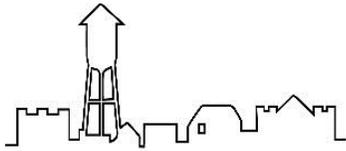


NEWSLETTER



SMITHVILLE  AREA
Chamber of Commerce

May 2016

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Enclosures:

Membership Directory Form
Green Expo/City Wide Clean Up
May Mixer Invitation
Smithville Fly In flyer

CHARACTER TRAIT of the Month

MAY

Integrity

Understanding the importance of adhering to a code of conduct necessary for successful performance in the workplace and in our personal lives.

Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce

100 NW 1st Street
P.O. Box 716
Smithville TX 78957

chamber@smithvilletx.org
512-237-2313

Check out your Community Calendar at www.smithvilletx.org

Smithville Area Chamber Of Commerce

A Message from the Chamber Desk

by April Daniels

MAY BRINGS US MANY EXCITING EVENTS!

Is it true the April Showers bring May flowers? I certainly hope so as we have several events coming to Smithville in the month of May.

Our April 26th Candidate Forum was a big success with more than 100 people attending to hear from the candidates. The video of the event can be viewed on the Smithville Public Library and Chamber websites as well as the City of Smithville's Facebook page.

The first weekend of May will see the 10th Annual Thunder on the Colorado rally at Riverbend Park. Motorcycles will roar down Main Street on Friday, May 6th with live music afterward at the Park. Saturday will see bike games, a juried bike show, live music and a Fun Run through the Park. Our headliner Whiskey D will entertain the crowds Saturday evening. Vendors, food and fun await – you don't have to have a bike to come out and join in the fun! More at www.thunderonthecolorado.com.

The second weekend in May will play host to the 12th Annual Smithville Fly In at the Smithville Crawford Airport. The skies above Smithville will be buzzing with activity as the airport plays host to pilots and their guests that fly in for a day of fun Smithville-style! View the variety of planes and helicopters and be surprised by what might fly over.

See the remote controlled planes demonstration and pick up goodies during the helicopter candy drop. For more information call Sandy Meyerson at 512-237-3500 (see enclosed flyer).

Thursday, May 19th at 5:30 we'll have our third annual B.E.S.T. Mixer at 5:30pm at Baxter's on Main in Bastrop. This is our annual co-sponsored mixer with Chamber members from Bastrop, Elgin and Smithville invited to attend (See enclosed invitation).

The third weekend of May will see the City Wide Clean up and the Green Expo, sponsored in part by the Chamber's Keep Smithville Beautiful Committee. This is a great opportunity to do some spring cleaning around your house. Load up your trucks and trailers and take your items to the City warehouse on the morning of May 21. After you've lightened your load, visit Main Street beginning at 10am to "Talk Trash", a fun-filled day of learning about recycling, composting and a whole host of other nature friendly topics. (See enclosed flyer).

Every two years the Chamber puts out a new business directory. Since the Smithville Visitor's Guide is no longer being produced, we are going to incorporate elements of the Visitor's Guide into the directory, getting your information into the hands of more people. See the insert in this newsletter for details.

Have a wonderful May everyone!

-April Daniels

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming Chamber Events

May 5 – Thunder on the Colorado Volunteer Mixer, Riverbend Park, 5pm

May 6-8 - 10th Annual Thunder on the Colorado, Riverbend Park (parade May 6th)

May 11 – Board of Director’s Meeting, La Cabana, 11:45am

May 14 - Annual Fly In, 10am, Crawford Municipal Airport

May 19 – B.E.S.T. County Wide Mixer, Baxter’s on Main in Bastrop, 5:30-7:30

May 21 – Smithville City Wide Clean Up, 8am-noon

May 21 – Green Expo, Main Street, 10am (KSB event)

THE CHAMBER WORKS!

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF: NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2016: HONORING AND REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS



Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week is an observance in the United States that pays tribute to the local, state, and Federal peace officers who have died in the line of duty. The Memorial takes place on May 15, and Police Week, May 15-21, is the calendar week in which the Memorial falls.

