

# Business Line

May 2009

## Leadership programs growing strong!

One Leadership group is starting to think about graduation, but another set of Leadership students are starting to think about what's in store for them this summer.

Twelve members of the nine-month Leadership Seguin program will graduate June 6 at the General Membership Meeting & Luncheon. They have toured local non-profit organizations, small businesses, healthcare facilities, law enforcement agencies, agricultural organizations, governmental entities and industries.

This year's Leadership Seguin class has raised money toward the construction of a walking trail at Weinert Elementary and will spend some time this month in the construction phase of their community project.

Participating in the 2008-2009 Leadership Seguin class are Margarita Ayala of **GVEC**, Kimberly Catalina of **Texas Lutheran University**, Melissa DeLaCruz of

**Workforce Solutions Alamo**, Colby Elley of **CMC Steel Texas**, Debi Germany of **Guadalupe Healthcare Network**, Roxanne Gomez of **Guadalupe**



Leadership Seguin classmates enjoyed their law enforcement and tourism tour, which included stops at The First Church, left, and lunch at Dixie Grille.

are asked to call the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce at 379-6382 or email [dana@seguinchamber.com](mailto:dana@seguinchamber.com).

Meanwhile, 17 Guadalupe County high school juniors and sophomores have been selected to



**Regional Medical Center**, Maria Melchor of **Advanced Home Health Services**, Michelle Morris of the **Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce**, GayLynn Olsovsky

of the **Seguin Gazette-Enterprise**, Gloria Santana of **First Commercial Bank**, Stacie Scholl of **Century 21 United D&D Real Estate**, and Cody Schrank of **Keepers Interiors**. Individuals interested in applying for the next semester of Leadership Seguin

participate in the Seguin Youth Leadership Academy, set for July 18-24. The youth will tour area organizations, governmental entities and businesses, and will also participate in a variety of team-building and leadership-building activities. SYLA youth also identify and work toward completing a community improvement project.

Sponsorships are being sought to underwrite the cost of the week-long academy. For more information, call the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce at 379-6382. SYLA is a joint program of the Chamber and Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and is organized by a group of volunteers.

### General Membership Meeting & Luncheon

**Wednesday, May 6**  
**11:30 a.m. at the Coliseum**

**Richard Perez, President & CEO**  
**Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce**

member-to-member  
**SAVING**  
 seguin area chamber of commerce

Is YOUR business  
 participating in the  
 Member-to-Member  
 program?  
 Read more about it  
 on Page 4



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Butch Ikels  
Basil Kallies  
Randee Malmsten  
Rick May  
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**We're Here For You!**  
**CHAMBER STAFF**

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Sh anta Kuhl . . . president@seguinchamber.com  
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**Mission Statement:**  
*Members growing businesses  
for a prosperous community*

Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 710, Seguin, Texas 78156  
(830) 379-6382 www.seguinchamber.com

**Discover the fun in your own backyard!**

As I sat down to write this month's letter, I began thinking about all that's going on in Seguin. May is here and of course everyone is starting to think about summer plans, which, for some, include vacations. I have had my share of family vacations from driving to Florida or flying to Hawaii. One thing my family did last year was a "staycation." We took off some days from work and just stayed home. We pretended we were tourists and enjoyed some of the things that we normally take for granted. For example, we took the kids to Starke Park. Drive by it every day, but not that often do we stop to enjoy its beauty. We had a picnic and enjoyed a wonderful day! Often times we forget the things right here in our back yard. All the things that you have driven past a hundred times, but never stopped to enjoy.

As you plan your vacations for the summer, come by the Chamber. Pretend you are a tourist and browse the information about all the things to do right here in Seguin and the immediate area. You will be amazed at how quickly you will have a long list of things you want to do! By staying close to home, you will be supporting your friends and neighbors who have businesses in Seguin. Have out-of-town family planning vacations? Encourage them to come here and enjoy all the things Seguin has to offer. Freedom Fiesta will be



Shawn Martinez,  
Chair

held July 3rd and 4th and will be better than ever! Make plans now to attend and bring your family for a Texas-sized celebration held right here in Seguin.

