



The Chamber BUSINESS LINE

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PERMIT #95
SEGUIN, TX 78155

★ April 2006 ★

39th Annual Freedom Fiesta promises rockin' good time!

The year is 1967. Lyndon B. Johnson is the President of the United States. A first-class stamp \$0.05. The White House Drive Inn is the place to be on Friday night. And Charles Wegner is the President of the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce. What else happened in 1967?

FREEDOM FIESTA WAS BORN!

An Independence Day celebration like no other has been held in Seguin for 39 consecutive years. The tradition continues this year - Friday, June 30, and Saturday, July 1, in Seguin's central park. This event has grown since it originated in 1967 to be the chamber's primary fund-raising event. This event offsets operating expenses for the chamber and provides funds to help promote the community.

The 2006 Freedom Fiesta is brought to you by Ram Custom Homes and is sponsored by: Platinum - KWED AM 1580, CMC Steel Texas; Gold - Tyson Foods, Seguin Convention & Visitors Bureau; Silver - First Commercial Bank, Holloman Construction, Hooters, Wells Fargo Bank; Patron - Advanced Home Health, Alamo Title, Ohm Electric, Tri-county AC & Heating. Sponsorships are still available! Call the chamber or visit www.freedomfiesta.com for more information.



Friday night will be exciting with Jason Allen opening for Cory Morrow. Jason Allen is a rising Texas star who has had two songs top the Texas music charts. Cory Morrow has topped the Texas music charts since his first album in 1998. The Friday night line-up will include a performance by Seguin's own, Nicole Bennett. Nicole will be joining Jason and Cory to do a special flag presentation as she sings our national

anthem. Friday night will be a night to remember!


Saturday evening will bring in a large crowd not only from our community, but from surrounding areas as well. Mike McClure Band will kick the night off. Mike McClure got his start from his original band, The Great Divide, which is well known in the Texas market.

Jack Ingram - who has the number-one country song on the charts - will headline Saturday night. Jack got his start while at SMU. He played at local bars and eventually made his own CD that sold upwards of 50,000 copies. Not bad for an unknown college student! Nicole Bennett will be back to sing our national anthem!

Early-evening entertainment each night will be held in the family friendly area - Friday night, listen to Clint Taft and the Buck Wild Band, followed on Saturday night by Emerson Biggins. A fun carnival will also entertain you and food booths operated by local non-profits will keep you filled up!

See ya downtown!

BUSINESS



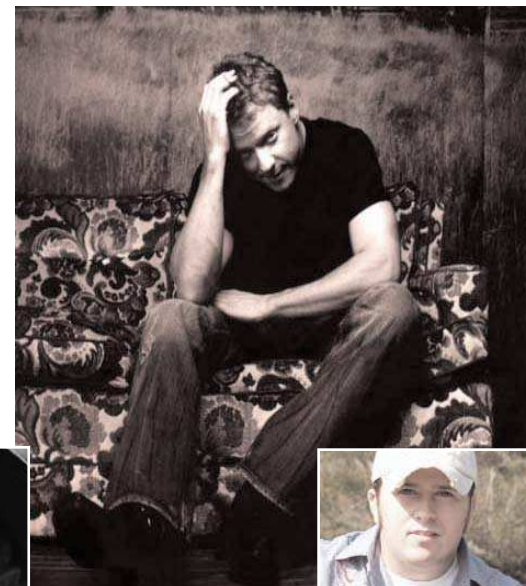
\$350
Drawing
Prize!

**Freedom Fiesta
Preview!
Live music!**

Thursday, June 22
5 to 7 p.m
South Texas Surgical Center
214 Medical Dr.



