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Welcome to Wharton!

You're very special. We love having you here, and Wharton wants to make you feel welcome.

Whether you're spending a few hours, a few days or a lifetime, Wharton is excited you're here. We are a community-oriented town where no one is a stranger. It's a great place in which to live, work, visit, learn and do business.

We're known far and wide for our famous barbecue, for our native sons like Horton Foote and Dan Rather, for the thousands who have attended our Wharton County Junior College, and for our renowned medical facilities. We've restored our courthouse and charming Monterey Square, our downtown.

You'll be delighted by what you find in our shops, restaurants, museums and attractions. If you've never been here before, let us show you around. Our little guide will help you. We feel sure the people you meet will make you feel right at home.

Ron Sanders

Executive Director
Wharton Chamber of Commerce

Visitors & Newcomers Guide 2019

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Wharton Visitors & Newcomers Guide is an annual publication of the Wharton Chamber of Commerce produced in conjunction with the *Wharton Journal-Spectator*. The guide includes information on what to see and do in Wharton, Texas, along with a map, calendar of events and a business directory of Wharton Chamber of Commerce members. For additional information, contact the Wharton Chamber of Commerce at 979-532-1862.

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For information about advertising in next year's edition, contact the Wharton Journal-Spectator at 979-532-8840.

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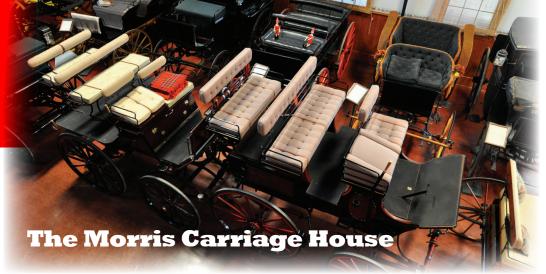
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One of the largest and varied collection of carriages is gathered in the Morris Carriage House just east of Wharton on CR 117.

The love for the gentle and quiet means of transportation before the invention of the automobile is ingrained in carriage collectors Stewart Morris Sr. and his son Stewart Morris Jr.

Their interests go beyond collecting, each piece in their collection is completely restored and cared for.

As the collection grew, they had to have a place to store them, so the Morris Carriage House was built to house their massive personal collection.

Carriages in the facility span several hundred years of history and include carriages from around the world as well as from the U.S. Each carriage and wagon is collected and shown for its historical significance and the craftsmanship of those who built them.

But what is in the carriage house is only a small portion of those collected by the father and son over the years.

In their restored, pristine condition they look like and could go from the showroom to roadway at any time, which some of them sometimes do.

But it takes horses for this means of transportation, so there are trained carriage horses stabled at the facility.

The carriage horses are cared for at the site and all the tack needed is there also. Carriage horses are worked with and groomed daily and all tack is hung with fittings polished and leather oiled ready for use.

When being taken out for special occasions, the drivers and passengers often don period costumes which go along with the years the vehicles were in use. Interesting pieces in the collection include the carriage used by Vivien Leigh in the movie Gone With the Wind.

The 1939 film adapted from Margaret Mitchell's 1936 novel of the same name won 10 Academy Awards. It has been named the fourth in the top 100 American films of the 20th Century. The cast also included Clark Gable, Leslie Howard and Olivia De Havilland.

Another of the historical pieces in the collection is the carriage known as "The Traveling Government of Mexico." It was used by then popular Mexican President Benito Juarez.

Juarez is still considered Mexico's greatest and most beloved leader of Mexico. He helped bring in a number of liberal reforms in the nation's constitution of 1857.

During the French occupation of Mexico he refused to accept the rule of any foreign government. For six years the government of Mexico became mobile in the carriage, changing sites as Juarez stayed ahead of the invading French army.

To get to the Morris Ranch & Carriage House, head east for about four miles on FM 1301 toward Boling Turn left on CR 117 and travel two miles. The carriage house is on right just before crossing the bridge on the West Bernard River. To arrange tows, call 532-0101.



Vivien Leigh starred in the 1939 classic Gone With the Wind. The carriage she rode in is part of the carriage collection.

Whereton Country Out

The Wharton Country Club serves Wharton and the surrounding areas with fine food, recreation, meeting space and social opportunities.

It has served this community for nearly 70 years.

