

Teens encouraged to apply for '07 experience

Applications are available now for the Summer 2007 Seguin Youth Leadership Academy.

Sixteen students from Lifegate, Navarro and Seguin schools participated in the 2006 program developed by the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Cooperative Extension.

SYLA is designed to provide students with a theoretical and operational foundation in the skills, beliefs and practices of leadership. It is hoped that students who graduate from the SYLA will be prepared to make a positive impact on the quality of life in our community.

During the week-long Academy, students visited numerous businesses, including the hospital and wellness center, school district, police station, ag heritage center, newspaper and several industries. They also attended a County Commissioners Court meeting and a City of Seguin Council meeting. They heard presentations from agencies



and organizations on water, utilities, transportation, land valuation, civic clubs and tourism.

"I will definitely become a more active participant in the community," said one of the graduates. "I hope to get involved in several service organizations."

Another graduate evaluated the program by saying "this has been an eye-opening experience and has changed how I will proceed socially with life."

The 2006 SYLA group also selected a community project - the funding for and renovation of

Manuel C. Castilla Park; and developed a college scholarship program. After completion of their project, the students participated in a graduation "Apprentice" program, where GBRA's David Welsch provided the "character" of Donald Trump, along with Bill Keller and Pam Krippner. The Apprentice was emceed by Linda Duncan. At the graduation, the youth explained why they chose their community proj-

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Business Showcase has a Monopoly on fun

"I'll take, 'It's the best party in town' for \$20, please Alex."

"What is Business Showcase Preview Night?" is the answer.

Your level of popularity will be in serious Jeopardy if you miss out on the Business Showcase - set for Tuesday night, March 6, and Wednesday, March 7.

Let the Games Begin is the theme for this annual trade show at the Seguin Guadalupe County Coliseum. Booths will decorate and entertain to match the games theme - sports games, game shows, and board games.

Preview Night - also known as one of the best parties in town - is Tuesday, March 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. There will be food, drinks, live entertainment and the opportunity to catch a sneak preview of the nearly 80 vendors' booths.

Show Day is Wednesday, March 7, from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and will feature a light lunch, drawings throughout the day, more food and drinks and some exciting, special entertainment in the evening!

Potential exhibitors should know that available booth space is extremely limited. Call the Chamber at 379-6382 to determine if there is space available.

Sponsorships help underwrite the expenses of the event.



To date, Gold Sponsors are All Occasions Catering & Seguin Economic Development Corporation and Silver Sponsors Alamo Title Company & Masters Electrical Services Ltd.!

Sponsors will be heavily promoted in Chamber publications, media coverage and Business Showcase signage.

Sponsors also receive tickets to both days of the event. Sponsorship levels include: Event - \$5,000; Platinum - \$2,500, Gold - \$1,000, Silver - \$500, Bronze - \$250.

To become a sponsor, call Dana at The Chamber, 379-6382. Early commitment will allow your business maximum exposure.

Tickets to Business Showcase are on sale now. Preview Night is \$20 in advance only. Show Day tickets are \$3 in advance and at the door until

BUSINESS
After Hours

Thursday, Feb. 22

5 to 7 p.m.

D&D Farm & Ranch

Supermarket

516 E. IH 10

Membership Drawing is \$700

**No General Membership Meeting /
Luncheon in March - See you at
BUSINESS SHOWCASE!**

BOARD OFFICERS

CHAIR Mark Stautzenberger	TREASURER Mark Herbold
CHAIR-ELECT Steve Johnson	PAST CHAIRS Darren Dunn
VICE CHAIRS Sharon Bettis Shawn Martinez Randy Worden	PRESIDENT Terry Boehnke Rob Cunningham

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Mike Holdman	Jennifer Schulze
Basil Kallies	Drew Williams

We're Here For You!

CHAMBER STAFF

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Convention & Visitors Bureau Director
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Office Manager
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Events & Communications Director
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CVB Assistant
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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 78156
(830) 379-6382 www.seguinchamber.com

January a whirlwind month!

Well, I hope everyone has thawed out from January's BIG FREEZE and ice storm. And I would imagine most of us have now grown webbed feet from all the rain included in the cold weather we've been experiencing. I know that it was just a short time ago that we were all praying for rain because of the protracted drought we were in and it now appears that God answered ALL of our prayers and then some.