**Saturday
Night!**
Jack Ingram
Mike McClure



Friday Night!
Cory Morrow
Jason Allen



BOARD OFFICERS

CHAIR Darren Dunn	TREASURER Mark Herbold
CHAIR-ELECT Mark Stautzenberger	PAST CHAIRS Terry Boehnke
VICE CHAIRS Sharon Bettis Ken Reininger Kay Martin	PRESIDENT Phil Seidenberger Rob Cunningham

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mickey Franz	Larry Lippe
John Gesick	Shawn Martinez
Dan Henry	Kathy McCulloch
Mike Holdman	Gail Roberson
Steve Johnson	Jennifer Schulze
Stan Ledbetter	Randy Worden

We're Here For You!

CHAMBER STAFF

President

Rob Cunningham . . .rob@seguinchamber.com

Convention & Visitors Bureau Director

Sherry Nefford . . .sherry@seguinchamber.com

Office Manager

Kendy Gravett . . .kendy@seguinchamber.com

Events & Communications Director

Dana Overstreet . . .dana@seguinchamber.com

Receptionist

A'Laura Bell . . .alaura@seguinchamber.com

Mission Statement:

To promote commercial, industrial, educational, tourism and agricultural development and to enhance the overall quality of life.

Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 710 Seguin, Texas 78155
(830) 379-6382 www.seguinchamber.com

Thank you, Seguin!

The PEOPLE of Seguin stepped UP in a BIG way last month SUPPORTING all eight of the City's Destination Seguin Bond Proposals. Because of that support, the city will be able to make \$14.15 million in improvements to the City's Parks system, the fairgrounds and to Walnut Branch.

All of the Proposals passed by at least a two-to-one margin, which means voters clearly believed these projects are an important part of this City's future.

Now that the votes have been counted, I want to remind people to be patient. Some of the projects can be started sooner rather than later, but some others will require a great deal more time and planning. Important projects like these can't happen overnight, but don't worry - they are on the way.

I am proud of the fact that the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce took the lead in helping to promote the bond projects. Our Board of Directors recognized that these projects greatly benefit our members, while also improving the quality of life of the people of Seguin. These projects represent the voters of Seguin making a long-term investment in



THE CHAIR
by Darren Dunn

their community. I think that kind of progressive thinking helps us sell this community to others who might be interested in setting shop here.

The passage of the bond proposals is good news, but there may be even better news coming our way. The economic development opportunities that are potentially on the horizon for this city are amazing.

Hundreds of new jobs could soon be announced, if you believe some of the recent published reports about the Lowe's Home Improvement chain. Seguin Economic Development Corporation officials are not commenting on any pending deals and have suggested that the stories have been premature at best. Even with that said, the economic growth potential that exists in Seguin right now is unprecedented.

If we can continue this impressive trend of recruiting high quality jobs to this community, we can improve the overall business climate in the Seguin area and also increase the standard of living of all of the people in this community.

I want to urge you to continue to support the people and the organizations that are working hard to make this truly a better place to live and work.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The Chamber wishes to thank the following for reaffirming their belief in the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce by renewing their investment.

A1 Tri-County Plumbing, Inc.
American Red Cross - New Braunfels Branch
Around South Texas Tours
AT & T
Cascades Gift Shop
Comfort Inn & Suites
Dr. Marilyn Cooper
Crossroads Veterinary Hospital
CTX Unwired, Inc.
W.S. "Bill" Dean
Edward Jones Investments, Kathy Nossaman
Chuck Ellenwood - Karen McMillan Realtors
First United Methodist Church

John Gesick
Robert Haynes
HOPE Hospice
Joe's Sprinklers
Karen McMillan Realtors
Kolbe Flower Shop
Lake Placid Veterinary Clinic
Lloyd's Brake & Alignment
Max-E-Enterprises, Inc. DBA Wendy's
MiniGrip / Zip-Pak
Palm Harbor Village
Pickett's Fine Art & Frame Shop
Rosie's Pizza To Go
Seguin Animal Hospital
Seguin Board of Realtors
Dr. Pamela Tackett

The Beautification Committee invites you to go all out for the annual Fourth of July Decorating Contest