A major project that occurred at the club was new greens. The club has always been rated as one of the outstanding nine-hole golf courses in Texas by golf critics and writers.

This will only make it better if you want to

play on par-71, for example.

"This is the biggest thing we've done in the history of the club," said Wharton Country Club Board President Mike Parker.

Work on the golf course began in June 2018, Parker said. Members of the country club provided their help, both with raising funds and vol-

unteering their time.

There is the Barbara Stephenson Dining Room, Horton Foote Room, the Game Room,

which is ideal for groups of up to 30.

The course is open to the public on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Green fees are \$25 for 18 holes and \$12.50 for 9 holes. Memberships are also available.

 Make the club your dining destination with Sunday Brunch the first Sunday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Featuring made-to-order omelets and waffles, bacon, sausage, chicken nug-



gets, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, fresh fruit, and more. \$12 per plate. Reservations: 979-532-5940.

• Make the club your destination for Tuesday Business Lunch Buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A nutritious, hot lunch buffet is available to members and guests. "All you can eat", or "1 meat, 2 sides" options are available.

• Bingo Night will return in February with a 6 p.m. start. All ages are welcome. The Dining Room will be open from 5:30-8:30. Dinner \$10.

The Wharton Country Club is located at 126 Country Club Drive in Wharton. For more information, call 979-532-5940 or visit whartoncountryclub.com.

Wharton Civic Center

The Wharton Civic Center is the hub for many of the community's special moments — award banquets, seminars, training sessions, business meetings, wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, baby showers, parties and celebrations, philanthropic events, private classes, job fairs and so much more.

Located 50 miles outside of Houston, the Wharton Civic Center is the perfect location to host your event without the traffic and high fees of the big city.

The Civic Center is an adaptable, dynamic event space that was built on southern hospitality. Whether you're throwing a large event or an intimate gathering, you will be in good hands.

Makyla Monroe, who is from Wharton, was hired as the center director in 2018.

"My passion is Wharton. I want to see Wharton succeed and thrive and I feel like the Civic Center is a big part of our community," Monroe said.

When the facility was given to the city in 1990, Jo Knezek took the director's position and for 25 years she developed the Civic Center into a reputable venue known throughout the area. She host-

ed events for celebrities such as Frank Sinatra, Jr. and Nancy Sinatra, even George W. Bush when he was governor.

The Wharton Civic Center is located at 1924 North Fulton Street in Wharton. For information call 979-532-2491 ext. 603





The annual James Simmons Jr. Wharton County Juneteenth Festival will occur June 15, 2019 after it was cancelled the previous year due to Hurricane Harvey.

Coordinator Paul "Coach" Kearney said the announcement that the festival will happen is very important to give locals and visitors an opportunity to plan in advance.

Simmons said he is glad and "delighted" that committee officials have agreed to move forward with this event that will now mark 10 years.

"We will have entertainers lined up like we have in the past," Simmons said. "We want the 2019 festival to be better than ever because of what our community has been through."

In February 2018, the committee made the

The Return of Juneteenth Festival

unfortunate decision to cancel the 2018 event altogether as a result of the devastation that Harvey still had on the community.

The first Juneteenth Festival was held in 2010, and it quickly grew into one of the city's largest festivals each summer.

The 2017 event attracted 10,000 people, and three years ago the crowd drew an estimated 15,000 to the city's Monterey Square area.

According to the festival officials, Juneteenth has come to symbolize for many African-Americans what the Fourth of July symbolizes for all Americans – freedom.

"It symbolizes the end of slavery. It serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery," the festival's Facebook page reads.

Juneteenth has been celebrated in Texas since June 19, 1865.

Montercy Square Wine & Arts Fair

One of Wharton's popular events provides culture and is on every corner of downtown Wharton at the Monterey Square Wine and Arts Fair, held each year in October.

The event is a fantastic night to sip, shop and stroll. The 2018 event — the 10th annual — was in downtown Wharton and was deemed a success by wine and arts fair officials.

Begun in 2009, the event was sponsored by the Wharton Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture and the Monterey Square Merchants Committee and is a wonderful way to highlight stores while offering some unique opportunities to the public.

Each year, different Texas wineries provide the samples, in both whites and reds. Wine is also for sale by the glass or bottle. Participating merchants offer the various vintages to sample.

