

THE INFORMER

A monthly publication of the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

February 2014 Volume 21, No. 2

ON THE COVER

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Pastor, Leader, Activist, Legend
Advancing Civil Rights Nonviolently
ACHIEVING EQUALITY THROUGH EDUCATION

Save The Date

Lancaster Chamber Presents Its
Annual Chamber Awards
at February Chamber Luncheon

PLATINUM SPONSOR



Thursday, February 13, 2014

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost

\$25 Chamber Members
\$35 Non-Chamber Members

Location

Lancaster Recreation Center - Grand Hall
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster, Texas 75134

RSVP & More Information

Lauren Grady Johnson
v: 972.227.2579
e: chamber@LancasterTX.org

Inside The Issue

President's Welcome
Membership Events
Chamber Leadership
Chamber Activities
Political & Social Issues
Career Development
Chamber Committees
Professionals On The Move
Much, much MORE!

Lancaster Area
Chamber
of Commerce
Celebrates
& SALUTES 2014
Black History Month
In Lancaster, Texas
Call 972.227.2579

Destination Lancaster...

EAT

SHOP

PLAY

STAY

Here's To Your Success

Greetings Fellow Chamber and Friends,

The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce is one of the fastest growing and most diverse business associations in the Best Southwest Partnership region. Founded in by local business leaders, the Chamber today is an independent organization representing numerous companies and a regional workforce.

At the Lancaster Chamber, we believe that the business community thrives when the whole community is healthy. And we believe our region is uniquely positioned to compete in the global marketplace because we embrace three key attributes: we work with city leaders to highlight created jobs, we are responsible stewards of the environment, and we ensure access and opportunity for all.

We play many roles as a result. We are a:

- policy advocate representing business at the city, regional, and state levels;
- convener and coalition-builder around issues we all care about, from transportation to education to the environment;
- one-stop shop for all of the tools businesses need to grow, from high-quality networking to employee benefits;
- community partner and champion for projects, initiatives and people who make our region globally competitive as well as a great place to live, work and raise a family.



Stacy E. Marshall
President & CEO
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

Join US! The chamber membership gives you access to all the tools you need to grow your businesses and helps you make a positive impact on the community. Involvement is open to all businesses.

Sincerely,
STACY E. MARSHALL

Stacy E. Marshall
President & CEO
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

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Kenneth Govan

Managing Director
Stacy E. Marshall

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"Editorial guidelines are available upon request. **Contact US** at the Chamber today for more information."

contents & special features

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Featuring the Annual Chamber Awards
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Of the Lancaster Historical Society

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Chain Brings Outstanding Value, Quality and Convenience

Remembering American Legends
1st African American Congresswoman & Civil Rights Activist

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Jay Jackson, CPT, Explores The You From Within

Around & About The Best Southwest
Joe Johnson, IOM, Updates Us On The Region

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- President's Welcome
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- Political & Social Issues
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- Career Development
- Professionals On The Move



Check www.LancasterTX.ORG Get updates on local and national issues

The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce newsletter, The Informer, is published monthly and includes information on the latest area member benefits, regulatory and legislative developments, as well as the quality-improvement and leadership trends that are shaping and influencing the area business community. Readers get in-depth reporting on the issues and challenges facing business community leaders today. We make it our job to tell about the great things the Chamber and its Committees are doing every day to ensure the health of our community.

Editorial guidelines are available upon request. Advertising rates may be obtained by contacting chamber@LancasterTX.org. Advertisements do not imply endorsement by the Chamber. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without written permission of the publisher. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect official policy of the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce.

If you have any news and updates you want to share with other members in an upcoming issue, please e-mail items in Microsoft Word or another compatible format to chamber@LancasterTX.org. If you have a graphic or picture that you'd like to include, please send it as a separate file.

www.LancasterTX.org
P. O. Box 1100
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In the past, The Informer has included some of the following types of information: **Advocacy Issues, Legislative Issues, Promotions, Educational Opportunities, Awards, Achievements, Committee Updates, Journal Submissions, Participations, Business Opportunities, Mentoring Experiences, Workshops.**

**Next submission deadline:
5:00 p.m., Friday, February 28, 2014**



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LancasterTX.org
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center



Marshall Named Vice President Of The Lancaster Historical Society

Staff Writer, Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce



Stacy E. Marshall, president and ceo of the Lancaster Chamber, has been named vice president of the Lancaster Historical Society. The position with the nonprofit is voluntary and

Marshall will remain president of the chamber.

As vice president of the Lancaster Historical Society, Marshall will be responsible for working with the organization to conduct monthly board meetings, communication with the Lancaster Historical Society and other regional historical societies, and will work to conduct events including the annual dinner in the garden, bike ride, and Oktoberfest.

"I look forward to contributing to the mission of uniting our community through our common history," Marshall said.

"I'm very proud of what I've been able to do here in Lancaster with the Chamber, and I've certainly been helped by a wonderful staff and very devoted,

enthusiastic donors. But the Lancaster Historical Society is a great next step for me. I look forward to ensuring that the Lancaster Historical Society remains an effective voice for the preservation and promotion of Lancaster's rich history and architectural heritage," said Marshall.

Marshall said that the organization's top priorities are to increase the number of historic districts and landmark designations in Lancaster in addition to society members.

The Lancaster Historical Society was established in 1969 with a mission to preserve Lancaster's heritage, protect it's historic buildings and sites, and educate the public. The Society owns, operates, and maintains the Historic MKT Depot, built in

1888, and the Memorial Rose Garden, created as a Sesquicentennial project in 1986.

Meetings are held every other month beginning in January on the third Sunday of the month at 3:30 pm at the Depot.

Programs are designed to illustrate Lancaster's history, famous and infamous people, places, and things. The Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

myLancaster Educating future leaders today!



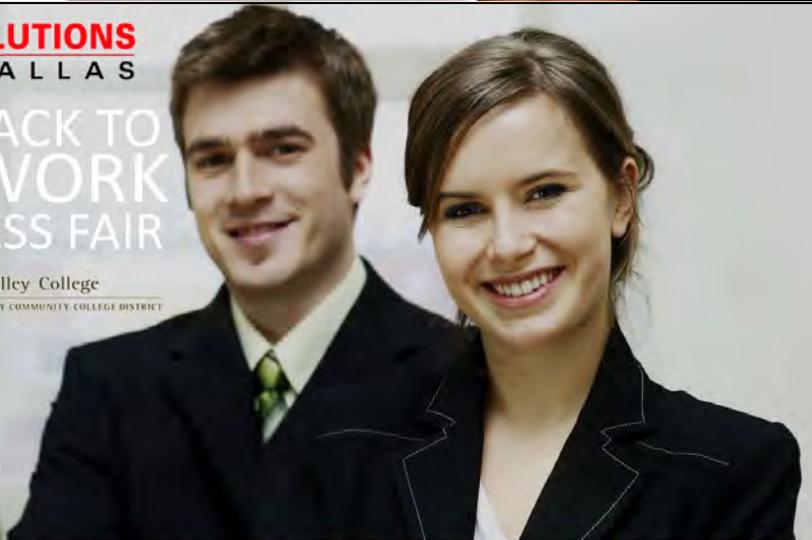
"Helping business owners think bigger about who they are and what they offer the world."



103 N. Dallas Avenue Lancaster, TX 75146
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chamber@LancasterTX.org

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GREATER DALLAS

2014 BACK TO WORK JOB & BUSINESS FAIR



For Information & To Register:
J Hardwick
Business Development Leader
Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas
v: 972-839-7867
f: 214-624-7480
e: jerroldhardwick@rescare.com

save the date
FEBRUARY 27TH, 9-2 PM
Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy | Lancaster, TX 75134

Spotlighting Thomas J. Donohue

President and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

By Staff Writer, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Thomas J. Donohue is president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Since assuming his position in 1997, Donohue has built the Chamber into a lobbying and political powerhouse with expanded influence across the globe.