Summer also brings to a close the Chamber's Leadership program. These 12 individuals will be graduating on June 3rd at the Silver Center during our monthly General Membership Meeting. Please make plans to attend and support all the hard work of these up and coming leaders of Seguin!

The Seguin Youth Leadership is getting prepared for a new set of young folks. This program is designed for the High School students in our area. The program is similar to the adult leadership program in that the group comes up with a project and has to develop a plan to see the project through. The students do not pay to be in the program, but rather are supported by sponsorships of the local community. The program needs assistance of local people and businesses to sponsor these young adults. Please contact the Chamber to find out how you can be involved in helping mold these young students into leaders of our community.

In closing, I would again encourage you to continue to support your local businesses. Utilize your Chamber directory for help in finding a particular service or product that you need. You can always call the Chamber any time you need assistance in locating a member. We are here to help!

**Convention & Visitors Bureau** *Seguin TEXAS*

**27TH ANNUAL RECITAL**

Featuring The Ballet Folklorico De La Rosa and Conjunto Juan Seguin  
Friday May 1, 2009 7 p.m.  
Texas Lutheran University-Jackson Auditorium  
Event Is Free and Open to the Public

**May 2 - Teatro de Artes de Juan Seguin  
5th Annual Cinco de Mayo Pachanga  
4-8 p.m. at Teatro de Artes de Juan Seguin**

**Arts & Craft Day - Saturday May 16  
10 a.m. to noon at Teatro's Cultural Arts Center**  
Teatro De Artes De Juan Seguin will sponsor an Arts & Craft Day. Teatro will teach how to make Flores de Papel (paper flowers) and Ojo de Dios (Eye of God). Teatro will also be displaying the different costumes from the many regions of Mexico. Everyone is invited to come see the beautiful costume displays and participate in an arts and craft.

**Suzi Hughson School of Dance Recital**

The 30th Annual Suzi Hughson School of Dance Recital will be held on Saturday, May 23, at Texas Lutheran University Jackson Auditorium. Performance times are 2 and 7 p.m. Free admission.

**Birding Adventure at Seguin Outdoor Learning Center - Saturday, May 2 - 8 a.m.**

Count Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Crested Caracas, Black-Bellied Whistling ducks and almost a hundred other species. A stopover on the flyway, this county has a good range of environments. Semi-arid, sandy pasture and scrub brush lie south. Rich blackland prairie to the north is used for crops. Post oak woodlands to the east have a dense understory of shrubs and herbaceous plants. A variety of waterfowl thrive along the Guadalupe River and its lakes.

**Mayfest - Saturday, May 16 - Sebastopol**

Craft demonstrations, climbing wall, archery, catch-and-release fish tank, and face painting at Sebastopol State Historic Site, 11 am to 3 pm. Free! Family fun!  
(830) 379-4833

**Fields at Huber Ranch**

Relax and enjoy the exciting action of girls fastpitch softball at one of the top complexes in the State! Tournaments are scheduled each weekend throughout the year as well as league play on weekdays.

This complex includes five competition fields, climate controlled concession stands, and covered seating. Bring along your lawn chair for the best seat in the park.

**Tournaments for May:**

May 2-3	Cinco de Mayo Tournament
May 9-10	Mother's Day Tournament
May 16-17	Win it All! Tournament
May 23-24	Memorial Day Tournament
May 30-31	Bring the Heat! Tournament

For a complete line-up of events, visit their website at www.huberranchfastpitch.com

**2009 Central Park Concert Series gearing up**

The Central Park Concert Series will be held the first four Sunday evenings in June from 7-8:30 p.m. Each concert features a different style of music.