In addition, there is craft beer sampling and boutique sodas.

Art is another feature of the festival. Local

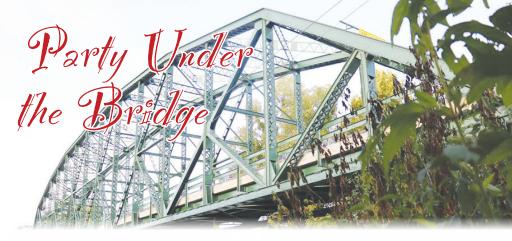
artists display their work in several sites.

No festival is complete without music, and there's a full venue to check out at the fair. Musicians set up shop in front of several businesses, playing acoustic favorites, while the local favorite, the Java Jam Band, takes its familiar stage inside Milam Street Coffee: Java and Junk.

Visit montereysquarewinefair.com.



Attendees of the 2018 Monterey Square Wine & Arts Fair.



Whartonians and visitors will have the chance to party under the Colorado River Bridge again this year.

September 27, 2018 was the inaugural Party Under the Bridge - Wharton's dedication of the fully restored Colorado river bridge.

"This is a celebration of a historic bridge. The bridge is saved and it's been resorted and reopened," Executive Director of the Wharton Chamber of Commerce Ron Sanders. "Wharton very much values its history, so just like the courthouse we need to celebrate this as well."

Party Under the Bridge will also be a celebration of Wharton, and a way to bring residents together, Sanders said.

"The celebration will bring people together and that's why we want to do it up," Sanders said.

Though there will not be a dedication of the bridge this year, the fun party spirit of the event will remain the same.

"The Wharton tourism committee felt like the event was a great success and it's different," Sanders said. "It uses a different park and it was something unique. Even though we won't be dedicating the bridge we will be thinking of some new things to do there. I think we'll utilize the space a little more effectively and I think we'll have more food and more things to do."

The Party Under the Bridge will be under the Colorado River Bridge at Dinosaur Park. Families are encouraged to come play at Dinosaur Park's recently renovated playground and admire the big dinosaur.

The second annual Party Under the Bridge will be on Thursday, October 24, 2019.



The first 200 people in attendance received free Party Under the Bridge Shirts.



Bowing heads during prayers for Wharton, Texas and safe passages on the Colorado Bridge.



The weather will be hot and the inaugural Texas Salsa Showdown promises to be hotter when the event takes place Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18 at the Wharton Civic Center, 1924 N. Fulton Street.

This will be a celebration of salsa with a South Texas flavor and flair. And, if Tex-Mex is your thing and your frequently wish for bottomless chips and salsa, this festival and the cook-off is for you.

Plans are to have a beef fajita cook-off and brisket cook-off. You will be able to view participants with various experiences compete in salsa categories like home chef, restaurant and commercial.

A hot pepper eating contest will also be held on Saturday beginning at 3 p.m. If you have what it takes to be a contestant, you would be required to chew and swallow up to 8 increasingly spicy peppers, starting with a "simple" jalapeno. This event is a 50/50 pot with contestant fees split among the winner (last person standing) and the charity of their choice.

On Saturday, you may sample all the salsas, vote for your favorite, then enjoy entertainment by a regional favorite – Steel Country.

There are also plans to have the second Cops n' Rodders Car Show. Wharton Police Chief Terry Lynch said the first car show held last year in conjunction with the Rally for Wharton Festival was well received and participation high that a second show was planned. Vendors will be available both days.

Admission to the Texas Salsa Showdown is \$20. You may find more information on Texas Salsa Showdown on Facebook.

Call Kapeesh Marketing at 713-570-6603 with any questions. You may also email at hello@kapeeshllc.com.

Amy Morales, marketing director with Kapeech Marketing, LLC, is the event organizer.



Visitors looked over entries at the 2018 Cops n' Rodders Car Show.



SNOW ON THE SQUARE

Snow is not a usual occurrence in this part of Texas, but the Wharton Chamber of Commerce ensures that the Wharton County Courthouse will see the powdery white snow again this year.

Snow on the Square is an event full of fun with snow, food trucks, vendors and a DJ. The big man in red, Santa Clause, himself will be making an appearance again this year, much to the delight of visitors.