During Donohue's tenure, the Chamber's lobbyists, policy experts, legal advocates, and communicators have helped secure business victories on Capitol Hill, in the regulatory agencies, in politics, in courts of law and in the court of public opinion, and before governments around the world.

In an era of economic and fiscal challenges, Donohue has aggressively advanced the American Jobs and Growth Agenda, a plan that includes expanding trade and domestic energy production, rebuilding America's infrastructure, combating an avalanche of new regulations, protecting intellectual property, revitalizing capital markets, and reforming entitlements and the tax system.

Donohue has also spearheaded the creation of the Campaign for Free Enterprise, a positive, long-term program to defend, protect, and advance the free enterprise system. A signature project of the campaign is Hiring Our Heroes, which identifies job opportunities for tens of thousands of returning military veterans and spouses.

Under Donohue's leadership, the Chamber has emerged as a major political force in races for the Senate and the House of Representatives. As part of this bipartisan effort, millions of grassroots business advocates, as well as the Chamber's federation of state and local chambers and industry associations, mobilize in support of pro-business candidates.

Donohue established the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform, which advances significant legal reforms in the courts, at the state and federal levels, and in elections for state attorneys general and Supreme Court judges. In addition, he has dramatically expanded the

activities of the National Chamber Litigation Center, the Chamber's law firm, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Previously, Donohue served for 13 years as president and CEO of the American Trucking Associations, the national organization of the trucking industry. Earlier in his career, Donohue was deputy assistant postmaster general of the United States and vice president of development at Fairfield University in Connecticut. He serves on the board of Union Pacific Corporation.

Born in New York City, Donohue earned a bachelor's degree from St. John's University and a master's degree in business administration from Adelphi University. He holds honorary degrees from Adelphi, St. John's, Marymount, and Bradley universities, as well as the National University of Ireland at Maynooth. He is a 2013 recipient of the Horatio Alger Award. Donohue and his wife, Liz, have three sons and five grandchildren.

Discover LANCASTER
A CITY WHERE COMPANIES AND FAMILIES PROSPER AND THRIVE.
COME GROW WITH US!

Welcome to Lancaster and envision your future here, where fine dining, shopping and rich history combine with unique attractions to create a city with southwestern charm and world-class sophistication. It's easy to see why Lancaster is one of the most popular destinations in the Southwest to live and to visit. LancasterTX.org is the official guide for travelers and locals to discover all things Lancaster, Texas.

Located in the Southwest portion of Dallas County, Lancaster is home to the first District in Texas with K-12 STEM education, having the highest graduation rate of the Best Southwest member cities. Lancaster is also filled with major parks, culturally significant arts and historic architecture. Take in the Lancaster Aquatic Center, Lancaster Regional Airport, Historic Town Square, senior center, innovative libraries, explore any of the four culture museums' exhibits, or relax and enjoy a slow picturesque tour of the city's historic homes. LancasterTX.org!

Bioscience & Health IT | Quality Education | Corporate Operations

Global Commerce | Supply Chain & Advanced Manufacturing | Technology

Destination Lancaster...

EAT SHOP PLAY STAY

Contact the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
#101 Box 1100 | 10101 Dallas Ave. | Lancaster, Texas 75146
v: 972.227.2579 | f: 972.227.9555 | e: chamber@LANCASTERTX.org

**WE BELIEVE
WE ENCOURAGE
WE INVEST
WE PROMOTE**

SMALL BUSINESS

LancasterTX.org
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center

103 N. Dallas Avenue Lancaster, TX 75146
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chamber@LancasterTX.org

Free Events Throughout February

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

LancasterTX.org
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center

save water. save earth. save lancaster.

Full Page
Full Page 7.5 x 9.75 Tall
With Bleed 8.5 x 11 Tall

3/4 Page
3/4 Page 7.5 x 7.25 Tall

1/2 Page Vertical
1/2 Vertical 3.65 x 9.75
1/4 Vertical 3.65 x 4.75

1/4 Page

1/8 Page | **1/16 Page**

1/4 Page Horizontal
1/4 Page Horizontal 7.5 x 2.375

1/2 Page Horizontal
1/2 Page Horizontal 7.5 x 4.75

1/16 Page Horizontal 3.65 x 1.125 Tall
1/8 Page Horizontal 3.65 x 2.25 Tall
1/4 Page Horizontal 7.5 x 2.375
1/2 Page Horizontal 7.5 x 4.75

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Ad Sales
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Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce Presents
2nd Saturdays on the Historic Town Square
100 N. Dallas Ave. // Lancaster, TX 75146

Arts. Culture. Life!

FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION
972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org

myLancaster

WHY WILL I JOIN THE CHAMBER?

GIVE . INSPIRE . PROVIDE . FACILITATE . ENCOURAGE . SUCCEED

At the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce,

We are forging ahead in community and business support. Our membership luncheons are held each month with informative and educational programs. We host NCA5 evening events giving local businesses networking opportunities. We have quarterly meetings of the Manufacturers and Logistics Roundtable, and monthly meetings of the Small Business Council, called Better Business Breakfasts. Each year the Chamber hosts the annual State of the City address by our mayor. We also host a candidates forum for the community and businesses where candidates have an opportunity to meet constituents.

Lancaster is a very unique city in southern Dallas County. We have a regional airport, a municipal golf course, and a 155-year-old historic Town Square. We have the Lancaster Community Park with a recreation center and a library that is unparalleled in the whole metroplex. Lancaster also has Cedar Valley College, the University of North Texas at Dallas, Paul Quinn College, and Northwood University located in close proximity. These institutions of higher learning have consistently shown a willingness to offer services and support to citizens and businesses in our area. The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce directors and staff hope that you find us useful as you make your business connections.

Hon. Craig Watkins
District Attorney for Dallas County

Destination Lancaster...



Lancaster Dallas DeSoto Duncanville Cedar Hill Glenn Heights Balch Springs Seagoville Ovilla Mesquite Waxahachie
Midlothian Highland Park Hutchins Grand Prairie University Park Irving Ennis Fort Worth Red Oak Oak Leaf Richardson

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center

103 N. Dallas Avenue Lancaster, Texas 75146
p: 972.227.2579 . f: 972.227.9555 . chamber@LancasterTX.org . www.LancasterTX.org



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 to submit your information:

Editorial Office of The Informer
 Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce
 P. O. Box 1100
 103 N. Dallas Avenue | Lancaster, TX 75146
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 chamber@LancasterTX.org

Actively supporting, promoting and attracting business to better serve the greater Lancaster area.
 Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

2014 Board of Directors

Destination Lancaster...

Creating powerful partnerships to unite and grow member businesses and the region.



- * **Kenneth Govan, Chair**
ONCOR
- * **Deylan Walker, Chair-Elect**
G Walker Group Renovation & Repair
- * **Stephanie Williamson, Past Chair**
DART Transit
- * **Stacey McDonald, Vice Chair**
Corner Stone Credit Union
- * **Sharon Brooks, Treasurer**
Traditional Healthcare Services
- Cheryl Adams**
Pattillo Insurance
- Ellen Clark**
Lancaster Education Foundation
- Kendra Codrington**
Home Depot
- Melissa Cothorn**
TownPlace Suites by Marriott DeSoto
- Daniel S. D'Amico**
Crescent Medical Center Lancaster
- Patricia Davis**
Cedar Valley College
- Evelina Echols-Sutton**
Methodist Charlton Medical Center
- Doug Hunt**
Access Self Storage

- Jay Jackson**
Take Charge Fitness Studio
- Hon. Valencia Nash**
Justice of the Peace 1 - 2
- Andria Ross**
Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville - Dallas
- Chef Carlos Whitfield**
Chef Carlos on the Square
- Dr. John Wong**
University of North Texas Dallas

Sarah Zafarano
Mote & Associates

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

- Hon. Marcus Knight**
Mayor, City of Lancaster
Knight Waste Services, Ltd.
- Opal Robertson**
City Manager, City of Lancaster
- Ed Brady**
Director of EDC, City of Lancaster
- Dr. Michael McFarland**
Superintendent of Schools, Lancaster ISD

Charles Hatfield
The Ellis County Press

** Denotes Members of Executive Committee*

2014 DIVISIONS

- Membership**
(Kenneth Govan)
Ambassadors, Membership Events, Major Events,
Networking Events
- Visitors & Tourism**
(Melissa Cothorn & Andria Ross)
Tourism Events, Publicity
- Education**
(Evelina Echols-Sutton)
Texas Scholars, Scholarships, Partners in Education,
Preparing Tigers for Work, Education Foundation,
Bilingual Education, Money Matters
- Business Affairs**
(Kenneth Govan)
Small Business Council, City Council,
Economic Development, Best Southwest Partnership,
BREP, Manufacturing/Logistics Roundtable



 **LancasterTX.org**
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center

Contact The Chamber Office
For info and to submit information:

2014 Calendar of Events and Activities
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Box 1100
103 N. Dallas Avenue | Lancaster, TX 75146
v: 972.227.2579 f: 972.227.9555
chamber@LancasterTX.org

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
Regional Networking Activities, Events &

2014 Chamber Happenings

Dates, times and locations are subject to change.

