



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

VICKI HIDDE



During the month of December, I celebrated my one-year anniversary as Chamber president. There is great leadership in Hillsboro. I have made a host of new friends and admire the leadership skills and caring hearts of so many. While a few businesses have closed their doors this year, others have opened for business. From all indications the economy is on an upward trajectory. The Outlets at Hillsboro has added new stores. There is a new excitement in downtown as well. Karen Warren and Natalie Meeks have stepped into the Interim Main Street Manager role and planned the Cotton Pickin' Fair, Halloween Haunted House, and Christmas on Elm among other events.

We have regular visitors to the Chamber Office asking, "What is there to do in Hillsboro?"

- Shop, dine and explore a slice of Hillsboro History
- 10 Minutes from Lake Whitney & Less than 5 minutes to Lake Aquilla
- Two Museums
- One of the Top 5 Courthouses in Texas
- MK&T – Katy Depot

"Why should I move to Hillsboro?"

- The schools are great
- Hillsboro is centrally located to Dallas, Fort Worth and points beyond
- The people are friendly
- Great area for retirement
- Hillsboro is a Family friendly community
- We take our Youth Sports seriously
- Hill College provides higher education courses and technical training programs.
- Antique Shops –you can find real treasures here
- Convenient Shopping

We are working with the chamber board, under the leadership of Dr. Ryan Cowan, who is serving his second term as Chairman of the Board, to develop priorities for 2015 and beyond.

If you know someone who would like to be an Ambassador with the chamber and reach out to the community, or volunteer with the chamber to greet guests who visit our office, I would like to visit with them.



RIBBON CUTTINGS

January 7, 2015 – Wednesday

John's Quick Lube – 2PM

310 South Waco Street

Heather Derington, MD – 3:30 pm

117 Jane Lane

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lions Club - Tuesday at Lunch (noon) At First United Methodist Church

ROTARY CLUB - Wednesday Lunch (noon) Lone Star Cafe

January 5- Main Street Board – 5:30 pm – Chamber Office – Katy Depot – 115 N Covington

January 7 – Tourism Board Meeting - 9 am

January 22 – Chamber Board meeting - Noon

January 28-31 - Hill County Fair

February 26 - Hill County Day in Austin – we need one or two more sponsors for this event. Roughly we need \$500 more to defray cost of the trip. We are expecting to charge \$25 for the day to include lunch and transportation.

March 3 – The Brock McGuire Band – Hill College – www.hillcollege.edu/events/index.html

March 5 - Chamber Banquet

April 18 - Hillsboro's New Bond's Alley (on Elm) – Judged Art Fair

April 18- Hill College Rodeo

May 2 – Triathlon

May 16 – Golf Tournament

May 29 – HISD - Graduation

www.hhs.hillsboroisd.org/pages/Hillsboro_High_school/Calendar

June - Summer – Farmer Market; Movie Night

Sept 25-26 – Cotton Pickin' Fair/BBQ Cook off, Dodge Rodeo

October 31 – Haunted House

November 11 --Veterans Day Parade

December – Christmas on Elm

Hillsboro will welcome Frank Johnson as City Manager in early January. I was fortunate to spend a few hours with Frank in Mid-December before the City Council made the job offer. He is a visionary with strong leadership skills along with a listening ear.

New Member

Wingmans Cove Restaurant in Itasca

Christmas on Elm Street A Texas Christmas



**Dave Mojica coordinated
the Parade & Santa
Brought smiles to the
children's faces.
\$110 was donated
to Hillsboro
Interfaith Minsitry
Toys were collected**



2015 Christmas Lights

We need a committee to decorate Downtown Hillsboro next year. Kenny Crispin with Catfish Haven tells me he can create the layout and design (he is an engineer). Judge Justin Lewis, Jim Dalglish with Hill College, Art Mann, Ronnie Earp, Natasha Sawyer, Marilyn Hill and Nicole Crain have either volunteered or been volunteered to help coordinate the project. We have so many people with a heart to see all that is good in Hillsboro and the wherewithall to move the projects forward.

