

www.GiddingsTx.com

THE CHAMBER CONNECTION

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Giddings Area Chamber of Commerce, 171 E. Hempstead, Giddings, Texas 78942
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Leadership and Our Future

By Denice Harlan

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Leadership and Our Future
- 1 Mission Statement & New Members
- 2 Giddings Food & Wine Fest
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 3 Renewing Members
- 3 Economic Stimulus Package
- 4 Upcoming Events & Activities
- 4 Thank You

Leadership is one of the most important factors in the success of our community. Leadership in our key organizations such as the Giddings Area Chamber of Commerce, Giddings Economic Development Corporation and the City of Giddings has helped to direct the path our community has taken. Each of these organizations meet, determine needs, plan budgets and then execute their Program of Work throughout the year. These organizations work very closely together to address the growing needs of our community. The City Council, Chamber Board of Directors and GEDC Board are volunteers who donate their time and talent for the benefit of Giddings. Their leadership is what has helped to make Giddings what it is today.

Look around at the wonderful improvements that the City has provided in the form of additional parking for businesses, sidewalk improvements and road upgrades. Check out the Depot projects that the GEDC has invested in to make downtown a more appealing business area. Check out the Chamber website and look at the Member Benefits available to every business. We are growing and prospering because of our leadership.

We will have many opportunities this year to make choices about our leadership. Transparency, Accountability and Measurable Results are the three issues that have to be foremost in our minds as we select our leaders. You may be the next leader in our community. ARE YOU READY?

Our Mission

"The mission of the Giddings Area Chamber of Commerce is to create a progressive business environment, take a leadership role in the community, be an information resource for members and increase growth of tourism."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Lost Pines Bar-B-Que: Herman Herms, owner
1534 E. Austin, Giddings, Texas 78942, 979-542-2075
Restaurant & Catering- Open Tuesday thru Sunday.

Eco Irrigation Landscape & Maintenance: Cody Abbey, owner
902 Kneip Rd., Round Top, Texas 78954, 979-709-3018
Licensed irrigation provider. Consultation, design and install new irrigation systems. Free Estimates.

Girling Healthcare, Inc.:
85 N. Kessler, Schulenburg, Texas 78956, 979-743-2633
Home Health Care-physical, speech & occupational therapy for homebound patients.

The Lost Pines Center of Cancer Care: Dr. Jeffrey Chen & Dr. David Jones
3107 Hwy 71 East, Bastrop, Texas 78602, 866-367-3558
Cancer treatment in a comfortable setting that is close to our patients. A wide variety of support services and education.

Giddings Food & Wine Fest

By Denice Harlan

The Giddings Food & Wine Fest - "Flavors of Giddings" is the annual fundraising auction and dance benefiting the Giddings Area Chamber of Commerce.

Area wineries, restaurants, caterers and vendors will be on hand to showcase their products. This event attracts 200 people for an evening of fun, fellowship and dancing. Prizes will be awarded for "Favorite Wine", "Favorite Food & Wine Pairing", "Favorite Dish", and "Showmanship". Messina Hof, Three Dudes Winery, Rosemary's Winery and Bernhardt Winery will be on hand. The silent auction will start at 5:30pm and continue until 7:00pm. The live auction will start at 8pm and the dance will start at 9pm. Local band, TUB will help attendees dance the night away. The funds raised through this event help provide programs, events, activities and scholarships in the Giddings area. Call for more information-979-542-3455.

Tickets are \$35 per person or \$500 for a sponsorship table of 10.

Thank you to our sponsors for the upcoming Giddings Food & Wine Fest. Ramada-Giddings, Bernhardt Winery, Three Dudes Winery, Messina Hof Winery and Rosemary's Winery. Thanks to the many businesses that have generously donated an auction item. We recognize all businesses for their donations at the auction with signage, mention during the event and in all thank you publications.

Excellence can be obtained if you:

"Care more than others think is wise;

Risk more than others think is safe;

Dream more than others think is practical;

Expect more than others think is possible."

Carol R. Artz,

President & CEO

Pearland

Chamber of Commerce



Calendar of Events

Fish Fry at Bethel St. Paul Baptist Church – March 6th, Ham-sellout \$7

Spring Fling Arts & Crafts and Downtown Shopping Extravaganza - April 25th

Fried Chicken Dinner- Benefits Immanuel Lutheran Relay for Life Team

Sunday, March 8 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

ILS Gym \$7.00 Dine in or To-Go.

Lee County Little League- BBQ on a Bun Fundraiser

Saturday, March 7 11 am – 1 pm

Classic Bank Parking Lot \$ 6.00

The U.S. Small Business Administration, in collaboration with the Giddings Economic Development Corporation and Giddings Area Chamber of Commerce, will be holding a seminar entitled How to Start a Business. The seminar is FREE and will be held on Tuesday/ March 10, 2009, from Noon to 2:00 p.m. at the 289 West Railroad Avenue, Giddings, TX 78942.