Networking Events

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

- **February 6** - Call Chamber for location
- **April 3** - Call Chamber for location
- **June 5** - Call Chamber for location
- **August 7** - Call Chamber for location
- **October 2** - Call Chamber for location
- **December 4** - Chamber Holiday Reception

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

- **January 16** - Call Chamber for location
- **March 6** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **May 8** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **June 19** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **July 10** - No Networking Event
- **September 25** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **October 16** - BSW Chamber Area Networking

2nd Saturdays Monthly Events

Vendors | Shops | Restaurants | Games | & More

Historic Town Square | Main St. & Dallas Ave.

Jan 11 | Feb 8 | Mar 8 | Apr 12 | May 10
Jun 14 | Jul 12 | Aug 9 | Sep 13 | Oct 11
Nov 8 | Dec 6 & 13

April 12

(Includes Greater Dallas Bike Ride)

October 11

(Includes Fall Festival & OktoberFest)

December - 13

(Includes 61st Annual Holiday Parade, Festival, and various city events for children)

Better Business Breakfasts

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM (New Time, Same Location)

Lancaster Chamber Office | 103 N. Dallas Avenue

- **January 24** - No Business Breakfast
- **February 28** - Call Chamber for topic
- **March 28** - Call Chamber for topic
- **April 25** - Call Chamber for topic
- **May 23** - Call Chamber for topic
- **June 27** - Call Chamber for topic
- **July 26** - No Business Breakfast
- **August 1, 8, 15, 22** - Best Southwest TGIF
- **September 26** - Call Chamber for topic
- **October 24** - Call Chamber for topic
- **November/December** - No Business Breakfast

Special Events

Thursday, February 27

Annual Back To Work Job Fair - 9:00 - 2:00 PM

Saturday, April 26

Annual Chamber Gala & Auction

Monday, October 13

Annual Lancaster Chamber Golf Tournament

December 4

Annual Chamber Holiday Reception

TBD

New Year & Member Appreciation Reception

Annual Chamber Bowl-a-Thon *Call chamber for date*

Monthly Luncheons

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Lancaster Rec. Cntr. | 1700 Vet. Memorial Pkwy

- **January 9** - Mayor State of the City
- **February 13** - Annual Chamber Awards
- **March 27** - BSW Luncheon - Economic Dev.
- **April 10** - Call Chamber for topic
- **May 29** - BSW Luncheon - Education Scholarships
- **June 12** - Call Chamber for topic
- **July** - No Luncheon
- **August 14** - Call Chamber for topic
- **September TBD** - BSW Luncheon - Legislation
- **October 9** - 2015 Economic Forecast
- **November 12** - BSW Luncheon - Healthcare
- **November 13** - LISD State of Schools Report
- **December** - No Luncheon

Best Southwest Networking "CAN"

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

A combined networking with the Chambers:

Lancaster, DeSoto, Duncanville, & Cedar Hill

- **March 6** - Lancaster Chamber
- **May 8** - Cedar Hill Chamber
- **June 19** - Midlothian Chamber
- **September 25** - DeSoto Chamber
- **October 16** - Duncanville Chamber

Stay up to date! The Chamber calendar is a comprehensive list of all of the Chamber of Commerce's upcoming events.

We are always in need of sponsors and volunteers, so check them out and get involved! Call us, 972.227.2579, for more info about some of the annual events put on by our Chamber.

 LancasterTX.org
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center

THE
GABBY
DOUGLAS
STORY

Black
HISTORY
MONTH



EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP

GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NETWORK @ NIGHT!



SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE



MONTHLY NETWORKING!



DATES

Chamber program time/venue:

Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy
Lancaster, TX 75134

Thursday, February 13, 2014

Annual Chamber Awards at the Lancaster Chamber Luncheon

Featuring
Local and Regional Winners

For more information about this program, please contact Lauren Grady Johnson at 972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org.

Time:
11:30 AM - Registration
11:35 AM - 1:00 PM - Program
(Lunch will be provided and catered by a chamber partner and restaurant local to Lancaster.)

Cost:
\$25 Chamber Members
\$35 Non-Members

RSVP To:
972.227.2579
chamber@LancasterTX.org

“NETWORK ... AND EAT”

Thursday, March 6, 2014
5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Bring your business cards and a door prize if you wish. Everyone will get a chance to tell us about their business.

Call the chamber for the location.

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

Calendar of Events

BETTER BUSINESS BREAKFAST

“What Challenges do you face as a Small Business in Lancaster?” Roundtable discussion about problems you as a small businesses are facing today.

Lancaster Area Chamber Office
103 N. Dallas Ave.
P. O. Box 1100
Lancaster, Texas 75146

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Lancaster Networking will be the **First Thursday** of each month. We will alternate between a lunchtime event and an evening event.

The **Third Month** will combine Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, Midlothian, and Lancaster for an evening networking event.

Other Events

Thursday, February 13, 2014
Annual Chamber Awards Luncheon
11:30 - 1:00 PM
Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy
Lancaster, TX 75134

February 27, 2014
Annual Back To Work Job Fair

Thursday, March 6, 2014
Best Southwest CAN Event
5:00 - 8:00 PM
Call chamber for info on the event

Wednesday, March 12, 2014
Affordable Care Act and What It Means for Small Business
The U.S. Small Business Administration in collaboration with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will offer a seminar to educate small business owners about The Affordable Care Act and its impact on small employers and their employees. Hear from the HHS and SBA experts about the new healthcare law.

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Best Southwest SBDC
207 N. Cannady Drive
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104

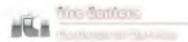
Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 6:30 PM
Annual Gala & Auction
Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville-Dallas
Duncanville, TX 75116

Thursday, May 29, 2014
BSW 2014 2nd Quarterly Luncheon
Awarding scholarships to students in the Best Southwest communities

11:30 - 1:00 PM
Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville-Dallas
Duncanville, Texas 75116

RSVP and More Information:
972.227.2579
chamber@LancasterTX.org

Gold Chamber Partners



Silver Chamber Partners



Bronze Chamber Partners



Around and About

The Best Southwest Partnership

By Joe Johnson, IOM, Executive Director, The Best Southwest Partnership



Joe Johnson, IOM
Executive Director
Best Southwest Partnership

The Best Southwest Partnership exceeded expectations on its 2013 plan and is looking forward to a very active 2014, in its 28th year of operation. BSW's Mission is to create Economic Development and Tourism

in the Southern Dallas and Northern Ellis Counties of Texas, and has adopted Core Initiatives of Transportation, Education, Health Care, Legislation, Marketing and Visioning to accomplish that Mission.