We want to start with our Crown Jewel the Courthouse and move on to Elm and Franklin.

We will be setting a budget, applying for grants and asking for donations to create a display that will charm children and delight adults.

THANK YOU!

Jeff Reed is the Best – He designed and built the Christmas tree on the Courthouse lawn. He accepted our request and with the help of the FFA chapter we have a start to next year's Christmas decorations. The Hillsboro Fire Department and EMS put the lights on the Tree.

Hillsboro Prepaid Branded Gift Cards - For more details:

www.hillsborochamber.org

Cards can be used at local participating chamber businesses.



Awards Banquet

Thursday: March 5, 2015

We are requesting nominations for the

- Regional Business of the Year
- Local Business of the Year
- Citizen of the Year
- Hall of Fame Inductee

Each nomination will require an application* and formal letter nominating the businesses and individuals for the designated award. In addition we are requesting a bio or resume on the individual, to include accomplishments, memberships and other information that displays leadership and community building contributions along with a photo and three letters supporting the nomination.

Ryan Collett with AgriLife Extension will coordinate the selection of Farm Family of the Year.

*You will find the application at www.hillsborochamber.org

Dontations

The chamber will be soliciting dontations for the silent and live auctions.

Reserve you table today:

Premium Tables: \$575.00 – Front table near stage, 2 bottles of Wine; recogniton on PowerPoint and in Newsletter along with social media promotion of business

Regular Tables: \$350.00

Indivdual Tickets: \$40.00

Membership Drive

We are asking our Board, Ambassadors and Members to particiapte in our new membership development campaign.

HILLSBORO CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ryan Cowan, DDS, Chairman
Cowan Family Dentistry

Greg Shropshire, CPA, Treasurer
Pattillo, Brown, & Hill, LLP

Kari Buzbee, Lone Star Ag Credit

Barry Bailey, State Farm

Shannon Herrell, Hog-Wild Graphics

Jeannetta Green, Gallery Massage

Kenny Russo, Hill Regional Hospital

Jim Dalglish, Hill College

Larry Bossier, Bossier Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep Ram

Matt Thomas, Ag Texas Farm Credit

Dwayne Lusk, Brandom Cabinets

Ambassadors

Anne Blaha, Lone Star Ag Credit

Chris Fitch, Encompass Home Health

Jamie Siddons, Julie Siddons Realtors

Jennifer Nowlin, Hill County Title

Karen Duskocil, Lone Star Ag Credit

Natalie Meeks, Apex Insurance

Pamela Bowman, Those Three Sisters

Shelly Kettler, Young's Animal Hospital

STAFF

Vicki Hidde, President

Rachal Cox, Executive Assistant

**Natalie Meeks, Interim Main Street Manager and
Apex Insurance**

Cleo Davis, Historian

I have found the Chamber to be an excellent source for strengthening relationships with other businesses and a way I can be directly involved in successfully contributing towards growth in my community.

Karen Duskocil, Lone Star Ag Credit

Our disappointment with the chamber, changed almost overnight after we met Vicki Hidde. She told us to expect a return on our chamber investment and the chamber has delivered. Not only does the chamber solicit your ideas and recommendations, but the staff surpasses our expectations.

Brittany Cockerham, Glitz and Glamour

The chamber supports small business, Main Street and community activities. I am honored to be a member of the Hillsboro Chamber and support their programs.

Rhett Reddell, R & R Fitness

The Chamber helped promote Aaron's by showing and helping us get more involved in the community. Also they played a huge part in helping us with the donations for a recent local benefit fundraiser. Thank you for your hard work!

Aaron Fullerton, Aaron's Store Manager

Your comment can go here

HILLSBORO CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

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COMMENTS FROM OUR MEMBERS