

The Banner-Press BUSINESS

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Photo courtesy of Washington County Chamber of Commerce

Brand new location

The Washington County Chamber of Commerce's Blue Blazers held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Texas Farm Credit's new headquarters here. The offices are located at 1301 U.S. 290 East. Among Texas Farm Credit staffers taking part in the ceremonies were Jennifer Turner, Kevin Hemann, Lane Pepper, Mark Miller, Audrea Jankowski, Abby Frank, Charles Holtkamp, Jeff Millikin, Jolene Curtis, Karen Koska, Lori Graham, John O'Brien, Bobby Hobson and James Dawley.



Photo courtesy of Washington County Chamber of Commerce

New member of chamber

Office staff of Guild Mortgage's office cut the ribbon during a ceremony Tuesday to mark the business' membership in the Washington County Chamber of Commerce. Guild Mortgage staffers included manager Mason Dumas, Hannah Garrison and Carter Lovelace. Guild Mortgage is located at 2402 S. Day Street. The ceremony was held by the chamber's Blue Blazers.

Camp For All's Sorrells receives CEO award

Pat Sorrells, president and CEO of Camp For All, a barrier-free camp in Washington County, has been selected as a recipient of the *Houston Business Journal's* 2019 Most Admired CEOs Award.



Sorrells

"Pat Sorrells is known as the gold standard for not-for-profit CEOs. She has the rare combination of strong business skills and the ability to inspire others, all the while projecting a passion for the organization, employees and those we serve," said Michael E. Lewter, chairman of the board of directors for

Camp For All in his letter of recommendation.

Camp For All works with other not-for-profits to enrich the lives of children and adults with challenging illnesses and special needs.

With more than 20 years of experience in special needs camping, Sorrells has served as president and CEO of Camp For All since 2007 and is responsible for overseeing all aspects of its operations, helping move the organization forward to serve more than 11,000 campers annually.

Prior to joining Camp For

All, she held other executive positions at leading not-for-profits, including director of development at The Parish School and executive director of The Periwinkle Foundation.

Under Sorrells' leadership, Camp For All has made award-winning improvements to its facilities and the number of campers served has increased significantly.

In 2014, she led her team in the creation of Camp For All 2U, an outreach program that provides unique camp experiences to children undergoing treatment at Houston and Austin area hospitals, including Texas Children's Hospital, M.D. Anderson Children's

Cancer Center, Children's Memorial Hermann, Shriner's Houston and Dell Children's Hospital.

Since these patients cannot come to Camp, Camp For All comes to them, including activities such as archery, canoeing, barn animals and more.

In 2017, the program was recognized with the Eleanor P. Eells Award for Program Excellence and for Excellence in Research in Practice at Camps by the American

Camp Association.

"Pat never stops dreaming for Camp For All. She incentivizes both staff and board to always put mission and campers first and is constantly looking to the future for ways to enrich the lives of more children and adults with chronic illnesses and special needs by expanding the number of campers we serve," said Liz Rigney, a long-time supporter and past board chair of Camp For All, in her letter of support for Sorrells'

nomination.

Sorrells also gives her time to other deserving organizations.

She has received several awards for voluntarism from The Parish School, Neuhaus Education Center and St. Stephen's Episcopal School.

She was honored as a St. John's School distinguished alumna. She also serves on the Junior League of Houston Sustainer Board as a reporter.

Global stock markets decline

TOKYO (AP) — Global shares drifted lower today as investors await another batch of corporate earnings following Tuesday's mostly disappointing results, which put an end to Wall Street's five-day winning streak.

The latest round of U.S. corporate financial reports ramps up this week and investors have low expectations.

Wall Street is forecasting a 2.6% drop in profit for S&P 500 companies.

It is set to be the first back-to-back quarterly decline in

three years.

In Europe, France's CAC 40 drifted 0.1% lower to 5,610, as

did Germany's DAX, falling to 12,419. Britain's FTSE 100 slipped about 0.2% to 7,564.



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"We are so thankful for the assistance of the Blinn SBDC. They have been a huge help."
Leroy

Whatever Pops Up

With more than 1.1 million pounds sold in the U.S. each year, popcorn can be a fun and profitable business opportunity. However, like all businesses, it requires a solid plan. When Leroy and Randy Wenckens decided to start their own gourmet popcorn business, Whatever Pops Up!, they knew exactly where to start – the Blinn College SBDC.

Business Advisor John Tatum helped Leroy and Randy develop business and marketing plans, create financial projections, and secure financing.

Leroy and Randy would love for you to visit them and try their great new flavors. You can find them most Wednesdays at K&M Grocery and at many area festivals, fairs, weddings, customer appreciations, and special events.

Will you be starting or expanding a business? If so, the Blinn College SBDC can help you get your business popping, just as they did for Leroy and Randy!

The Blinn College SBDC is a business advising and training center of the University of Houston Texas Gulf Coast SBDC Network serving 32 counties in Southeast Texas. The SBDC program is funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.



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