"We decided to have a second snow day because the first one was so successful," Executive Director of the Wharton Chamber of Commerce Ron Sanders said. "We got to showcase our court-

house and the Christmas decorations to visitors from all over the county. Word of mouth even brought visitors from outside of Wharton County to come see the snow as well."

This year's event will include even more fun for the whole family, Sanders added.

"We'll build on this event," Sanders said. "I think next year we'll have more food and more things to do. We learned a lot last year as this was the first event and we hope that we can afford to bring even more snow than this past year to this year's event." The second annual Snow on the Square will be on Friday, December 20, 2019.



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The Plaza Theatre

The Plaza Theatre on Monterey Square in downtown Wharton will begin the 2019 calendar year with "The Red Velvet Cake."

The beginning of the 2019 season is Friday, Feb. 8. Performances are normally at 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays.

Here's information on the productions:

THE RED VELVET CAKE WAR

Presented by the Ya-Ya's of Wharton County
A comedy

By Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten

Presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Directed by Sarah Bailey Performances: February 8 – 17, 2019 Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sun-

days at 2:30 p.m.

General Admission: \$15
Recommended for general audiences
About the Show: In this riotously funny
Southern-fried comedy, the three Verdeen
cousins—Gaynelle, Peaches, and Jimmie
Wyvette—could not have picked a worse
time to throw their family reunion. Their
outrageous antics have delighted local gossips
in the small town of Sweetgum and the eyes

of Texas are upon them.
Having "accidentally" crashed her
minivan through the bedroom wall of her
husband's girlfriend's doublewide, Gaynelle
is one frazzled nerve away from a spectacular
meltdown. Peaches, a saucy firebrand and
the number one mortuarial cosmetologist in
the tri-county area, is struggling to decide if
it's time to have her long-absent trucker husband declared dead. And Jimmie Wyvette,
the rough-around-the-edges store manager

of Whatley's Western Wear, is resorting to extreme measures to outmaneuver a priss-pot neighbor for the affections of Sweetgum's newest widower. As this fast-paced romp barrels toward its uproarious climax, you'll wish your own family reunions were this much fun!

AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY

Presented by VonDerAu Ford of El Campo
A tragicomedy

By Tracy Letts

Presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service
Directed by Burke Wilkins
Performances: April 5 – 14, 2019
Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

General Admission: \$15 Recommended for mature audiences due

to language and adult situations
About the Show: A vanished father. A
pill-popping mother. Three sisters harboring
shady little secrets. When the large Weston
family unexpectedly reunites after Dad disappears, their Oklahoman family homestead
explodes in a maelstrom of repressed truths
and unsettling secrets. Mix in Violet, the

and unsettling secrets. Mix in Violet, the drugged-up, scathingly acidic matriarch, this is a play that unflinchingly—and uproariously—exposes the dark side of the Midwestern American family.

Litefooter Summer Youth Workshop & Production DISNEY'S THE LION KING JR.

Presented by Roberson Air Conditioning Music, lyrics by Elton John & Tim Rice Additional music and lyrics by Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin & Hans Zimmer Book by Roger Allers and Irene Mecchi Based on the Broadway production directed by Julie Taymor Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) Directed by Hailey Roberson Performances: June 27 – 30, 2019

Performances: June 27 – 30, 2019 Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. General Admission: \$15

Recommended for general audiences About the Show: Disney's The Lion King has captivated the imagination of audiences around the world. The African savannah comes to life on stage with Simba, Rafiki and an unforgettable cast of characters as they journey from Pride Rock to the jungle... and back again, in this inspiring, coming-of-age tale.

MAMMA MIA!

Presented by the Brandon & Rachel Cutrer
Family
A musical

Music and lyrics by Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus

Additional songs by Stig Anderson Book by Catherine Johnson Originally conceived by Judy Craymer Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

Directed by Betty Vick Performances: August 2 – 18, 2019 Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

General Admission: \$20

Parental guidance suggested due to adult situations

About the Show: Over 60 million people worldwide have fallen in love with the characters, the story and the music that make Mamma Mia! the ultimate feel-good show! ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

Season tickets

Season Tickets are a way to support the Plaza Theatre. There are a variety of ticket packages available.