Sunday, June 7	Nash Hernandez Orchestra
Sunday, June 14	Two Way Street & Dotts Dwyer
Sunday, June 21	Big Daddy Dean
Sunday, June 28	The Harley's

The Concerts are free and open to the public. Patrons should bring a lawn chair, blanket, family and friends and enjoy a pleasant evening in historic downtown Seguin. Boy Scout Troop 107 will be selling cold beverages, hot dogs and hamburgers.

The Central Park Concert Series is supported by donations from local businesses and corporations. The City of Seguin Main Street Program sponsors the Central Park Concert Series. For more information call 830-401-5000 or go to www.ci.seguin.tx.us.

**Managing the Visitor Experience in Your Business and Community Workshop**

To insure the success of a business, it is important for businesses to establish good customer relations to foster loyal repeat customers.

We invite you to participate in a "Managing the Visitor Experience in Your Business and Community" Workshop on Wednesday, May 13, 9 a.m. – Noon.

This workshop is being coordinated by Seguin Convention & Visitors Bureau at the banquet room at Quality Inn Hotel. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

If you own or manage a service business, you and your employees will benefit from this program by developing new concepts and skills to better serve your most valuable asset...your customer!

Learn how to improve customer service through "visitor-friendly" systems. You will also learn the importance of managing every phase of the guest experience.

A minimal fee of \$15 per person will be charged to off-set costs of materials. To register for the workshop contact the Chamber of Commerce at 379-6382.

Here's a tally of the telephone calls and walk-in traffic at the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce and Seguin Convention & Visitors Bureau in March

## Call Report & Referrals

Adult Day care  
 Advance Lock & Key  
 Advanced Concrete Restoration & Design  
 Akin Ambulance  
 Appraisal District- 2  
 AT&T  
 Auction Cattle Co.  
 Better Business Bureau - 3  
 Caterpillar - 26  
 Century 21 Action Realty  
 Century 21 United D & D Real Estate  
 Chill's  
 City Animal Control  
 City Hall  
 Congressman Henry Cuellar-District Office  
 Corpus Christi C of C  
 Court House - 3  
 D & A RV Resort  
 Defensive Driving  
 Dietz Flower Shop  
 Eden Home, Inc  
 El Fiesta Ballroom  
 Fire Marshall  
 Food Bank - 2  
 Garner State Park  
 GBRA - 2  
 Gift & Gourmet  
 Green Gate  
 Guadalupe Valley Nursing Center  
 Hacienda Oaks Nursing & Rehab  
 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce- 2  
 Jim's Formal Wear

Karen McMillan  
 KBR Design  
 Kinfolk Creations - 11  
 La Grange C of C  
 Larry's Boot & Saddle Repair  
 LI1 Bugs  
 Nesbit Living & Recovery Center  
 New Braunfels C of C - 2  
 New Braunfels Smokehouse  
 Pape's Pecan House  
 Parks and Recreation office  
 Poteet C of C  
 Print Express  
 Public Boat Ramps - 2  
 Ray Concrete  
 River Shade RV Park - 2  
 Riverbend RV Park  
 Salvation Army  
 San Antonio Raceway  
 Seguin Activity Center  
 Seguin Cattle Company  
 Seguin Comm. Health Center  
 Seguin Conservation Society  
 Seguin Economic Development Dept. - 10  
 Seguin Evening Lions Club  
 Seguin Gazette  
 Seguin ISD  
 Seguin Noon Lions Club  
 Seguin Oakwood Art League  
 Seguin Sunrise Lions Club  
 Seguin Sunset Lions Club  
 Seguin/Guadalupe County Senior Citizens Center

Silver Center  
 Stockdale Nursing Center  
 Temple Inland  
 The Tote  
 TLU  
 Trade Days  
 Tx. Ag. Education and Heritage Center- 3  
 Tx. Dept. of Human Services- 2  
 United way- 1  
 VDS Enterprises  
 Venture Transport  
 Wilson Co. newspaper  
 Windsor Nursing & Rehabilitation Center of Seguin  
 Workforce Solutions Alamo - 11  
 You're So Crafty