Entry deadline is Monday, June 26
Judging will be Thursday, June 29
Winners will be announced July 1

Call The Chamber at 379-6382 for more info!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AMBASSADORS

CHAIR - Mary Newman, First Commercial Bank

During May, Ambassadors volunteered at Agri-Fest, served lunch at the Moore House, greeted fourth graders at Ag Day for Kids and May Day at Sebastopol. They celebrated a ribbon cutting at Med Scrubs and greeted people at the Wyatt Arp Mixer.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

CHAIR - Karlene Krueger, SMI-Texas

The committee hosted a very successful Passion for Service seminar on May 18. Thanks again to sponsor Barnard-Donagan Insurance and to TLU for hosting us!

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR - Debbie Magin, GBRA

The Education Partnership Committee (EPC) met on April 27. Discussion centered primarily on the Teacher of the Year Reception. The invitations, decorations and plaques that were made by Dwight Peschel were finalized. The reception honoring the campus Teachers of the Year was held on May 10 in the Timmermann Room in Hein Dining Hall at TLU. We also visited about the annual events that occur, like the "Welcome bags" composed of specials, coupons and special gifts from chamber businesses are assembled in August and delivered to the new teachers in the area. A flyer will be included in next month's

newsletter with the details if you are interested in introducing your business to the new members of our community.

The final topic covered by the committee was the Family Friendly Business (FFB) program. The current program members will be receiving a reminder to begin thinking of their activities related to FFB so that they can submit their program for the "FFB of Year." The next meeting is scheduled for June 28.

LEADERSHIP SEGUIN

The Leadership Seguin Class of 05-06 attended the Passion for Service Seminar then learned more about the committees and volunteer opportunities within The Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce. Graduation Ceremonies were held June 1 at the Seguin Activity Center. Applications are available for persons interested in participating in the 2006-2007 class. A weekend retreat on Aug. 27 & 28 will kick off the nine-month program that is held on the third Thursday of the month from September through May.

AGRICULTURE AWARENESS

CHAIR - Jackie Schultze, Farm Bureau Insurance

The Ag Awareness Committee hosted Agri-Fest on May 25 and welcome lots of folks to the Coliseum to learn how agribusiness impacts our community. Thanks to the committee and other volunteers for making it a great success!



Leaders

Members of the Leadership Seguin class of 2005-2006 celebrated almost a year of hard work with their graduation June 1. They've learned about the history and future of their community, the opportunities and challenges to conducting business, government operations and more. And they've spent hours working on a project to improve the facilities at Seguin Activity Center. Class members are: Jessica DeLany, Kendy Gravett, Matt Grones, Jennifer Kolbe, Christina Krueger, Ernest Leal, Rick May, Mary Morgan, Nick Morgan, Rev. Lonnie Phillips, Connie Rodriguez, and Dot Whitman. Pictured with some of the class on their history tour is Joe Comingore.



Teachers of the Year

The Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce Education Partnership Committee honored teachers from the Seguin, Marion and Navarro School Districts at their annual Teacher of the Year Reception at TLU on May 10.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dream On

John & Barbara Upper
260 S. Hwy 123 Bypass
379-4299 fax 379-4299
keepupp@hotmail.com
Mattresses / Furniture

Jack Kuo, MD

1356 E. Walnut Street
372-5588 fax 372-5400
jackk@axs4u.net
Physician & Surgeons

Law Offices of Gregory S. Simmons

105 E. Gonzales St., Suite 200
379-7575 fax 379-7576
gsimmons@trialattorneystexas.com
Attorneys

My Two Divas

Cherrie Hildebrand
308 Malmsten Rd.
2108634972 fax 8303030223
c.hilde@juno.com
Retail Store

Opal's Treasures

Theresa Christa
112 S. Moss
401-4345 fax 401-4345
opalstreasures@sbcglobal.net
Resale Shop