Season ticket holders are recognized for their support on the Plaza website, in the theater lobby, and in the playbills. Season tickets also can be used as gifts for family and friends.

The theater is owned and operated by Plaza Theatre Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to the renovation and restoration of the building, as well as fostering the performing arts.

Originally founded as The Community Theatre of Wharton, its performers are dubbed the "Footeliters" in recognition of famed theater and film writer Horton Foote, a native Whartonian.

The Plaza is part of the continuing history of the west side of Monterey Square, being the city's entertainment focus, although some of that history is less than savory.

"Because the floor of the theater is below ground level, there was a tremendous amount of seepage, and there were leaks in the roof and other problems. It was just a sad thing to see," said Candyce Byrne, former board president.

However, through fundraisers, grants and donations, the group was able to restore the first floor to the point it could stand up to performance. But the present only offers a glimpse of the future. The group has purchased an adjacent building and has opened much-needed additional restrooms.

Also last year, a new concession stand was built in the lobby, and the ticket counter was relocated to the former concession stand.

Plans also include adding an elevator to meet ADA guidelines, as the group is literally renovating from the ground up.

The future includes converting the second floor into a 1940s-style lounge that can be used for small individual, group or business gatherings, as well as opened up to provide balcony seating for live productions.

The third floor will be converted into a "Black Box" theater for productions of original material created by the group's members or productions for small groups.

For more, information, call 979-282-2226



Texas Gulf Coast Antique & Junkin Trail

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Milam Emporium

238 W. Milam St., Wharton, 979-531-3103. Open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Closed on Sundays.

Antiques, collectibles, crafts, jewelry, clothing, furniture, and so much more!

Accepting New Vendors!

sylviacastillo9394@gmail.com

Montgomery Gallery and Frame

110 S. Houston St., Wharton, 979-532-3929. Website: Montgomerygalleryandframe.net. Email: moqie@sbcqlobal.net.

Vintage look, ready made, and custom made frames. Oil paintings restoration. Photo restoration. Frame restoration. Open 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Sat., closed on Sun.

Country Duck ReSale Shop

209 E. Milam St., Wharton, 832-628-2310 Plants, Collectibles, Clothing, Piñatas, Salvaged Repurposed Goods

Collector's Alley

210 N. Houston St., Wharton, 979-531-3180 Website: collectorsalley.net

Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Sat.

1 p.m.- 5 p.m Sun.

Pedal Cars, Coins, Chimes, Collectibles, Antiques, Candles, and More!

Glen Flora Emporium

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Dealers who rent space to sell their merchandise and consignments. On Facebook as "The Glen Flora Emporium." Open 10 a.m. 5:30 p.m. Wed.-Sat., 12 p.m.-5 p.m. Sun.

Burr Trading Company

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Milam Street Coffee Java and Junque

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Website: milamstcoffee.com

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Wharton Downtown Legends

Bonnie and Clyde

In 1932, a sheriffs deputy stationed at the Colorado River bridge encountered the notorious bank robbers Bonnie and Clyde, who had been spotted in Louise, south of Wharton, and were headed toward Wharton. He fired several shots at their vehicle, but apparently missed.

Dickson Monument

Sheriff Hamilton Dickson was shot and killed in the line of duty while trying to capture an escapee from the county jail. His funeral was the largest ever held at the time in Wharton

County. The statute on the courthouse lawn was erected by his family. His descendents recently had it restored.



Sniper's Nest



In 1898 Hope Adams ran for sheriff of Wharton County. He ran on the independent ticket against the candidate running on the White Man's Union party. In those days a candidate needed the approval of the White Man's Union in order to seek public office. After filing for office, Adams crossed from the courthouse at the Milam and Fulton street intersection. A shot rang out. Adams fell dead. Someone had fired the fatal shot from the original courthouse clock tower. It is said that everyone knew who did it, but charges were never filed

Lucky Shot

In 1917 City Marshal W.W. Pitman was given an arrest warrant for F. Lopez. As the sheriff approached a Mexican restaurant at the comer of Burleson and Fulton streets in downtown Wharton, Lopez emerged from the restaurant. Both drew their pistols and fired at the same time. The bullet from Pitman's gun entered the cylinder of Lopez's gun. Lopez's gun jammed and saved both Lopez's and Pittman's lives. Pittman sent Lopez's gun to Ripley's Believe It or Not. He won fourth place in Ripley's annual contest. The gun remains in Ripley's possession and was last seen in their facility in downtown San Antonio.