Even with all the cold weather January still proved to be a very busy month for us - starting Jan. 3 with our monthly Chamber Luncheon with Andy Sansom, from Texas State University (where our son made the Dean's List this past semester), providing us with a very informative speech on water.

Then, on Jan. 11, we were at the Chamber Mixer sponsored by Seguin Title. On Jan. 12, we attended the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet and heard an outstanding motivational speech by Dr. Rick Rigsby of Rigsby Ministries. On Jan. 13, we were at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dinner Banquet and Theater and were so aptly reminded in Rev. Jeremy Roy's invocation that even though the Christmas season is over we should not forget those who are less fortunate than us and to remember, as Dr. King always reminded us, that in God's eyes we are all created equal.

Then we fast-forwarded to Jan. 24 for the Chamber's Prime Time Party, which showcased our newest member businesses. Even with the inclement weather we had a good showing with around 30 new business members setting up booths and a good turnout from the community. On Jan. 25,

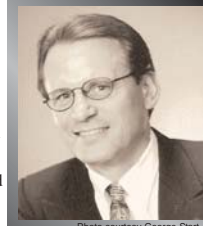


Photo courtesy George Start

Mark Stautzenberger, Chair

we attended the Seguin-Guadalupe County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's 18th Annual Banquet and we served a generous dose of humor from "Happy the Comedian" from Corpus Christi followed by a Mardi Gras Casino Night Party.

On Jan. 26, we were at the *Seguin Gazette-Enterprise* Vision Awards in which they again paid much deserved recognition to outstanding individuals in our community. And finally on Jan. 27, the Chamber held its annual Board of Directors Retreat at the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center. This year much of the discussion centered on our need to find a new home for the Chamber. I feel that in the near future a decision will be made on where and how this will be accomplished.

All this coupled with more than several meetings and, of course, work and trying to make a living has made for just one more regular busy month in Seguin. So, if anyone ever asks you "What is there to do in Seguin?" just tell them to join The Chamber and we'll keep them as busy as they want to be!

Coming up in February is the monthly Chamber Luncheon at the Coliseum on the 7th and do not forget the City of Seguin's annual Smokey Joe Williams Scholarship Gala at the Coliseum on Feb. 15. This year's speaker will be Larry Dierker, former Houston Astros pitcher, announcer, and manager.

And as always, remember to support your Chamber business members and always "Shop Seguin First!"

*Mark Stautzenberger
Chairman*

Convention & Visitors Bureau



Ken & Lois Mlyniec of Keokuk, Iowa, were the lucky winners of the 50 pounds of pecans given away by the CVB at the McAllen International Travel Show.

McAllen International Travel Show

Staff, along with volunteers Fanny Harkins and Sophie Valenta, headed to McAllen to participate in the International Travel Show at the McAllen Civic Center on Jan. 3 & 4. The group departed Seguin on Jan. 2 and returned Jan. 5. During the show, the sales team distributed 1,500 tourist brochures, registered 1,700 attendees at the Seguin booth, distributed 95 relocation packets and handed out more than 2,000 mini-packets of pecans. The show is attended primarily Winter Texans along with a smaller percentage of Rio Grande Valley residents.

Guadalupe County Fair Association "Ropes in"

Lone Star Youth Rodeo Association Finals

The Guadalupe County Fair Association submitted a proposal to host the 2007 Lone Star Youth Rodeo Association Finals in November at the Fairgrounds. The board of directors for Lone Star Youth Rodeo Association elected to accept their proposal. Lone Star Youth have hosted preliminary events in Seguin; however, this will be the first year for the finals. Events will be held over two weekends at the fairgrounds covered arena on Nov. 3 & 4, 10 & 11. Lone Star Youth have booked additional qualifying shows to be held March 24 & 25, June 30 & July 1, Sept. 22 & 23. The Fair Association always does a fantastic job in hosting these events! We will be calling on community volunteers to assist as well during the finals.

Houston Travel & Leisure Show - The weekend of February 9-11 the Houston Travel & Leisure Show will be held at the Reliant Center. CVB Staff and volunteers will sell Seguin and distribute travel literature to prospective leisure travelers.