It is well known that the BSW is a very beautiful area, with hills and trees, creeks and lakes, and has a wonderful quality of life, good transportation, healthcare, education, churches, and parks in unique and individual cities. Balch Springs is the newest city to join BSW in January of 2014, partnering with the cities of Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, Lancaster, Hutchins, Ferris, Glenn Heights, Midlothian, Ovilla, Red Oak, and Wilmer. These 12 cities and chambers of commerce meet monthly to accomplish the goals established by its chosen leaders, **Dr. Kevin Fegan**, president of Northwood University, who was BSW Chair in 2013, and **Mr. Grant Galliford**, owner of Allstate Insurance—DeSoto, who is BSW Chair for 2014. The Best Southwest Area is also becoming very well known as a **Golden Rectangle** for commercial and logistics development, with a great highway system surrounding it: I-20, I-35E, I-45, Hwy. 67, Hwy. 287, Hwy. 342, and Loop 9, a regional airport and two rail lines – all readily accessible to the Dallas Intermodal Terminal-DIT.

BSW Annual Economic Development Review

Here is a brief report on area developments in 2013-14: **Lancaster** – Quaker Sales & Distribution – 1.2 million square feet – 85 new jobs; BMW Auto Parts Distribution, - 300,000 square feet – 65 new jobs; Johnston Supply HVAC Parts Distribution – 150,000 square feet - 40 new jobs; ProLogis Spec Building – 650,000 square feet – ready for occupancy; MOBIS Parts Dis-

tribution (Kia and Hyundai) – 440,000 square feet – 40 new jobs; In-N-Out Burger Processing/Distribution Center – 130,000 square feet – 65 new jobs.

Red Oak – Brookshire's Supermarket – remodel - 40,000 square feet; Skyraider II Building: Triumph Aerostructures – 646,000 square feet – 225 new jobs; Knapheide Truck Equipment Center – 26,000 square feet – CO pending; National Freight Industries – 60,000 square feet – 100 new jobs; Panda Express – 2,200 square feet – 20 new jobs; Lone Star Burger & Bar – remodel – 2,200 square feet – 15 new jobs; Cancun's Mexican Restaurant – remodel: 2,500 square feet – 20 new jobs; Vintage Bank – new construction – waiting on CO - 50 new jobs.

Wilmer – As witnessed by the recent location of Whirlpool's one million square foot facility and Ace Hardware's soon to be completed 450,000 square foot facility, Wilmer's location next to the Union Pacific Intermodal facility has the City well positioned to be a major player in the Southern Sector's growing logistics market. Whirlpool and Ace Hardware are joined by Unilever Corporation, another Fortune 500 company, with 800,000 square feet. Along with the completion of the Ace Hardware facility, Sprouts Farmers Market has recently leased 117,000 square feet. A yet to be named Global 500 Company (P & G?) broke ground in November on a 1.4 million square foot distribution center and is expected to create 500 full and part time jobs. With the annexation of 531 acres last December, the City Council completed nine months of negotiations with Southport Logistics XT. This California based company's business park will be home to approximately nine million square feet of distribution and warehouse facilities. Southport Logistics is expected to break ground in the first quarter of this year.

Ovilla - Ovilla ended fiscal year 2012-2013 with 23 new home construction permits with a construction value of \$5,563,987. The city anticipates new home construction to continue within the 85 acre Ovilla Parc and the 32 acre Ovilla Creek Estates developments.

More Development

Duncanville – In 2014 Duncanville is adding an 89,000-square foot WinCo Foods Grocery Supercenter. The new WinCo Foods in Duncanville will create about 200 new jobs. WinCo is an employee owned company with 89 stores in 17 states, 15,000 employees, and over \$5 billion in annual sales. The Duncanville WinCo will be completed later this spring. Duncanville is also adding a new Walgreens to be located on W. Wheatland Rd., and a 5 building Medical Complex on E. Hwy. 67. Both projects will be completed this year.

DeSoto – Marketing million square foot pads will be the order of the day for the DeSoto Economic Development Corp. Two pads are ready to go vertical in the 2006 All-America City, and a third project is set to break ground early in 2014. Hillwood Investment Properties is marketing one of the pads in DeSoto's 1,000-acre Eagle Business and Industrial Park fronting I-35E. Sited in Foreign Trade Zone 39, Hillwood's site is adjacent to the 1.1-million-square-foot Kohl's E-Commerce Distribution Center that opened in DeSoto in August 2012. Seefried Industrial Properties' 1.2-million-square-foot pad is located at East Daniieldale Road and Old Hickory – with quick access to I-20 and Hwy. 67 as well as I-35E. The 2014 project will be at East Daniieldale and Polk. Thanks to these projects, DeSoto continues to field more calls from national site selection firms and corporate real estate decision makers. In addition to industrial momentum, DeSoto's focus is aimed at its growing medical services corridor – thanks in large part to the ever-expanding Methodist Charlton Medical Center. The DEDC expects young medical professionals to continue to be attracted to DeSoto's relatively low build-to-suit costs and lease rates in 2014. Doctors, dentists and attorneys have created an attractive, contemporary medical/legal corridor along the high-traffic volume Pleasant Run and Hampton Roads corridor in DeSoto, and mixed retail and restaurant developments are projected to complement that professional corridor in 2014.

Balch Springs – As the newest member of the Best Southwest Partnership,

Continued on page 11



>> Regional Political and Social Issues Affecting Our Community

Around and About The Best Southwest Partnership

By Joe Johnson, IOM, Executive Director, The Best Southwest Partnership

Continued from page 10

Balch Springs is involved in various stages of development in several opportunities, including: Ongoing negotiations for a retail center on Lake June Road; Assembling parcels for a proposed city wide TIF; RFP for developing a Conference Center Hotel and Sit-down Restaurant on EDC owned 3 property on IH-20; Working with developers for a planned hotel on Dean Street; Ongoing negotiations with owners of Wal-Mart shopping center for other developments on that tract; Ongoing conversations with a Big Box retailer for retail center in District 7; And discussions with a casting manufacturer to relocate to Balch Springs.

Ferris – Mango Homes broke ground at Shaw Creek subdivision in January, offering nicely featured homes in the 1400-1600 square foot range. The first homes will be completed in May. Ferris, the only Best Southwest community designated by the Texas Historical Commission as a Main Street City, recently received national recognition for the third consecutive year. Ellis County's only celebrated Earth Day is in Ferris, scheduled for Saturday, April 12 at Mutz Park. The Park Board is seeking a select number of vendors compatible with the Earth Day theme. Please contact City Hall at 972-544-2110.

Additional Development

Glenn Heights – The City of Glenn Heights is a growing bedroom community of approximately 11,300 residents located in both Dallas and Ellis Counties, and is the only BSW Partners City with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) service. Glenn Heights is positioned along the busy transportation corridor

of IH-35E, less than 20 miles from downtown Dallas and 30 miles from D/FW International Airport. Accessibility, location, and an excellent quality of life make Glenn Heights a desirable place to live and do business. The city is committed to the promotion, retention, and recruitment of high quality development to better the quality of life for its citizens. To meet these objectives, the City of Glenn Heights will, on a case-by-case basis, consider providing economic development incentives to aid in that development. For additional information, contact Director of Economic Development at 972-274-5100, or by email at ecodev@glennheights.com.

Midlothian – Buckley Oil, oil distribution and mixing, approximately \$5.5 million investment and 25 new jobs; SWFA Corporate Office and Sales Facility, high end optics facility, 31k sf building; Ash Grove Cement, plant conversion to dry kiln process, approximately \$130 million investment; Midlothian Skilled Nursing Home, 55 k sf., 120 beds; MidTowne Senior Living Facility, age-restricted facility with 52 apartment units, and 40 cottages; Mid-Towne Assisted Care Living Facility, 55k sf., 73 living units, 14-room memory care center; Main Street Gym, adaptive re-use of 28 k sf. former grocery store, includes indoor swimming pool; Taco Casa, new restaurant building; Water Treatment Plant #2, \$32 million state-of-the-art membrane-equipped water treatment plant constructed by the City of Midlothian.