Ghost Story



Wharton County wanted to honor its Confederate Army veterans, members of Buchel Camp. In their memory a monument was placed on the northwest corner of the county courthouse lawn. To this day, a circular patch can be seen around the monument. It appeared shortly after the dedication and remains there. Legend has it that ghosts of the Confederate soldiers march around the statue every night guarding it and creating a path that defies all explanation.

Pecans vs. Sycamores

One of Wharton County's greatest controversies was what trees should be planted around the county courthouse. Sycamores were native timber and thus were originally chosen for four sides of

the county courthouse. However, in 1922, the county agricultural extension agent planted pecan trees between the sycamores to prove that pecans could be a viable cash crop for Wharton County. But the courthouse square was not big enough for both of them. As the pecan trees grew, it become clear that there was not room enough both for the pecans and the sycamores. The problem was resolved one night, after midnight, when an unknown woodsman came to the courthouse square and cut down all the sycamores. The pecan trees continue to flourish there to this day.



Historic Homes of Wharton

EDITOR'S NOTE: The historic homes driving tour is designed to give those staying in Wharton some views of early architecture around the city. The homes have been grouped for ease of finding them on the map. Many of the homes are private residences and not accessible for tours.



E. Clyde and Mary Elliott House, 707 N. Walnut St.

E. Clyde and Mary Elliott acquired three lots in 1919 from W.B. Barbee in the Barbee subdivision. The Elliotts erected a one-story bungalow home for \$2,697. Mr. Elliott was a farmer with land near the small community of Glen Flora. The couple owned the house until 1960. The E. Clyde and May Elliott House is a one-and one-half story frame bungalow facing east. The Elliott house is one of the best examples of the bungalow form and the only example of the "airplane" subtype in Wharton.

Nettie Elkins House, 109 E. Alabama St.

The Elkins House was built for Nettie Elkins after receiving the undivided land from the heirs of Mrs. D.A. Hobbs. The house was built in 1874. The Elkins House is significant as the best extant example of the pyramid roof house in its most basic form in Wharton. A full-width open porch supported by three evenly-spaced columns dominates the principal façade.



Bolton-Outlar House, 517 N. Richmond Road

The Bolton-Outlar House, built in 1893, is a two-story frame Pyramidal-roof dwelling Queen Anne influence modified around 1910 with a classical Revival pediment portico and porches. It rests on brick piers and is covered by an asphalt shingle tripped roof with lower cross gable on the principal and side elevations. An exterior brick chimney with a corbeled cap rises from the top ridge of the hipped roof.

It is one of Wharton's most impressive late-19th and early-20th century residential dwellings. It was substantially remodeled around 1910.

H.J. Bolton acquired this property in 1893 from A.H. Purviance for \$300 and probably built the house soon afterwards. Bolton was a local merchant and first president of the newly organized Wharton National Bank in 1903. In 1919, Dr. L.B. Outlar purchased the dwelling for \$7,500. Dr. Outlar established a clinic in partnership with Dr. William Blair called the Outlar-Blair Clinic. The Outlar family owned the house until 1973.





Merrill-Roten House, 520 Avenue A

James F. and Lena Merrill had this brick veneer house built soon after their acquisition of the property in 1930. In 1932, John L. Roten purchased the house. Roten was one of Wharton's most successful businessmen during the mid-20th century. He began his career in 1922 when he opened a dry goods store in the community. The Tudor Revival style was popular among professionals in the community during the late 1920s and 1930s. Its full brick veneer exterior is rarely seen on local dwellings.



Wiley J. Croom House, 205 E Milam St.

This is a two-story frame house designed by Eugene T. Heiner, who also designed the 1888 jail and courthouse in Wharton. It was built in typical Victorian Queen Anne style with heavy use of decorative embellishments. Wiley J. Croom came to Wharton in 1868 to practice law and sell real estate. He was elected county judge in 1886 and met Heiner during the construction of the courthouse which led him to select the architect as designer of his new home.

The house is a two-story frame dwelling facing south on East Milam Street. The house retains a high degree of integrity and is the best example in Wharton of the Queen Anne style.