Information Distributed to Tourists  
 Walk in - 67

Maps- 53  
 Phone Books- 17  
 Visitor Packets - 7  
 True Women Info - 7  
 Membership Packets- 1  
 Sheet Map- 9  
 Relocation Packets- 12

Relocation Packets  
 Realtor Requests- 2  
 Subdivision Requests- 3  
 Individual Requests  
 Directories- 32  
 Volleyball Roster - 10

Event Information Calls  
 Leadership Fundraiser- 5  
 Central Texas Golf Fest- 18  
 Noche De Gala- 6  
 Cooking School - 28  
 Little League

## Welcome New Members

**A & B Home Health Care Inc.**  
 Alex Marti  
 555 IH-35 S. Suite 324  
 New Braunfels, TX 78130  
 (830) 325-4837 fax (830) 625-2194  
 Home Health Care  
 www.aandbhomehealthcare.com

**B & M Development**  
 Dwight Mason  
 1204 N. King St., Seguin, TX 78155  
 (830) 433-4698 fax (866) 543-9678  
 Vacation Rentals Long Term Rentals  
 www.bandmrentals.com

**Bartlett Tree Experts**  
 Robert and Betty Hager  
 1324 Old Martindale Rd.  
 San Marcos, Texas 78666  
 (512) 392-1089  
 Tree Care Service  
 www.bartlett.com

**Christopher H. Moore**  
 202 N. Camp St., Seguin, TX 78155  
 (830) 379-9445 fax (830) 379-3714  
 Attorneys

**Peggie Haynes - Alamo Title Company**  
 109 N. River St. Seguin, TX 78155  
 (830) 303-3453 fax (830) 303-3908  
 Title Companies  
 www.alamotitles.com

**Sandy's Hair Design**  
 Joanne Sellars-Hill  
 550 N. 123 Bypass # 142,  
 Seguin, TX 78155  
 (830) 379-8870  
 Cosmetologist

**Windsor Nursing & Rehabilitation Center of Seguin**  
 Marta Maley  
 1219 Eastwood Dr.,  
 Seguin, TX 78155  
 (830) 379-7777 fax (830) 372-1204  
 Nursing Homes

## Membership Renewals

ACCO Feeds  
 Acme Brick Company  
 Alamo Industrial  
 Alexander Oil Company  
 All Occasions Catering  
 Altwein Realty Inc.  
 American Bank of Texas, N.A.  
 American Red Cross/New Braunfels Branch  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Anderson  
 Ascot Travel-Seguin  
 Barnard-Donegan Insurance  
 Beicker Insealation  
 Bettersworth Engineering & Surveying  
 Blumberg Offices  
 Bradzoi  
 Brawner & Brawner  
 Broadway National Bank  
 Capital Farm Credit  
 Carolyn Tarver Insurance Agency  
 Century 21 United D & D  
 CMC Recycling Seguin  
 CMC Steel Texas  
 Comtex  
 Conover Veterinary Hospital  
 Culligan Water Conditioning  
 Renee Cutchner - Mickey Ferrell Realtors  
 D & D Farm & Ranch Supermarket  
 Dairy Queen #1  
 Dairy Queen #3  
 Dietz Flower Shop  
 E.P.M.P. Inc.  
 Early Bird Townhomes  
 El Rancho Restaurant  
 William F. Ermel