TEATRO DE ARTES DE JUAN SEGUIN presents the 22nd Annual Noche De Gala Competencia de Vocalistas -Saturday, March 3

7 p.m. at TLU's Jackson Auditorium.
Admission \$6

Tickets go on sale Monday, Feb. 5, at the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, JP's Music Center, JP's Bakery, and Davila's BBQ. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy an entertaining evening of dance and Mariachi music.

Mid Texas Symphony Concert - March 27, 4 p.m.

TLU Jackson Auditorium / David Mairs, Music Director

Juliana Athayde, Violin; Glinka: Ruslann & Ludmilla: Overture

Brahms: Violin Concerto Op.77 in D major

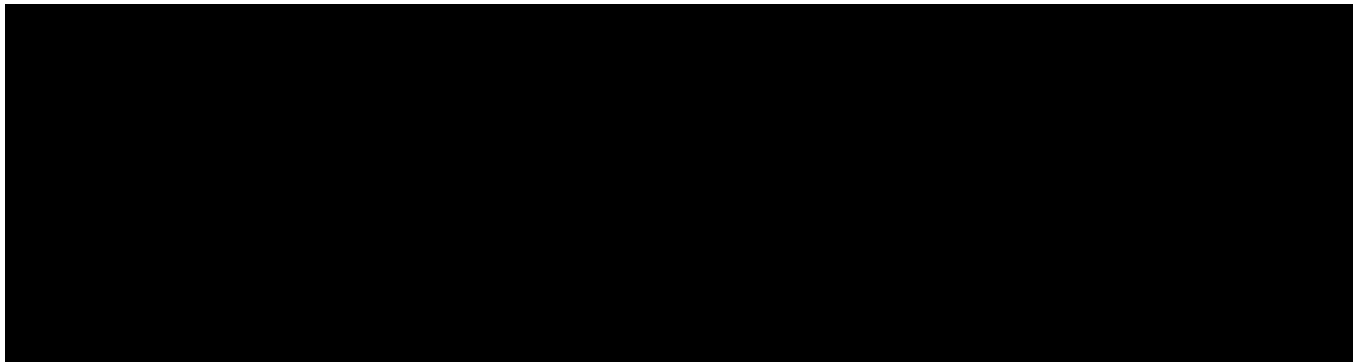
Tchaikovsky: Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy

Sibelius: Finlandia, Op.26

Tickets at the Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce.

Valentine's Day, Seguin Style: If you are looking for a romantic gift this Valentine's Day you won't have to leave Seguin to find it! Shop at one of our quaint gift shops, jewelers, florist, candle dealers, clothing stores or spas. Seguin is now home to several spas who offer packages for singles as well as couples. Exquisite chocolate is also available for that special person in your life. And don't forget to make dinner reservations at one of our fine restaurants. For information on preparing that special Valentine gift call the Chamber of Commerce at 379-6382 for membership referrals.

Harris County Precinct Show - Staff participated in the Harris County Precinct Show in Humble Jan. 25. More than 400 Group Travel Planner Guides were distributed. The majority of Seguin's group travel business originates in Houston as a result from the CVB participation in this show. Travel planners from more than 500 different organizations attend this one-day travel fair gathering information for future tours.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Applied Policy Research, Inc. Bill Hall

1313 Fifth St., S. E., Suite 134
Minneapolis, MN 55414-4503
612-396-7596 fax: 612-379-5994
Professional

Cancer Care Centers of South Texas

Sreedevi Daggubati, M.D.
1448 E. Common
New Braunfels, TX 78130
Physicians-Hematology & Oncology

Hagn House Retreat & Day Spa

Stacey Smith
230 E. Kingsbury
Seguin, TX 78155
830-379-0096
Day Spa

Polly Hay

2131 Longhorn Trail
Seguin, TX 78155
830-401-4525
Individuals

Lil Bit of Texas

Kim Hargrove
408 N. King
Seguin, TX 78155
830-401-4304
www.alilbitoftexas.com
Retail Store

Outer Skate & Arcade

John & Kimberly Howard
606 Zorn St.
Seguin, TX 78155
830-372-1221 fax: 830-379-7161
Roller Skating

Pooter's Liquor Store, Inc.