For more information call (979) 542-2067 or contact Joyce Bise at jmbise@giddings.net

Hamburger Lunch- Benefits BLUEBONNET ELECTRIC RELAY FOR LIFE Team

Tuesday, March 10th 11 am to 1 pm

Old Bluebonnet Headquarters in Giddings. Dine in or To Go available. \$6.00

Chicken Spaghetti Luncheon sponsored by the Giddings Study Club, March 24th at Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall from 11am to 1pm.

Lee County Junior Livestock Show starts on March 25th and continues through March 28th.

Lee County Farmers Market meeting-March 31st at 5:00 P.M. at Eleanor's Cottage.

THANK YOU TO OUR RENEWING MEMBERS-
WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

- B & W Food Market
- Giddings Times & News
- KTEX 106.1
- Rejuvenation
- Secret Garden
- Star Locksmith
- B & B Auto & Farm
- Citizens National Bank
- Curves
- D & A Testing
- Delvin Boriak
- Dr. Laura Birnbaum
- Drake Storage, Inc.
- Executive Inn
- First National Bank
- First United Methodist Church
- Gaeke Construction
- Giddings Vending Co.
- Girling Healthcare, Inc.
- Guaranteed Pest Control
- H & R Machine
- Jack Placke
- JD Giddings Masonic Lodge
- John Gres DDS
- L. F. Manufacturing
- Lee County Chiropractic
- Leslie Chandler Jr.
- LJ Tax Services
- Longoria Plumbing
- Lopez Auto Clinic
- Maass Butane
- Mayer Auctioneering
- Mayer Realty
- Oakland Manor
- Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home
- Pieratt's Pharmacy
- San Luis Potosi
- Sonic Drive In
- Texas Star Animal Hospital
- The Buzz Bean
- USCRA
- Westfall Real Estate
- World Finance Corporation

Follow the Money –
Comptroller Susan Combs' Web Site Will Track
Economic Stimulus Funds

(AUSTIN) — Tracking the Texas Stimulus, a new Web page launched today by Texas Comptroller Susan Combs, will help state and local officials, business leaders, economic developers, human service providers and interested taxpayers track what Texas may receive from the estimated \$787 billion in federal economic stimulus funds.

“Our office is closely reviewing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to determine what it means for Texas,” Combs said. “We will share information we have compiled so far and continually update the Web page as federal agencies provide more guidance on the funding included in this complex and far-reaching plan.”

The first phase of Tracking the Texas Stimulus features a spreadsheet listing the provisions of the federal stimulus bill, estimates of federal spending and the amounts Texas might expect to see. The estimates are preliminary, based upon currently available information from a wide range of sources. As the Web page is continually updated, it will be a valuable resource to help Texas plan the best use of the funds within the parameters set by the legislation.

When the funds reach Texas, the Comptroller's office will track the money through the Web site.

“At both the state and federal levels, transparency and accountability are critical parts of the Recovery and Reinvestment Act,” Combs said. “Taxpayers deserve to know that the enormous amount of tax dollars contained in the economic stimulus plan is being used as intended — to put people to work, to help families impacted by the economic downturn and to fund projects that will provide lasting economic benefits to Texas and the nation without causing unintended consequences.”

Tracking the Texas Stimulus is located at
<http://www.window.state.tx.us/finances/stimulus/>



GOD BLESS OUR VETERANS & TROOPS!

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**Chamber Luncheon – March 20th**

We will host a once monthly Chamber Luncheon for members. These luncheons are designed to be networking opportunities for members while creating and fostering the fellowship aspect of belonging to a membership organization. Your greatest asset in business is your relationship with your customers or potential customers you may encounter at Chamber luncheons, Ribbon Cuttings, Open Houses and After Hours Mixers. Call to reserve your seat. We will meet at Los Patrones Mexican Grill from 11:30 to 1:00pm.

Ribbon Cutting-March 20th

H & R Block invites you to join them for a Ribbon Cutting and Open House from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. They will serve refreshments and answer your tax questions.

172 W. Houston, Giddings. Owner, Carla Dwinell at 979-542-4116.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you to our Texas Workforce Center, Business After Hours Sponsors-Mike Hopkins Distributing and Saunders Distributing. All Chamber member businesses are eligible to host a Business After Hours. We do ask that you give us a couple of weeks notice to make announcements and send email invitations to our member list. Congratulations to Robin Bunch on 24 years with the Texas Workforce Center. We wish her well as she enters a new career with the U.S. Census Bureau.

Community Blood Drive in honor of Anna Muniz and in memory of Andrew Boriack on March 12th from 9:00 A.M until 5:00 P.M. at Immanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall. Bring ID and eat before you give. Sponsored by the Giddings New Horizons Lions Club.

Thank you to our Board of Directors! They work hard behind the scenes to help promote your business. Let them know what you like and where we can improve. We are all in this together! ☺

Check out our website at www.GiddingsTx.com to get up to the minute information and details about upcoming events and activities happening in Giddings and Lee County. We are your information resource. Email: giddingscofc@verizon.net Office Phone: 979-542-3455 or Fax: 979-542-7060.



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