Cedar Hill - In the **Educational** arena; Village Tech Charter School opened this fall, and Life School expanded. **Retail Development:** Avocado, Mas-sage Envy, Carter's, Oshkosh, Kay Jew-

elers, Simply Mac, Torrid, Lids, and Sleep Number, opened. **Industrial:** Dallas Aeronautical Services and Highway Intelligent Traffic Systems are under construction. IdX purchased a building and Martin-Siddons is finishing construction. Last check with CoStar showed a 1% vacancy rate! **Multi-family:** Forester is constructing a 350-unit Class A apartment complex in City Center.

Hutchins - Hillwood and the City of Hutchins have agreed on a 1,000,000 square foot distribution center to be located on Cleveland Road near Fed Ex. Majestic is in the process of Developing an 82 acre site with 1.2 million square feet of distribution space. The City of Hutchins anticipates about 3 million square feet of new construction in 2014.

A RED Luncheon

To celebrate these successes in the Best Southwest area, a **Regional Economic Development (RED) Luncheon** is being planned for March 27, 2014, at 11:30 a.m., recognizing the outstanding efforts of BSW Economic Developers and the Cities involved. Awards will be presented to top achievers and developments in several categories. Sponsor information is available from Amanda Skinner, 972-291-7817, or amanda@cedarhillchamber.org. . . . Reservations should be made early!

For more information contact:
Joe Johnson, IOM
Executive Director,
Best Southwest Partnership
300 E. Wheatland Rd.
director@bestsouthwest.org
214-535-1883



Annual Chamber Awards

The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce its 40 Under Forty, Volunteer Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Rocky Strickland Community Enhancement, Golden Gaither, Person of the Year in the Best Southwest, and President's Medal of Service award winners sponsored by Methodist Charlton Medical Center.

Date

Thursday, February 13, 2014

Time

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost

\$25 Chamber Member
\$35 Non-member

Location

Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster, Texas 75134

RSVP

Lauren Grady Johnson
972.227.2579
chamber@LancasterTX.org

Food Vendor



P. O. Box 375
Lancaster, Texas 75146
972.218.5500
214.274.7894

The Six Components of Feeling

Good and Looking Great

By Jay Jackson, CPT, Take Charge Fitness Studio, Contributing Columnist



Are you confused about which exercises to do, foods to eat, or products to avoid to look and feel better? Fortunately for you, I have developed a simple way to sort out the seemingly limitless amount of confusing information which has caused you and so many others a severe lack of understanding about health and fitness. I call this approach 'The Six Components of Feeling Good and Looking Great.'

Let's begin with simple terminology. I separate the terms health and fitness because they are actually two unrelated sciences. Your health refers to how you are physically and mentally functioning. Traditionally, your general health is assessed by having an annual physical examination. Physicians typically perform basic assessments during annual exams which may include a check of the following:

- Blood pressure
- Heart rate
- Breathing or Respiration
- Body temperature
- Head and Neck (Eyes, Ears, nose and Throat Check)
- Abdominal area
- General questions about any personal health concerns

There is a smorgasbord of exams and assessments that a doctor can perform during an annual physical examination. There is no 'required' assessment checklist for what constitutes an annual physical exam. So, depending on a patient's medical history and current health status, some physical examinations will be much more thorough than others. However, results of your physical examination do not reveal anything about your *fitness* level. Many people have walked away from their physical examinations with major undiscovered health issues that are not detectable during an annual check-up. Likewise, millions of people are given a clean bill of health after a physical examination, in spite of being completely out-of shape! Which begs the question, can you truly be healthy if you are not fit? Are you able to walk up a flight of stairs without experiencing shortness of breath? If your answer to this question is 'no', then I suggest you request a more thorough physical examination of your overall health.

Over the years, I have shared the *Six Components of Feeling Good and Looking Great* with all of my clients and with UT Southwestern medical professionals in Dallas, Texas. I presented the six components to medical experts hoping they might dissect and scrutinize the information provided in the presentation for the sake of finding errors. I wanted the authorities of medicine to bring to my attention any inconsistencies

or falsehoods in the six components. Health practitioners such as Medical Doctors, Physical Therapists, Nurses, Registered Dietitians, and also Personal Trainers have the tremendous duty of accuracy. For this reason, it is incumbent upon individuals belonging to the wellness industry to never compromise integrity due to misinformation.

To this day, I offer the Six Components of Health and Fitness as a staple message whenever I am invited to lecture about improving the quality of life.

The first component is proper food intake. The industry refers to proper food intake as diet. Since the word diet means different things to different people, it has caused a great deal of confusion. The general perception of the word diet is usually negative because people associate diet with restrictions and eventual failure. The origin of the word diet simply means 'way of life'. Your way of life is not relegated simply to the foods you eat. Actually, your career, education, social status, and your belief system are all connected to your diet, your 'way of life'. With this in mind, is your way of life proper for feeling good and looking great? How do you feel? How do you look?

The second and third components are associated with exercise. What does the word exercise mean to you? Most everyone is programmed to think that exercise means physical movement. Categorically, there are only two types of exercise..... anaerobic and aerobic exercise. Anaerobic exercise is the category involving resistance, or strength training. Aerobic exercise includes jogging, swimming, and other activities that utilize more oxygen. However, exercise originates from a word which means practice. For example, when the math teacher tells the class to open their math books and complete exercises 1 - 10. The math teacher is instructing the students to practice working math problems. Thus, combining proper diet and exercise can be translated to 'practicing a proper way of life'. Does your way of life allow you to feel good and look great?

The fourth component is dietary supplementation. Dietary supplements are vitamins, or minerals that are added to your eating regimen. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) do not regulate supplements the same way as medicine. However, the proof of the effectiveness of dietary supplements should be based on how they make you feel. It is my belief that supplements are necessary if you feel better after taking supplements compared with feeling worse if you do not take them. Supplements are necessary only if they work for you.

The fifth component is professional assistance. How necessary is professional assistance? Professional assistance is always a good idea when you are trying to elevate your game. Whether you are an athlete, musician, or artist, the greatest of the greats had professional assistance at some point during their development.

Finally, the sixth component is the most important of them all. It involves your mental faculties which affects your ability to plan, persevere, focus, commit, and pay attention to detail. Thus, without the sixth component, the first five components are null and void.

Please print the six components and place them somewhere for future reference.

Lastly, I am offering a 90 minute lecture to explain the Six Components of Feeling Good and Looking Great in more detail at your convenience. I encourage you to take advantage of my 2014 Healthy House Program!

2014 HEALTHY HOUSE PROGRAM

This year, Take Charge Fitness Studio is making house calls. Find out what the fitness industry will NOT tell you! It is time to add a healthy spin to your next party, book club meeting, get together, or family reunion. I want to show you, your friends, and loved ones how I have helped so many people of all ages look and feel better. Find out how my clients have increased their energy, strength, and stamina; and how in less than one year have developed a more muscular, leaner, better looking body. Before you plan your next function, tell the valued members of your group to meet with me for a 90 minute, power-packed, in home lecture guaranteed to help improve the quality of your life.

I will teach you the following proven strategies: Ten Life Changing Initiatives for Overall Better Health; **Six Components of Feeling Good and Looking Great**; Four Secrets to a Better Workout; and Three Rules for Healthier Eating.

Read this message at least twice then call your family members, friends, and co-workers today and let's set up a time for me to spend 90 minutes with your guests in the comfort of your home. You will learn how to effectively lose weight without ever leaving the house!

Call or text me, Jay Jackson, CPT, at 972.639.4543 to schedule your first 2014 Healthy House Party! I look forward to helping you and your group *Take Charge* of your health in 2014, because 'feeling good looks great!'