Velma Biltjinitis
2332 S. Hwy 46
New Braunfels, TX 78130
830-379-7373
Liquor Stores

Presentation Resources

Craig Hayden
1420 Schertz Pkwy, Suite 160
Schertz, TX 78154
210-566-6177 fax: 210-566-6173
www.pres-res.com
Service

Quizno's Subs

Shelley McCulloch
480 S. Hwy 123 Bypass
Seguin, TX 78155
830-379-8278 fax: 830-379-8279
Restaurants/Clubs

Seguin Spa & Salon

Jennifer Carrillo
1199 E. College St.
Seguin, TX 78155
830-379-9266 fax: 830-379-9263
www.seguinpasalon.com

Day Spa

Sodexho @ Texas Lutheran Dining Services

Dawn Witting
1000 W. Court St.
Seguin, TX 78155
830-372-8085 fax: 830-372-6693
www.tlu.edu/sodexho
Caterers

The Phone Store, Inc.

Charles Slaughter
1417 Hwy 123 N. Bypass
Seguin, TX 78155
830-379-2355 fax: 830-386-0609
www.thephonestoreinc.com

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.
AACOG / Alamo Work Source Career Center
Roger & Sue Baenziger
Best Western
Dominos Pizza
Grace Kunde, Atty at Law
JC Penney Company
Liberty Income Tax Service
Stanley Naumann
Oak Creek Homes / Nationwide Homes
OHM Electric
Papa John's Pizza
Randy's Exxon
Seguin Guadalupe County Senior
Citizens Center
Sullivan Contracting Services
Whataburger, Unit 897

Ambassadors aren't just clownin' around

Seguin Area Chamber Ambassadors greeted the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Ambassadors in late January as they made their way through South Texas. Kathy McCulloch, near left, and Eddie B. Garcia, center, did a little clowning around during their visit to D&D Farm & Ranch Supermarket.



PLANNING CALENDAR



Feb. 23

Entry deadline - Seguin Youth
Leadership Academy

Entry deadline - Central Texas
Golf Fest

March 6 & 7

Business Showcase

March 22

After Hours Mixer, Guadalupe
Valley Nursing Center

April 4

General Membership Meeting
Luncheon

April 12

Agri-Fest

April 26-29

Central Texas Golf Fest

CHAMBER CALENDAR ~ FEBRUARY

Monday, Feb. 5

Groundbreaking, Tres Hewell Mortuary

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Quarterly Communication Council,
7 a.m., TLU

Wednesday, Feb. 7

General Membership Meeting,
11:30 a.m., Coliseum

Thursday, Feb. 8

Business Showcase Committee, noon,
The Chamber

Monday, Feb. 12

Ambassadors Meeting, noon,
Craig's Saute and Grill

Tuesday, Feb. 13

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

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Economic Development, 4 p.m.,
The Chamber

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Freedom Fiesta Committee, 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Leadership Seguin, 8 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 19

Board of Directors Meeting, noon,
All Occasions Catering

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Agri-Fest Committee, 5:30 p.m.,
The Chamber

Thursday, Feb. 22

D&D Farm & Ranch, 516 I-10 E., 5 p.m

Friday, Feb. 23

Central Texas Golf Fest deadline
Seguin Youth Leadership Academy
deadline

Monday, Feb. 26

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

Tuesday, Feb. 27

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

Wednesday, Feb. 28

Education Partnership Committee,
5:30 p.m., The Chamber



Lil Bit of Texas

Owners Fred and Kim Hargrove invite you to enjoy a Lil Bit of Texas at 408 N. King St. The retail store features western decor, jewelry, belts, iron decorations, furniture, chimes, comforter sets, candles, crosses and more. Lil Bit of Texas is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call the Hargroves or Tabitha Tardif at 830-401-4304.



Outer Skate & Arcade

John and Kimberly Howard aren't just running around in circles. They're skating around in circles. And backwards, too! Outer Skate & Arcade has opened at 606 Zorn St. - call 372-1221 for hours. Along with roller skating, they offer an arcade and area for birthday parties.



Congressman Henry Cuellar's local office

United States Congressman Henry Cuellar has opened a district office in Seguin - at 100 S. Austin St. - which will provide constituent services to all citizens of Guadalupe County. The offices are open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and may be reached at 830-401-0457 (fax is 830-379-0984).