Kathleen Ethridge, M.D.  
 Fidelity Loans  
 First Commercial Bank  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 First United Methodist Church  
 Fujirebio Diagnostics Texas Inc.  
 James V. & Eddie B. Garcia  
 John Gesick  
 Goetz Funeral Home  
 Guadalupe County MH-MR Agency, Inc.  
 Guadalupe Healthcare Network  
 Guadalupe Regional Medical Center  
 Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative  
 Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter  
 Guadalupe Valley Nursing Center  
 Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority  
 GVEC.net, Inc.  
 Hacienda Oaks Nursing & Rehab  
 Helen Hamilton  
 Dr. Ailyn Hartfiel  
 Hillcrest Assembly of God  
 John H. Hudson, DDS  
 ITW Minigrip  
 Jackson Hewitt Tax Service  
 Jim's Formal Wear  
 Joe's Sprinklers  
 Jon Ullrich Brokerage Company  
 Basil Kallies  
 Keepers Interiors  
 KLRN-TV  
 Helen Kolb  
 Edmund Kuempel  
 Lake McQueeney Estates  
 Law Office of James S. Frost  
 Law Offices of Stephen D. Finch

James C. Lee, MD  
 Loyd's Brake & Alignment  
 Magic Shears  
 Martin Financial Services  
 Menn & Associates  
 Micro Beef Technologies  
 Middletowne Apartments  
 Mosaic  
 Dr. Brooks Mullen - Seguin Ear, Nose & Throat  
 Nora Naumann  
 Ronald Naumann  
 Oroian, Guest & Little, P.C.  
 Orthodox Specialists of Seguin, P.A.  
 Pamrod Products Co.  
 Producer's Cooperative  
 Prosperity Bank  
 Dr. Thomas Raetzsch  
 Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union  
 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.  
 Reno Reiley  
 Resource MFG  
 Rick Ehlers Irrigation & Landscaping  
 Rio Nogales Power Project  
 River Shade RV Park  
 RRL Concessions  
 Calvin Salmon  
 Scheel Construction  
 Randy Schriever - Century 21 United D & D Real Estate  
 Schroeder Beverages  
 Seguin Auto Parts  
 Seguin Chevrolet  
 Seguin Diesel Truck Service  
 Seguin Gazette-Enterprise  
 Seguin Title Company

Cleburne "Buddy" & Jenny Siltmann  
 Ray Simecek, DDS  
 Soechting Motors, Inc.  
 Southwest Plumbing  
 Springs Hill Water Supply Corporation  
 Sadie Stanley  
 Starcke Furniture Company  
 State Farm Insurance  
 Mark & Thalia Stautzenberger  
 Sweet Events  
 Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center  
 Texas Independent Energy Operating Co., LLC  
 Texas Lutheran University  
 Texas Propane Energy  
 The Koehler Company  
 William E. Thornton, DDS, PA  
 Tractor Supply Company  
 Tri-County A/C & Heating Inc.  
 TSG Architects AIA  
 Tyson Foods  
 Walter Ulbricht  
 US Army Recruiting Station - Seguin  
 Jack Vexler  
 Viola's Flower Shop  
 George Walker, DDS & Associates  
 Wal-Mart Supercenter  
 Warm Springs Specialty Hospital at Luling  
 Wells Fargo Bank  
 Charlie Willmann  
 Wright Distributing Company  
 Wunderlich Builders, Inc.  
 Wyatt Arp Chrysler Dodge  
 Xerxes Corporation

## Chamber Calendar

**Friday, May 1**  
 Ribbon Cutting - Grain Bin Cafe & Store, 121 Dennis Dr. (3 miles north of Navarro on 123), 4 p.m.

**Monday, May 4**  
 Industrial Relations Committee, Continental, Noon

**Tuesday, May 5**  
 Governmental Affairs Committee, LaQuinta, 7 a.m.

**Wednesday, May 6**  
 General Membership Meeting & Luncheon, Coliseum, 11:30 a.m.  
 Teacher of the Year Reception TLU, 4 p.m.

**Friday, May 8**  
 Ribbon Cutting, Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center New Educational Wing, 6:30 p.m.

**May 10**  
 Texas Tourism Week  
 Ambassadors, Kirby's Komer, noon

**Tuesday, May 12**  
 Economic Development Committee, Chamber, 4 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 13**  
 Executive Committee, 7 a.m.