>> Lancaster Independent School District

PBLs and Gumbo:

They just taste better when they are made in a communal pot

By Mazie D. Leichman, STEM Coordinator, Lancaster Independent School District



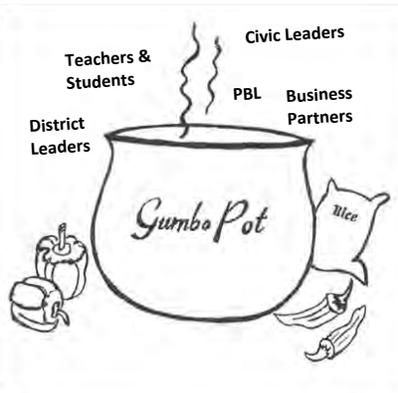
Problem-based learning (PBL) is alive and well in Lancaster ISD. The student-centered approach to teaching and learning is nourished by the power of inquiry. Its hardy connection between traditional content and contemporary instruction exorcises boredom from classrooms and makes learning purposefully engaging, authentically relevant, and progressively emergent.

And that's just what happens when PBL survives, but that isn't enough for Lancaster ISD educators charged to uphold the banner of problem-based investigations. For PBL to thrive, we know that deep-seated collaboration between Lancaster ISD and her business partners is the key.

Much like the imminent Mardi Gras celebrations and their signature dish, STEM education is steeped in powerful partnerships that combine the strengths of its members. Like the

horsemen of Cajun folklore who went from house to house collecting ingredients for communal pots of gumbo, we welcome business partners to join us at the PBL table.

From lending their expertise to mini-lessons to serving as members of authentic audiences on presentation day, our business partners serve as subject-matter experts, resource donors, and presentation evaluators. They bring their experiences to classrooms, instantly transforming learning from concept and theory to reality. Our partners speak from experiences that even the best teacher cannot duplicate. Their mere presence inspires students to push beyond perceived limits and comfort zones to reach for levels of accomplishment that are validated in ways that authenticate student work. One young PBL student said it best when she stated, "I would have done better if I knew she was coming to see my presentation." *She* was the president of the chamber of commerce who visited a ninth grade class as a member of the audience on presentation day.



As we prepare for our signature day of PBL presentations, we would be remiss in not reflecting on the tremendous support our founding partners provided during our inaugural Lancaster ISD 21st Century Learning Expo and STEM Rites of Passage Ceremony. The culmination of our first year of STEM implementation, last year's expo showcased our students' projects and academic achievements, and it highlighted beautifully what happens when a community comes together: Donations of time, goods, and services combined to provide the base of what was clearly a showcase of community spirit and pride.

On May 31, Lancaster ISD will host its annual learning expo and rites of passage ceremony to shine a light on this year's projects and to induct our newest STEM students into our academies. On that day, we will converge at Lancaster High School to showcase the power of partnerships as we pool our resources to celebrate academic excellence and dynamic inquiry. Students from 4th through 10th grades will articulate the results of their PBL investigations, and students from Pre-K through 12th grade will celebrate their achievements during what has become our signature culminating event.

We've set a place for you. Will you be at the table? To RSVP as an authentic audience member for our PBLs or to be a donor for our annual expo, please contact Antionette Mathews, Director of STEM Education, at 972-218-1451.



Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce
Learn how today's leaders
are ensuring tomorrow's solutions



Little Caesars Pizza Opens Its Newest Store In Lancaster, Texas

Chain Brings Outstanding Value, Quality and Convenience to Customers

By Pervez Kaisani, Franchisee

Little Caesars Pizza celebrated the grand opening of its newest restaurant at 1061 W. Pleasant Run Rd., Lancaster TX 75134.

“Customers demand high standards for quality and service, and we’re ready to exceed their expectations,” said franchise owner Pervez Kaisani. We look forward to serving the Lancaster and surrounding communities with delicious Little Caesars HOT-N-READY® pizza.”

Little Caesars delicious, large HOT-N-READY® pizzas are made with high quality ingredients including naturally aged mozzarella cheese, dough made fresh daily in each store and sauce made with California vine-ripened tomatoes. All for just \$5.55 plus tax at participating locations.

Giving back to the communities in which Little Caesars does business has been part of the Little Caesars’ business philosophy since shortly after the franchise began in 1959. Mr. Kaisani is originally from Chicago, Illinois. He and his business partners look forward to continuing their support of the Lancaster community and supporting local schools, churches and community organizations. Pervez Kaisani, president, Lancaster Pizza, Inc. also owns and operates additional Little Caesar locations in Georgia and Maryland.

The restaurant opened on Thursday, January 16. In celebration of the opening, some of the menu items featured in the new store will include HOT-N-READY® pizza, DEEP! DEEP! Dish® pizza, Crazy Bread®, Caesar Wings® and Caesar Dips®.

About Little Caesars Pizza

Little Caesars Pizza, known for its HOT-N-READY® pizza and famed Crazy Bread®, is the largest carry-out pizza chain in America and the fastest growing pizza chain in the world.* Named “Best Value in America”** for the sixth year in a row, Little Caesars products are made with quality ingredients, like fresh, never frozen, mozzarella and Muenster cheese, dough made fresh daily in the stores and sauce made from fresh California vine-ripened tomatoes.

Continued on page 15

Trivia Question : Can You Name Me?





>> Lancaster Independent School District

Elise Robertson Lancaster STEM Middle School Hosts Career Day 2013: Preparing to Reap the Harvest

By Sonya Cole Hamilton, Executive Director of Communications, Lancaster Independent School District

About 40 professionals united at the Elsie Robertson Lancaster STEM Middle School (LMS) to highlight possible professional paths during the 2013 annual Career Day, themed "Preparing to Reap the Harvest."

After brief introductions, 30 student ambassadors paired off to greet and escort guests to their presentation rooms filled with eighth grade students. Entrepreneurs and career professionals from the healthcare, public safety, law enforcement, engineering, sales and marketing and education industries shared first-hand knowledge, practical career information and inspired the students with details of their journeys to success.

Northwood University Library Director Kaethryn Duncan, was overjoyed as she reflected on her first-time experience at the LMS Career Day.

"It was wonderful and the kids were engaged, listening and asked great questions," she said. "They showed a lot of interest and there was a lot of give and take. I hope they ask me come back next year."

Eighth grade students heard from Lancaster's first African-American female Chief of Police, Cheryl Wilson, who

shared her story and offered life wisdom along with Chanel Bacon of Hilton Hotels Sales & Catering, the Lancaster Fire Department, Doug Hunt of Access Self Storage, Patricia Coleman, a banker and a member of Leadership Southwest, Kenneth Govan of ONCOR, representatives from Costco and the University of Phoenix, among others.

Takoya Mandigo, eighth grade counselor and Career Day coordinator, explained the value of this program.

"It is important because it is another way to expose our students to life beyond high school and allows them to be exposed to other careers, instead of the ones that we often hear about."

Main Attraction Hair Salon Owner, Renee' Bennett inspired students with her up and down journey of perseverance and encouraged them to fulfill their dream.

"This is my motto that I live by: The only one who can stop it is you."

Eighth graders, had the opportunity to hear from two professionals for an entire class period.

Yolanda Conner, a registered nurse, engaged students with her interactive,

hands-on presentation on CPR and basic life-saving and nursing techniques. Students in her sessions actually learned to identify someone in distress and how to perform CPR on adults and babies.

"I wish it was longer because the kids were not ready to stop," she said.

Ms. Mandigo and her team are now making plans for the spring Career Week and Texas Scholars events. Both are dedicated to making the path for a successful future more clear for middle school students in Lancaster ISD.

The Lancaster Public Schools serve more than 6,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. The mission of the Lancaster Independent School District, a leader in providing innovative, quality programs, is to educate every student with the knowledge; skills; and principles to succeed and contribute in a competitive and technologically advancing world by providing rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that promote diversity; create an environment of integrity and respect; and establish a commitment to continued improvement in partnership with families and community.

Little Caesars Pizza Opens Its Newest Store In Lancaster, Texas Chain Brings Outstanding Value, Quality and Convenience to Customers

By Pervez Kaisani, Franchisee

Continued from page 14

For franchisee candidates, Little Caesars is rapidly expanding in prime markets including internationally, providing an opportunity for independence in a franchise system. In addition, Little Caesars offers strong brand awareness with one of the most recognized and appealing characters in the country, Little Caesar.