Jackson Hewitt Tax Service

Jackson Hewitt is celebrating its new Tax Service office at 1116 E. Walnut. Sharon Barr Kollodziej, Jennifer Lake and Dana Degn have been serving the Seguin and surrounding area since 1996. They moved to this new location for their 11th tax season. There are three enrolled agents on staff year-round and they are an ITIN Acceptance Agent for the IRS. Office hours are 7:30 p.m.-9 p.m., Monday through Friday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday. Call 830-379-5829 or fax 830-379-1964



Taking Care of Business

AMBASSADOR FOCUS



BRENDA NITSCH, left, became an wanted to become better acquainted with the community and to meet people - and that's her favorite thing about being a Seguin Area Chamber Ambassador. She was a travel agent before retiring and spending time socializing, traveling, playing tennis and spending time at her ranch. Brenda's lived here for 10 years and also volunteers with the Delphian and the Republican Women. She has grandchildren in McAllen.

JEANETTE SILTMANN, has been an Ambassador for more than 21 years and she has enjoyed every minute of working with many wonderful fellow volunteers. When not Ambassadoring, Jeannette works at Guadalupe Regional Medical Center. She loves to dance with her husband, "the BEST dancer," and spend time with her son and daughter, to garden and 'scrapbook' and visit Hawaii. Jeannette also volunteers for the American Cancer Society, the Hospice Gala and the GRMC Foundation Roundup. She has 1 grandchild and feels very blessed to be living in God's Country!



2006 SYLA alumni are, bottom row, Kendall Bierstedt, Anthony Taylor, Charlie Barnes, Randall Reinhard, J.D. Kiefer, James Heikkenen, Michael Gonzalez, Bart Bohuslav, and Robert Turner; and top row, Steff Tausch, Kourtney Hammac, Jordan Ploetz, Savannah Bittner, Amber Hewitt, Ashley Van Booven and Naomi Urquiza.

Youth Leadership Academy continued from Page 1

ect, how it was accomplished and what they learned from it. They were critiqued and supported by the panel.

Applications for the 2007 semester are available online at www.seguinchamber.com, or <http://guadalupe-tx.tamu.edu>.

Seguin Youth Leadership Academy is set for July 14-20 with a Youth Leader/Parent Orientation on March 29 and Graduation on Nov. 29.

The week-long summer Academy at Texas Lutheran University includes Leadership sessions, full Ropes Course, the above-mentioned community-awareness outings, group discussion, and the identification of community issues.

Donations underwrite the lodging and meals at Texas Lutheran University, SYLA shirts and briefcases, the Ropes course, transportation and program supplies.

Sponsors and Partners for the 2006 program were CMC Steel Texas, Alamo Industrial, American Bank of Texas, Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, Guadalupe Regional Medical Center, Kathy Nossaman/Edward Jones Investments, River Valley Pediatrics, Seguin Sunset Lions Club, St. James Catholic School, Tri-County A/C & Heating, Fonda Mathis, Larry Lippe, Frost & Allen Kirkendall, The Ledbetter Group, Judy Peschel, Karen Ploetz, D.L. Rinn, Gloria Schraub, William Ermel, Kirby's Korner, All Occasions Catering, Texas Cooperative Extension and Seguin Area Chamber of Commerce, Lifegate, Navarro and Seguin Schools and Texas Lutheran University.

For more information about SYLA 2007, call The Chamber at 379-6382 or the Texas Cooperative Extension, Guadalupe County, at 379-2153.

January After Hours Mixer at Seguin Title

Attendance prize was awarded to **Steve Johnson** after **Terry May** was not in attendance.

Door Prizes were won by **Lori Hodon, Basil Kallies, Helene Stadtmueller, Fanny Harkins, Gilbert Acuna, Brenda Bloch, Pat Sagebiel, Rosie VanBooven** and **Sandy Wille**.

The Kiwanis Club of Seguin and Greg Ander were really sorry he missed the Membership Drawing for \$650!



"The Donald" AKA David Welsch, along with Bill Keller and Pam Krippner, critiqued the SYLA Youth Leaders' presentation at The Apprentice/Graduation.

Shop Chamber Members First!