Deborah Perry, Attorney at Law

1840 E. Walnut
210-347-2221 fax 372-2221
dspdperry@yahoo.com
Attorneys

Personal Development Seminars

Max Maurer
506 Lake Placid
210-275-1233 fax 303-4476
mmaurer@satx.rr.com
Corrective Training

Unique Screen Media

Karen Williams
109 Brees Blvd
San Antonio, TX 78209
210-834-7010 fax 210-828-5330
ktwilliams@satx.rr.com
www.uniquescreenmedia.com
Advertising Specialists Theaters



Opal's Treasures

Opal's Treasures owner Theresa Christa celebrated her business success with a Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting recently. Opal's Treasures, 112 S. Moss, offers high-quality and unusual resale and consignment items, antiques, vintage home decor and furniture, new and vintage jewelry, gently-worn women's clothing and estate items from around the world. Visit Opal's Treasures Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., or Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Phone number is 830-305-5368. Along with Christa, also pictured are Courtney Ogletree, the Chamber Ambassadors and members of Leadership Seguin.



Just Store It

Ed and Michelle just celebrated the opening of their new business with a ribbon cutting hosted by the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce. Just Store It, 3320 Highway 90 A., is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and is a self-storage complex that also offers U-Haul rentals and propane filling. A family-owned business, Just Store It has plans for future growth. Call Ed at Just Store It, 830-372-4443 or email just_storeit@yahoo.com. Celebrating with the Justs are the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

Taking Care of Business



Great American Alpacas

Rick and Lisa Walton, owners of Great American Alpacas, 2288 Lower Seguin Rd., Marion, are on a mission to breed quality alpacas for high-quality fleece to be used in clothing, yarn and raw products for spinning. The waltons participate in a breeding program to generate quality animals for sale, boarding and breeding. Customers may visit the livestock and fleece producing company by making an appointment at 830-914-3260. Also pictured are fellow alpaca ranchers Mark and Barbara Hampton, Joe and Karla Herre and ranch manager Adrian Schulze, along with Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

Dream On
John and
Barbara Upper
and manager
Mike McClain
have opened
Dream on,
260 S.
Highway 123
By Pass, to
offer quality
mattresses
and bedding to
the community.
Dream on is
open Monday
through
Saturday from
11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Call Dream On at 830-379-9995. Helping congratulate the Uppers are the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and some fuzzy, sleepy sheep!



CHAMBER CALENDAR ~ JUNE

Tuesday, June 6

Governmental Affairs Committee, 7 a.m., La Quinta

Ribbon cutting - Pro Auto, 10 a.m., 501 N. Austin

Freedom Fiesta Committee, 5:30 p.m., The Chamber

Wednesday, June 7

Ribbon cutting - Rapps, Mosaic Community Church, 10 a.m.

Small Business Development Center Counselor appointments available

Friday, June 9

Ribbon cutting - Sullivan Contracting Services, 4:30 p.m., 2299 Rubeloff Rd.

Monday, June 12

Ambassadors meeting, noon, K&G Steakhouse

Tuesday, June 13

Executive Committee Meeting, 7 a.m., La Quinta

Economic Development Committee, 4 p.m., The Chamber

Freedom Fiesta Committee, 5:30 p.m., The Chamber

Wednesday, June 14

Small Business Development Center Counselor appointments available

Monday, June 19

Board of Directors Meeting, noon, Casa Sol Restaurant

Tuesday, June 20

Freedom Fiesta Committee, 5:30 p.m., The Chamber

Wednesday, June 21

Inaugural Seguin Chamber Classic Meeting, noon, The Chamber

Small Business & Retail Committee, 4 p.m., The Chamber

Thursday, June 22

Business After Hours Mixer, 5 p.m., South Texas Surgical Center, 214 Medical Dr.