Little Caesars Pizza founders Michael and Marian Ilitch opened their first restaurant in Garden City, Michigan in 1959. In addition to Little Caesars Pizza, Michael and Marian Ilitch's companies in the food, sports and entertainment industries include: the Detroit Red Wings, Olympia Entertainment, Olympia Development, Blue Line Foodservice Distribution,

Champion Foods, Ilitch Holdings, Inc., Uptown Entertainment, Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraising Program, and a variety of venues within these entities. Michael Ilitch owns the Detroit Tigers. Marian Ilitch owns MotorCity Casino Hotel.

For more information about Little Caesars, visit www.LittleCaesars.com or call 1-800-553-5776.

**Fastest growing pizza chain in the world – based on net number of stores added 2008-2012.*

*** "Highest-Rated Chain – Value for the Money" based on a nationwide survey of quick-service restaurant consumers conducted by Sandelman & Associates, 2007- 2012.*

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SOUTHWEST

An annual scholarship awards program by the Best Southwest Partnership

May 2014 Volume 16, No. 1

2014 2ND QUARTERLY LUNCHEON AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS IN THE BEST SOUTHWEST COMMUNITIES

featuring



Keynote Speaker
Dr. Kevin G. Fegan
 President
 Northwood University

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Hilton Garden Inn
Duncanville-Dallas
 800 N. Main Street
 Duncanville, Texas 75116



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RSVP, SPONSOR, & INFO:
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Cedar Hill Chamber of Commerce
 972.291.7817 // Amanda Skinner

DeSoto Chamber of Commerce
 972.224.3565 // Laura Terhune

Duncanville Chamber of Commerce
 972.780.4990 // Steve Martin

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
 Please call the Lancaster Chamber:
 Balch Springs, Ferris, Glenn Heights,
 Hutchins, Midlothian, Ovilla, Red Oak,
 and Wilmer



300 E Wheatland | Duncanville, Texas 75116 | 214.535.1883

The Center For Chamber Of Commerce Excellence 2014

To Be Held At The Aloft Hotel In Downtown Dallas

By The Center for Chamber of Commerce Excellence

Professional development is the key to success for any chamber professional. Success in today's increasingly competitive marketplace and challenging economic times requires chamber professionals to stay up-to-date on management topics and chamber practices. If you are a new chamber professional or more experienced professional seeking additional training you should attend The Center for Chamber of Commerce Excellence (CCCE).

CCCE can provide the training, resources and network you need to develop your chamber career. Through a unique part-

nership with The University of Oklahoma, this four-state training consortium (Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas) has designed a curriculum that will pave your path to Chamber success and give you the skills and training necessary to enhance your chamber's value to your business community. Guided by a Board of Regents of seasoned chamber executives from the four-state area of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas, you're sure to find the resources, insights and developments you need to expand your career. This is a great opportunity for those who are newer to the industry. It has also been

designed for those that desire to attend the US Chamber Institute but need a lower-cost alternative. Finally, this conference exists for those that desire great training, to grow professionally and serve the chamber and community with excellence.

Date
February 23 – 26, 2014

Location
Aloft Dallas Downtown Hotel
1033 Young Street, Dallas, TX 75202

For more info: www.tcce.org



- Large Business of the Year
- Small Business of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Golden Gaither
- Rocky Strickland Community Enhancement
- 40 Under Forty
- Person of the Year in the Best Southwest
- Much, Much More!*

For more information about the 2014 Chamber Awards Luncheon

Lauren Grady Johnson
103 N. Dallas Avenue
Lancaster, Texas 75146
v: 972.227.2579
e: chamber@LancasterTX.org
w: LancasterTX.org



Lancaster Chamber Luncheon in association with
The 2014 Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce
Presents their

ANNUAL CHAMBER AWARDS

Come and join us in celebrating some of the best creative talent Lancaster and the region has to offer.

THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2014

LANCASTER RECREATION CENTER
(INSIDE COMMUNITY PARK)
1700 VETERANS MEMORIAL PKWY
LANCASTER, TEXAS 75134

SHOW TIME
11:30 AM UNTIL 1:00 PM

RSVP
CHAMBER@LANCASTERTX.ORG | 972.227.2579



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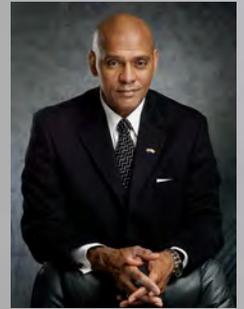
APRIL 26, 2014
6:30 PM - MIDNIGHT

Hilton Garden Inn
Duncanville - Dallas
800 N. Main Street
Duncanville, Texas 75116



LANCASTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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Remembering Dorothy Height Civil Rights and Women's Rights Activist

By Staff Writer, Bio True Story



Born in Virginia in 1912, Dorothy Height was a civil rights and women's rights activist focused primarily on improving the circumstances of and opportunities for African-American women. She was a leader in addressing the rights of both women and African Americans as the president of the National Council of Negro Women. In the 1990s, she drew young people into her cause in the war against drugs, illiteracy and unemployment. The numerous honors bestowed upon her include the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1994) and the Congressional Gold Medal (2004). She died on April 20, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

EARLY LIFE

Born on March 24, 1912, in Richmond, Virginia, African-American activist Dorothy Height spent her life fighting for civil rights and women's rights. The daughter of a building contractor and a nurse, Height moved with her family to Rankin, Pennsylvania, in her youth. There, she attended racially integrated schools.

In high school, Height showed great talent as an orator. She also became socially and politically active, participating in anti-lynching campaigns. Height's skills as a speaker took her all the way to a national oratory competition. Winning the event, she was awarded a college scholarship.

Height had applied to and been accepted to Barnard College in New York,

but as the start of school neared, the college changed its mind about her admittance, telling Height that they had already met their quota for black students. Undeterred, she applied to New York University, where she would earn two degrees: a bachelor's degree in education in 1930 and a master's degree in psychology in 1932.

TIRELESS ACTIVIST

After working for a time as a social worker, Height joined the staff of the Harlem YWCA in 1937. She had a life-changing encounter not long after starting work there. Height met educator and founder of the National Council of Negro Women Mary McLeod Bethune when Bethune and U.S. first lady Eleanor Roosevelt came to visit her facility. Height soon volunteered with the NCNW and became close to McLeod.

One of Height's major accomplishments at the YWCA was directing the integration of all of its centers in 1946. She also established its Center for Racial Justice in 1965, which she ran until 1977. In 1957, Height became the president of the National Council of Negro Women. Through the center and the council, she became one of the leading figures of the Civil Rights Movement. Height worked with Martin Luther King Jr., A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, John Lewis and James Farmer—sometimes called the "Big Six" of the Civil Rights Movement—on different campaigns and initiatives.

In 1963, Height was one of the organizers of the famed March on Washington. She stood close to Martin Luther King Jr. when he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. Despite her skills as a speaker and a leader, Height was not invited to talk that day.

Height later wrote that the March on Washington event had been an eye-opening experience for her. Her male counterparts "were happy to include women in the human family, but there

was no question as to who headed the household," she said, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Height joined in the fight for women's rights. In 1971, she helped found the National Women's Political Caucus with Gloria Steinem, Betty Friedan and Shirley Chisholm.

While she retired from the YWCA in 1977, Height continued to run the NCNW for two more decades. One of her later projects was focused on strengthening the African-American family. In 1986, Height organized the first Black Family Reunion, a celebration of traditions and values. The event is still held annually.

LATER YEARS

Height received many honors for her contributions to society. In 1994, President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She stepped down from the presidency of the NCNW in the late 1990s, but remained the organization's chair of the board until her death in 2010. In 2002, Height turned her 90th birthday celebration into a fundraiser for the NCNW; Oprah Winfrey and Don King were among the celebrities who contributed to the event.

In 2004, President George W. Bush gave Height the Congressional Gold Medal. She later befriended the first African-American president of the United States, Barack Obama, who called her "the god-mother of the Civil Rights Movement," according to *The New York Times*. Height died in Washington, D.C., on April 20, 2010.