The event is sponsored by the National Fraternal Order of Police and is implemented by the National FOP Memorial Committee. Other events of National Police Week include the annual Blue Mass, Candlelight Vigil, Wreath Laying Ceremony, National Police Survivors Conference, Honor Guard Competition, and the Emerald Society & Pipe Band March and Service. The events draw 25,000 to 40,000 law enforcement officers and their families to Washington, D.C. every year.

This year, the names of 252 officers killed in the line of duty are being added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. These 252 officers include 123 officers who were killed during 2015, plus 129 officers who died in previous years but whose stories of sacrifice had been lost to history until now.

Please take time out to remember National Police Week May 15-21 2016 and thank a police officer for all they do to

keep everyone safe, Chief Michael Maugere.

100 PERCENT. NOTHING LESS.

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SMITHVILLE TIGER SPOTLIGHT

**Tiger Academy Serving SHS:
Program emphasizes students
taking responsibility for their
education.**



Tiger Academy is not a disciplinary school; it is a program for students who want to earn their high school diploma regardless of their personal circumstances. They could be returning to school after dropping out, supporting themselves, have a baby or any other number of reasons which put them at risk of not getting their diploma, according to Mr. Philpot, a teacher at Tiger Academy. These are students who no longer fit well in the traditional school environment but have not given up on their graduation dreams.

Tiger Academy does not teach like a traditional high school with bells schedules and teachers

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COLORADO
MOTORCYCLE RALLY**

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standing at the front of the class. In the academy, students are taking their classes online and only know their teachers online. The students also complete their work at the pace they choose to complete the lessons on time.

"In addition to a high school diploma, we emphasize taking responsibility for our own education and how to manage time," said Mr. Philpot. "It's very empowering for their future."

With only 15 seats available, students are chosen with care and go through an interview process before being accepted into the program. They are also given clearly defined roles and expectations while there.

Heavy on reading and writing, this program is not an easier way to get a diploma, and in fact, the course teachers, who never meet their students in person, have high expectations of the students.

"The students manage their schedule and make decisions on priorities," said Mr. Philpot. "There's definitely a learning curve on that."

About 10 students are expected to graduate this year, adding to the 40 plus from prior years since the program began in the 2011-12 school year. After state requirements are met for graduation, students have the option to walk at graduation ceremony with the student body to receive their diploma.



CITY NOTES

*From Robert Tamble,
Smithville City Manager*

April 15, 2016 Flood Event / Status of City Drainage Improvements:

Many thanks to the citizens and city crews who responded to the April 15, 2016 flood event. We received over 6 inches of rain in a 24-hour period with 4-5 inches falling in a two hours. The amount of water overwhelmed the majority of the City's drainage system. Flooding occurred on Gentry, McSweeny, Marburger, Woodress Lane, Oak Meadows, Pecan Shores, Hardeman, Shade, 2nd street, MLK, and 7th street. The City has partnered with the Bastrop County Long Term Recovery Team (BCLTRT) to assist residents with clean-up. Republic Services has provided several roll-off dumpsters for residents to dispose of flood-related debris and The Texas Baptist Men have again volunteered to help with carpet and sheetrock removal. If you would like to volunteer, contact the BCLTRT at (512) 521-3001. Unless you are a resident living on 7th Street, please limit travel in this area as clean-up and construction will continue for several weeks, if not months. If you must drive on 7th street, exercise caution and SLOW DOWN. Regarding drainage improvements --- since the Memorial Day flood, the City has been making drainage improvements throughout town (8th street, Washington, Hill,

River, 4th Avenue). We have also been working with Mr. George McMahan to purchase 6-acres of land behind 7th street for a detention pond. The property is scheduled to close in the next 3-4 weeks. In addition, the City applied for a \$1M FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant (75/25 match) to fund and construct the detention pond. We are in the final stages of FEMA review / approval and should know in the next 30-45 days whether or not we will receive the grant. The City will continue to identify sources of funding for drainage improvements in flood-prone areas of our community in a manner that minimizes impact to taxpayers. Understandably, this offers little or no comfort to those residents who sustained flood damage for the second or third time in the past year. Please keep those whose homes have flooded in your thoughts and prayers.

