providing care to an individual(s) with brain-related disorders or diseases will be given special consideration for the award (e.g. Alzheimer's, Dementia, Parkinson's, Huntington's Disease etc.) The nominee should either live in Hopkins County or provide care for a Hopkins County resident and may not be a member of the Pilot Club or Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in the year of nomination.

Please submit a personal narrative of the caregiver being nominated. Include the following: type of care they provide, how long they have been a caregiver, for whom they provide care, how they meet the above criteria, and why you think this person is deserving of the Caregiver of the Year Award.

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Also, please include the following information:

Name, address and phone number of nominee and phone number of person making nomination. Deadline for nominations to be received is: January 29, 2010 (please allow for mailing time). Mail your nomination to: Pilot Club, 345 Highland Drive, Sulphur Springs, TX 75483

### **Information Packets being prepped for 350 gymnasts coming to town in February**

Sulphur Springs Gymnastics Center will be hosting a HUGE gymnastics meet in February, and the Department of Tourism is preparing 350 bags to be distributed to each of the gymnasts and their families. If you are a Chamber Member and have a coupon or an item (i.e. pens, pencils, notepads, etc.), that you would like to put in the information packets, please let us know at the Chamber and we will arrange to get the items in the bags. The bags will be assembled during the first part of January, so we will need the items early in January!

### **Do you own a small business? Wish you had someone to answer some questions?**

We do at the Chamber! Rudy Slusher is here every Thursday to offer his services. Rudy is a counselor for Paris Junior College's Small Business Development Center, and he advises small business owners in all areas of their business. Whether it be with QuickBooks, taxes, business plans, etc., Rudy can help. If you would like to make an appointment with him, please call the Chamber office at 903-885-6515.

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

- January 16: Lights of Life Gala, Civic Center, 6 p.m.-midnight
- February 11: Chamber Banquet, Civic Center, 6:30 p.m.

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### **Business of the Week**

Congratulations to the Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce Business of the Week:

**Ivan Smith Furniture  
1402 Mockingbird Suite 1 B  
Sulphur Springs, TX 754**

#### **Tip of the Week:**

“As long as the Chamber of Commerce Business of the Week sign is in front of Ivan Smith Furniture, we are going to have the lowest prices EVER on all living room, bedroom and dining room furniture — 1/2 the string tag price, not to mention the 10 percent discount on all accessories! So stop by and check out the amazing prices!” — Johnnie Stone

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

Judge Robert Newsom (left) presented a Community Pride Award to Bryan Burney at last year's Chamber of Commerce banquet. Burney was singled out for the honor for his work in youth sports. Community Pride Awards and other honors will be presented again at this year's Chamber banquet on Feb. 11.