Former first lady Hillary Clinton was among the many who mourned the passing of the famed champion for equality and justice. Clinton told the *Washington Post* that Height "understood that women's rights and civil rights are indivisible. She stood up for the rights of women every chance she had."



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Remembering the Hon. Shirley Chisholm The First African American Congresswoman

By Staff Writer, Bio True Story



Born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1924, Shirley Chisholm is best known for becoming the first black congresswoman (1968), representing New York State in the U.S. House of Representatives for seven terms. She went on to run for the 1972 Democratic nomination for the presidency—becoming the first major-party African-American candidate to do so. Throughout her political career, Chisholm fought for education opportunities and social justice. Chisholm left Congress in 1983 to teach. She died in Florida in 2005.

Early Life and Career

Famed U.S. congresswoman and lifelong social activist Shirley Chisholm was born Shirley St. Hill on November 30, 1924, in a predominantly black neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York. Chisholm spent part of her childhood in Barbados with her grandmother. After graduating from Brooklyn College in 1946, she began her career as a teacher and went on to earn a master's degree in elementary education from Columbia University.

Chisholm served as director of the Hamilton-Madison Child Care Center from 1953 to 1959, and as an educational consultant for New York City's Bureau of Child Welfare from 1959 to 1964.

Political Career and African-American Firsts

In 1968, Shirley Chisholm made history by becoming the United States' first African-American congresswoman, beginning the first of seven terms in the House of Representatives. After initially being assigned to the House Forestry Committee, she shocked many by demanding reassignment. She was placed on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, eventually graduating to the Education and Labor Committee. In 1969, Chisholm became one of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Chisholm went on to make history yet again, becoming the first major-party African-American candidate to make a bid for the U.S. presidency when she ran for the Democratic nomination in 1972. A champion of minority education and employment opportunities throughout her tenure in Congress, Chisholm was also a vocal opponent of the U.S. military draft. After leaving Congress in 1983, she taught at Mount Holyoke College and was popular on the lecture circuit.

Personal Life and Legacy

Chisholm was married to Conrad Chisholm from 1949 to 1977. She wed Arthur Hardwick Jr. in 1986. She authored two books during her lifetime, *Unbought and Unbossed* (1970) and *The Good Fight* (1973).

Chisholm died on January 1, 2005, at the age of 80, in Ormond Beach (near Daytona Beach), Florida.

"She was our Moses that opened the Red Sea for us," Robert E. Williams, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Flagler County, said of Chisholm in an interview with *The Associated Press* (January 2, 2005). William Howard, Chisholm's longtime campaign treasurer, expressed similar sentiments. "Anyone that came in contact with her, they had a feeling of a careness," Howard said, "and they felt that she was very much a part of each individual as she represented her district."



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Chef
Judson Todd Allen
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For general inquiries, commercials, broadcast/TV opportunities and appearances contact:
Healthy Infused Cuisine
Kenneth Wright, Business Manager
973-732-8344

How It All Began...

Born and raised in the Chatham Community of Chicago, Illinois, Judson Todd Allen was introduced to flavorful foods at a very young age. His grandfather, who he was named after, ignited this insatiable thirst of "all things food" in him. Growing up in Louisiana, Judson's grandfather's Creole traditions and style of cooking influenced his culinary point of view today. From the weekend fishing excursions to the anticipated holiday family feasts, it was clear that Judson was IN LOVE with great cuisine. This love for food, led him to attend the only urban agricultural high school in the city of Chicago, "The Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences", where he majored in Food Science. Faced with the decision of whether to pursue culinary school or take a non-traditional route, Judson chose to continue his studies in Food Science and Nutrition at the University of Illinois at

Urbana Champaign. Always striving to be different, Judson found himself intrigued by the science behind foods and how flavors seamlessly worked together.

The Journey Toward Weight Loss...

Having struggled with weight issues for a large part of his life, Judson Todd Allen experienced a significant 70 plus pound weight gain during his college years. With the convenience of drive-thru windows and the abundance of "all you can eat" dorm food, Judson's love for food was not only evident in his passion for cooking but also eating. After graduation, he decided it was time to apply his advanced knowledge in food science and nutrition and thus began his personal journey toward adopting a healthy lifestyle change. With a palate that craved flavorful cuisine, Judson created recipes that highlighted his favorite foods infusing

them with a healthier twist, all while providing an eating experience. Over a 2-year period, he was able to lose over 100 pounds, dispelling the myth that healthy food is boring and unpalatable. Judson was able to bring life, creativity and flavor to healthy cuisine and began introducing this concept to others.

His Career Takes Off...

In 2007, Judson Todd Allen founded Healthy Infused Cuisine, LLC, offering healthy upscale/gourmet cuisine through meal delivery, personal chef, and cuisine services (catering). Enthusiastically serving as a personal chef to some of Chicago's most elite, as well as offering cuisine services to powerhouse organizations, Judson operates with a spirit of humility, excellence and professionalism. He has been afforded the opportunity to service clients such as NFL Player Donovan McNabb, Radio

Continued on page 22

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce Celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. & Black History Month In Lancaster, Texas

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Chef Judson Todd Allen *"Architect of Flavor"*

Continued from page 21

Personalities Doug Banks and DeDe McGuire, National Recording Artists Lupe Fiasco and Shekinah Glory Ministries, The United Negro College Fund, Space Stage Movie Studios, Bain and Company and many more. To develop his business acumen, Judson pursued a Master of Science Degree in Health Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a Master of Business Administration Degree in Entrepreneurship from DePaul University. Additionally, Judson Todd Allen has traveled the world in search of knowledge, experiences and culinary hidden treasures. He has studied at the world-renowned Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, as well as The Ritz in Paris. Judson also took courses at Institut Paul Bocuse in Lyon, France, the gastronomic capital

of the world. With his travels also including places like Italy, Switzerland and Spain, Judson continues to be marveled by the myriad of culinary options and traditions.

Lights, Camera, Action – The "Architect of Flavor"™ Is Born...

With a name like Judson Todd Allen, there was no way he could hide in the background; rather, his parents encouraged him to stand out, and that is just what he did. From being tagged as a "class clown" and "most talkative", it was clear to Judson that performing in front of others was definitely his calling. It was a natural fit for Judson to turn to food television as a way to not only entertain, but also encourage, educate and inspire.

Aspiring to bring his gregarious personality and love for food to television, Judson Todd Allen has been a permanent fixture at the Kenmore Live Studio in Chicago, providing a Cooking Show Series in front of a live studio audience. Known to his fans and supporters as the "Architect of Flavor"™, Judson has offered shows such as "Foods That Put

You in the Mood" to "Ganbatte Japan – A Live Cooking Show Benefit Event for the People of Japan". He was also named semi-finalist for both the Food Network's hit show, "The Next Food Network Star Season 6" and Oprah Winfrey's Network Show Competition "Your OWN Show".

In addition to working on camera, Judson also enjoys offering cooking classes and demonstrations as well as public speaking. Judson serves as a Medical Ambassador for the American Cancer Society.

What's Next...

Judson Todd Allen realizes that with faith and confidence the sky is the limit for his professional career. He understands that every strategic move he makes gets him steps closer toward materializing his dreams. So when asked what's next, Judson commented, "Well, I continue to pursue my dream of having my own nationally televised food show and am currently working on a line of specialty food products. A cookbook is also coming in the very near future.

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- ◆ March 8
- ◆ April 12 (Bicycle Ride)
- ◆ May 10
- ◆ June 14
- ◆ July 12
- ◆ August 9
- ◆ September 13
- ◆ October 11
- ◆ November 8
- ◆ December 6 (Christmas)
- ◆ December 13 (Christmas)

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2nd Saturdays is a monthly cultural event in downtown Lancaster.

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Every 2nd Saturday, downtown businesses and organizations host a variety of art happenings such as visual artist work, musical performances, theatrical skits, poetry readings, and more. Select retail merchants also offer specials for the evening. 2nd Saturdays aims to enliven the downtown and get people out walking to see what's going on in their cultural community.