Monday, June 26

Small Business Development Center Counselor appointments available

Beautification Committee, 5:15 p.m., The Chamber

Wednesday, June 28

Education Partnership Committee, 5:15 p.m., The Chamber

Small Business Development Center Counselor appointments available

Friday, June 30 & Saturday, July 1
Freedom Fiesta!

Shop Chamber Members First!

Convention & Visitors Bureau



MAYB Youth Basketball Tourney attracted 120 teams

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this May 19-21 event possible. The tournament organizers were overwhelmed with the hospitality they received from the community.

We would also like to thank coupon- and gift bag contributors: Aetna Insurance, Casa Sol Restaurant, Chiro Java, Davila's BBQ, K & G Steakhouse, Kirby's Korner, The Pig Stand, Su Casa Restaurant, Vogue Shoes

Softball Tournaments Head to Town

The Seguin Little League Association will be hosting the State Softball Tournament scheduled to begin July 22 and conclude July 27. Teams will include 9-10 year olds (4 teams), 10-11 year olds (4 teams) and 12 year old and Major International (4 teams), 13-14 Junior League International (4 teams), 14-15-16 year old Senior League International (4 teams), 16-17-18 Big League International (2-4 teams).

This event will bring 14 umpires, 14 players per team with one manager and two coaches equalling approximately 374 players and coaches. Tournament organizers are anticipating 1,588 people including team members, coaches and fans coming into Seguin for this State Tournament.

On Aug. 4, the Big League Softball Tournament will begin. Opening Day activities will be held on Aug. 3. This tournament has the potential of bringing people in from a five-state area - potentially 200 people - into Seguin. If this tournament goes well, Seguin will have a chance at winning the Junior League Baseball and Softball Regional along with the Big League Softball for next year bring in 20 teams from a five state area.

CVB Committee will meet June 27

The next meeting of the convention and visitors bureau committee will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 5:15 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce Board Room.

The group recently met and identified goals for the 2007 fiscal year and will begin building momentum as a committee and bring more people to the table to network and discuss Seguin's tourism potential. If you have any questions regarding this committee, contact committee chair Gail Roberson at 379-7713.

Nutty Decisions to be made

Pecan Museum members will have their next meeting on Wednesday, June 7, at 6 p.m. at the Seguin Public Library.

All members current with their dues prior to the meeting start can participate. Membership dues may be sent to The Pecan Museum, P.O. Box 846, Seguin, Texas 78156. Membership dues are as follows: Individual \$20, Family \$35, Business \$50. For more information contact 379-6382.

This is a very important meeting that will determine the progress and completion of the 16 year museum project.

Texas Cushman Club Invited Back to Seguin

A delegation from the convention and visitors bureau recently traveled to Paris, Texas, to bid on the 2008 Texas Cushman Convention. Making the trip were volunteer Fanny Harkins of Mickey Ferrell Realty, Cushman members Leroy and Doris Becker and CVB Director Sherry Nefford.

Thank You Shiner Bash Bike Ride Volunteers

Fanny Harkins, Sophie Valenta, Kendy Gravett, Sherry Nefford.

The ride had a bit of a soggy start with morning rains and thunderstorms, however, over 120 cyclists made their way through Seguin from San Antonio to Shiner.

City of Seguin Main Street Department Announces Line-Up for June Central Park Sunday Concerts

June 4 - The Harley; June 11 - Nash Hernandez Orchestra
June 18 - Gospel Music; June 25 - Teatro de Artes de Juan Seguin

Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center hosting Rural Heritage Days - June 3 - 4

Step back in time and relive the rural and agricultural heritage of the past century. Experience first-hand the making of breads, jellies, pickles, sausage, furniture, and other undertakings from life's past. Admission 3 & under Free; 4-11 \$3 event only or \$8 with turkey & dressing dinner; 12 & over \$5 event only or \$12 with turkey & dressing dinner. This program is funded with assistance from the Texas Department of Agricultural Texas Yes! Program.