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**IT'S PARD-Y TIME!
PARD EVENTS**

By Ashley Regier



Upcoming Youth Programs and Activities!!! Registration is currently open for the Challenger Sports British Soccer Camp. This camp will run June 27th-July 1st. FREE Jersey deadline is May

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13th, registration is online through Challenger Sports. We also have our Little Kickers Youth Soccer registration going on now at the Rec Center until May 27th. This summer St. Edwards University will be visiting Smithville to host a Volleyball and Basketball Camp. Volleyball Camp will run June 8th-10th and the basketball camp will run June 13th-16th but don't miss the May registration deadlines. SPARD will announce any other activities later in May. Our Spring Bumper Camp will come to an end soon and we would like to thank our volunteers that put on this camp. Special thanks to the High School Volleyball Coach, Coach Brown, for sending her dedicated athletes to help teach Smithville's future athletes.

Adult Programs!!! We have racquetball league registration open now. Everyone plays everybody and registration includes a t-shirt! Sign up by May 5th. We allow flexible play time but blocked times on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

This and That!!! PiYo has been added to our Fitness Calendar. Please help us welcome our new instructor, Kellie Powell, by visiting one of her Monday or Thursday classes. You can find a complete fitness schedule by visiting our website. Fitness memberships are as low as \$20 a month.

Please visit our website below for more information, flyers, and registration forms. You can now sign up for camps online. League registrations will still require in-house registration with verification of your child's birth certificate.

<http://www.ci.smithville.tx.us/>
512.237.3282 X 7.



THE BOOK CORNER Bookmark Your Calendar

By Judy Bergeron

It's hard to believe we're already in May! That means Summer Reading Club is just around the corner! This year's theme will be "On your Mark... Get Set... Read!" We'll have our registration forms and SRC kickoff at the end of May, so watch for those. In the meantime, though, we have a lot going on in May!

BOOK SALE ALERT! During the first weekend in May (May 5 – 7) the Friends of the Library will hold their Spring book sale at the library, during regular library hours. There will be special Bargain Bundle pricing on Friday and Saturday, so come shop for some great summer reading material. We welcome any volunteers wishing to help set up the book sale on Wednesday, May 4 (Star Wars Day! May the 4th be with you...) beginning at 2 p.m.

With help from the Smithville Junior and Senior High Schools Art students, we are now collecting *pARTner Stories*. The students will partner with a local artist and get to know their story, while we record the interviews using the StoryCorps model. These stories may be used in future classes to share experiences in the Arts and Humanities with all of our SISD students. If you are an artist, writer, performer, or active in the humanities, PLEASE come see us at the library to pARTner up and get your story out.

Thank You to New & Renewing Members

New Members

Brandywine Social Painting

Renewing Members

Aqua Jet, Inc.

The Healing River Alliance

Knights of Columbus Council 4868

Nancy Janecek

Ted Carney, DDS

My Baby & Me Maternity Home

Judge Paul Pape

Roving Volunteers in Christ Service

Jerry Trimble Helicopters

Roadhouse Bastrop

McClure Properties

Paul Parker

Edward Jones Investments –

Reed Morgan

First Presbyterian Church

Dawn Lee Thompson

Wanda Schopp, event coordinator

.....
If you would like to become a Chamber member contact us at 512-237-2313 for an application form or visit www.smithvillex.org.

May will also bring us the Summit Smithville Green Expo. This is our fifth year of co-sponsoring the Expo with the City and this year we are so glad to have the Chamber and Keep Smithville Beautiful join us to bring this event to you! We'll have speaker presentations, green vendors, and more on hand to talk about trash (and recycling, hazardous waste, etc.) and how our community is affected.

See YOU at the library!

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Many thanks to the volunteers who came out to help with the Candidate Forum on April 26th. From setting up the tables and chairs to Breeden Productions to the Smithville Public Library, everyone worked hard to have a great event. Thank you!