**Freedom Fiesta committee,**  
 Chamber, 5:30 p.m.

**Friday, May 15**  
 Beautification Committee, Chamber, 3:30 p.m.

**Monday, May 18**  
 Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber, noon

**Tuesday, May 19**  
 SYLA Committee, GBRA, Noon

**Thursday, May 21**  
 Leadership Seguin Day

**Monday, May 25**  
 Chamber offices closed, Memorial Day

**Tuesday, May 26**  
 Freedom Fiesta Committee, Chamber, 5:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, May 27**  
 Strategic Planning Committee, Chamber, 11:30 a.m.

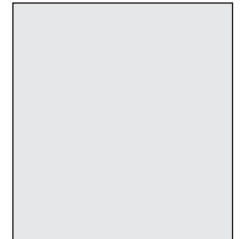
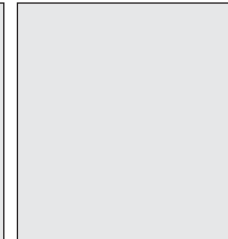
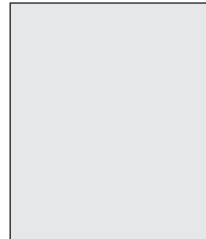
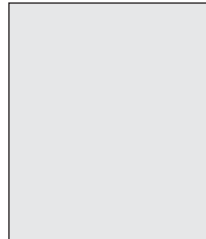
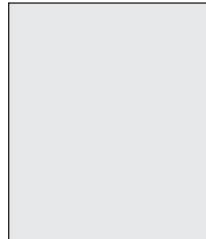
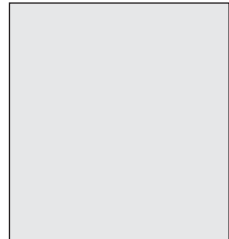
**Member contact updates**  
 Please remember to let the Chamber staff know when you change your email address.  
 Also, please make sure you are receiving a weekly Monday Morning Memo - if not, we have an old or incorrect address for you!  
**Email updates to cofc@seguinchamber.com.**

**Plan Ahead**

**June 3**  
 General Membership Meeting  
 Leadership Seguin Graduation

**July 3 & 4**  
 Freedom Fiesta

**July 18-24**  
 Seguin Youth Leadership Academy





**Golf Fest Champions**

Wes Kirkham, left, and Chad Bryant were the grand champions of the 38th Annual Central Texas Golf Fest April 24-26 at seven area golf courses over three days. Nearly 1,200 golfers participated in this annual event, which is sponsored by the Seguin, New Braunfels and San Marcos Chambers of Commerce. Local hole sponsors included Edward Jones - Kathy Nossaman, Guadalupe Valley Nursing Center, Hacienda Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation and The First National Bank.

**M2M is your KEY to savings!**

The Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to again provide its members with a Member-to-Member (M2M) Promotion Program Discount KEYtag and Listing. The M2M Promotion Program offers special incentives and discounts on products and services to members from fellow members (and their employees) ...not to just those offering discounts.

This program was designed exclusively for our Chamber members as an added value of membership and is sponsored again in 2009-2010 by The First National Bank.

The M2M Promotion Program features free listings of member discounts for products and services. Members simply show their M2M Promotion Program Discount KEYtag to participating firms in order to receive the discounts.

The M2M Promotion Program is constantly expanding. A new list of discounts is updated in The Chamber's newsletter and on the website monthly. This not only allows new members to participate in the program, but also supplies Chamber members with the most up-to-date discount opportunities.

We encourage you to "Shop Chamber Members First" and take advantage of the M2M savings your fellow members are offering to you and your employees. Keep your KEYtag on your key ring, ready for instant savings. (If you would like KEYtags for all your employees, please stop by The Chamber office at 427 N. Austin.)

Please call the Chamber office if you have any questions - (830) 379-6382.

**Building on the Past  
Preparing for the Future**  
Community supports Chamber's Capital Campaign  
To date, donors are:

**Super Star - \$15,000+**

**LCRA**  
ENERGY • WATER • COMMUNITY SERVICES

**AMERICAN BANK OF TEXAS N.A.**  
Great Texas People. Great Texas Bank.

**CMC Steel Texas**

**FCB** Guadalupe Regional MEDICAL CENTER  
First Commercial Bank, N.A.

**The Donegan Family  
Seguin Rotary Club  
Republic Plastics**

**Five-Star - \$10,000 - \$14,999**  
Seguin Chevrolet Inc.  
Finish Line Construction Services, LLC

**Four-Star - \$7,500 - \$9,999**

All Occasions Catering  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Seguin Assisted Living  
Anonymous  
Schertz Bank & Trust  
Alamo Group Inc.  
Tyson Foods, Inc.  
Sullivan Contracting Services  
The Koehler Company  
Guadalupe Blanco River Authority

**Three-Star - \$4,500 - \$7,499**  
Goetz Funeral Home  
The First National Bank of Beville

**Two-Star - \$3,000 - \$4,499**

GVEC  
Kirby's Korner  
Hexcel Corp.  
Anonymous  
State Farm Insurance, Mark Herbold  
Carter's Tire Center, Inc.  
ZDT Amusement Center, Ltd.  
Shanafelt Auto Co. Inc.  
King Electric Company, Inc.  
King Properties & King Ranger Theatre  
Seguin Gazette-Enterprise  
Keppers  
David Baenziger, Harold Baenziger  
Black Castex Construction, Ltd.

**One-Star - \$1,500 - \$2,999**

Sweet Events  
DEW Properties, LP  
Larry Lippe  
William G. Brown CPA PC  
James S. Frost Law Office  
Dan Henry  
Menn & Associates  
Craig Donegan  
Cascades Gift Shop  
Texaco Xpress Lube/ Xpress Truck  
Accessories  
Law Offices of Stephen D. Finch  
OHM Electric  
Angel Post Control  
Tres Howell Mortuary  
State Farm Insurance - Leroy Abves  
Nehit Living & Recovery Center  
Karen McMillan Realtors - Terry Wells  
Mickey Ferrell Realtors - Keith & Heleen  
Siedlmüller  
The Ledbetter Group & Ledbetter's Dependable Cleaners

US Health Group  
Phil Seldenberger  
Membrane Filtration Products, Inc.  
Stam McKenzie  
Fabio's Inc. (Iba San Anthony Jewelry)  
Margo Frost  
Betty Ann Mathias  
Seguin Fabricators, Ltd.  
Alamo Title Company  
Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union  
Masters Electrical Company  
James C. Lee, MD  
Ti-County A/C and Heating, Inc.  
Westerholm-Koehler Insurance  
Robert C. Pfullmann Jr., Attorney at Law  
Hartman Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Dr. Melanie Carreon  
Seguin Animal Hospital  
Andrade-Buck, Inc. (Subway)  
Seguin Ford Mercury  
Broadway National Bank  
Diamond Air  
The Oak Tavern  
Coffee Management  
Dr. Dean Zhizone  
True Blue Entertainment, LLC (Country Cabaret)  
Ingram Readylink Inc.  
Campbell Floors  
Starcke Furniture Co.

**Other**

Bill & Rose Mary Ernie, Sharon Bettis,  
Dale Dyess Realtors, Ray Simecock DDS,  
Five Star Title, CAVCO Homes of Texas,  
John Hudson DDS, Phil Rinn,  
Craig Rinn & Mary Ann Friddle, Daris Rinn,  
Hampton Inn, Schroeder Beverages Inc.,  
Johnny's Bar-B-Que, Sonic Drive-In No. 2,  
Spring Hill Water Supply  
Kirchner Erection Co.,  
Arnold Zwickle, Steve Koehler,  
Orthodontic Specialists of Seguin

**Loans to small businesses are key to recovery**

By Tom Donohue, President and CEO, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Businesses of all sizes have been battered by the recession, but small businesses--the engines of economic growth--have been especially hard hit. They've faced a double whammy--a huge reduction in business due to the recession and severely restricted access to credit due to the banking crisis.

Affordable and abundant credit is the lifeblood of all businesses, but credit is especially important to small businesses that have fewer financing options than larger companies. That's why the U.S. Chamber has made helping small businesses obtain credit and stay afloat during these difficult times a top priority. Last week, the Obama administration proved it was listening and took a major step in the right direction.

The White House announced plans to reduce the Small Business Administration's (SBA's) 7(a) and 504 lender and user fees, which will incentivize banks to lend and make funds

**Business news  
from the  
U.S. Chamber of  
Commerce**

more affordable for small businesses to borrow. The administration also called for an increase in the government-guaranteed percentage of the SBA 7(a) loans and changes that would allow banks to more easily sell the guaranteed portion of the SBA 7(a) and 504 loans on the secondary markets. Finally, banks will be required to meet new reporting requirements to help monitor lending to small businesses.

Along with a provision in the stimulus bill that will allow small businesses to carry back their losses over the last five tax years (effectively, a tax refund), this proposal amounts to a mini-stimulus package for small business owners.

While we applaud the administration's

plan to get credit back in the hands of small businesses, it's also important that it not implement policies that will hurt them. Raising taxes would be a huge mistake. The proposed increase of marginal tax rates for those earning more than \$250,000 a year would adversely impact many small firms, as \$2 out of every \$3 dollars in small business profits is taxed at the individual household level.

Saddling small businesses with an expensive health care mandate and more burdensome workplace regulations will only delay economic recovery and undermine our nation's long-term growth.

Small businesses need credit to meet payroll, purchase supplies, hire workers, and--in a deep recession--to simply keep the lights on.

Don't forget, small businesses employ approximately half of all private sector workers and generate 60% to 80% of net new job growth. Investing in these companies is a down payment toward economic recovery and a brighter future for America.

**Member Mention**

Registration for summer swimming lessons at **Texas Lutheran University Mabee Pool** will begin May 12 with in-person registration taking place in the Fitness Center on campus from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Registration will then continue by mail or in person during business hours throughout the summer. Lesson forms for the June session of lessons can be found on the TLU Web site or in the fitness center on campus. For more information visit the Web site at [www.tlu.edu](http://www.tlu.edu) or contact Debbie Roberts, campus recreation director, at [droberts@tlu.edu](mailto:droberts@tlu.edu) or call 830-372-6762.

**Amy's and Cathy's Takeout** will have a drawing for a delicious, fully-equipped picnic basket for two as a May "Picnic in the Park" promotion for tourism week May 9-17. "Picnic in the Park" will celebrate the wonderful changes made to enhance Central Park in the last year with the historically styled bandstand and the addition of the beautiful park benches.

Thanks to **All Occasions Catering** for assistance with the Leadership Seguin class in April. And our appreciation

to the law enforcement and tourism representatives who let the group spend the day with them.

**Leadership Seguin** classmates will travel to Austin in May and will graduate at the June General Membership Meeting & Luncheon. For information about the next semester, call the Chamber at 379-6382.

**Thunderpaws Canine Solutions** and **You're So Crafty** are teaming up to host the Model Dog Decorating Contest and Silent Auction to raise money for the Paws in Prison program. Purchase a model 'dog' at either location, decorate it and turn it in at Thunderpaws on May 21 for judging. Lots of fun, a silent auction and snacks are included at the event, which starts at 6 p.m. Call Thunderpaws Canine Solutions at 379-7000 for more information.

If you're not reading something about your business here, then you need to make sure you send information to [dana@seguinchamber.com](mailto:dana@seguinchamber.com). Newsletters are printed at the end of a month in advance of the next month, so think ahead and spread the word!!