John and Sophie Garrett House, 401 E. Alabama St.

The John G. and Sophie Garrett House is a one-and-one-half story frame dwelling facing south on East Alabama Street. Its appearance is typical of the late 19th century dwellings in a modified L-plan form. Jig sawn balusters and brackets, and turned columns and frieze indicate a strong Victorian Queen Anne influence.





Judge Edwin Hawes House, 309 N. Resident St.

Rosa E. McCamly had this home built in 1896. In 1897 she sold it to Edwin Hawes (b. 1852), Wharton County judge in the 1870s and 1880s. Hawes had returned to this area after a temporary residency in Kerrville where he was mayor. Here he was a large landowner and a political leader. The double galleried home was purchased in 1944 by George Rust Hawes and his wife Emily Prasifka Hawes, the son and daughter-in-law of Edwin and Uzzie Milburn Rust Hawes. This two-story frame house is an example of center-passage, with Victorian and Classical Revival features.



O. Brooks-Foote House, 505 N. Houston St.

Located directly behind the Tom Brooks home on Houston street is the Brooks-Foote home. Tom, son of P.C. and Daisy Speed Brooks, built this house in 1917 and gave it to their daughter, Harriet and her husband A.H. Foote. It is a good example of 20th Century bungalow style, with two-bay L-shaped porch. The house is owned by the children of the late Horton Foote, who grew up in the house behind his grandparents' home on Richmond Road.

J.H. Speaker House, 414 E. Alabama St.

Susan Speaker purchased this lot and the adjoining lot in 1893 for \$550. This low cost indicates that the house was not present at that time. In 1907, J.H. Speaker acquired the western lot and is believed to have built the house. The property remained in the Speaker family until 1976. J.H. Speaker was a local black educator who taught in the segregated school in Wharton. At the time of construction, this house was in one of the two primary African-American neighborhoods. The J.H. Speaker House is a one-story frame L-plan dwelling.



Hamilton House, 325 N. Richmond Road

A native of Ohio, Joseph Andrew Hamilton served in the Union army during the Civil War. In 1866 he settled in Wharton and held a variety of local political offices. Hamilton purchased this property in 1885 and moved his family into the existing onestory frame house. In 1907 the home was enlarged by raising the original structure and building a new addition underneath. The house features influences of the neoclassical style of architecture. The new addition is brick, and upper wooden floor is thought to have been constructed circa 1875.





T.M. Neal Home, 225 N. Richmond Road

Now the site housing the Wharton Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, the home was built in 1912 by Dr. Thurman McCloud (T.M.) Neal and Mae Vineyard Neal. A doctor, farmer and rancher and civic leader and philanthropist, as a tribute to his wife, he donated the home when he died in 1962.



Tom N. Brooks Home, 516 N. Richmond Road

This eclectic dwelling with five-bay porch was constructed circa 1915 by Tom Brooks, dry goods merchant. The house faces Richmond Road which carried traffic between Houston and Victoria through Wharton. The home, its residents and the daily events inspired the writings of Brooks' grandson, Horton Foote. The house sold in 1948 to the Brandl family. In 1998, Charles E. and Paulette Brandl-Roades restored the home to its former grandeur.



Egypt Plantation, 11914 FM 102, Egypt

An eight generation long legacy of Scottish and English ancestory can be felt at the Egypt Plantation in Egypt, Texas. Established in 1830, when W.J.E. Heard purchased 2,200 acres from John C. Clark for \$111 in gold coins. Heard constructed a double pen, a log home for his family, slave housing, sugar cane, corn and cotton mills.

Sitting on the crossroad of commerce by river and road, the Northington family crossed the Heards' trails often. After becoming good family friends, the families merged in marriage as Heards' eldest daughter, Elizabeth married Mentor Northington. Producers of sugar cane, corn, cotton and pecans, the Heard-Northington plantation kept up with the market and even ventured into both the cattle and horse businesses. In a constantly changing world, the Egypt Plantation has perserved under the management and ownership of Bud and Mary Margaret Northington. The couple maintains the facility for tours and events.





We can help you make a memorable day while you stay in Wharton. Here is some information to help you do just that and don't forget to take pics!

Morning

You may be getting up from one of the many hotels/motels Wharton offers visitors. You want to eat breakfast and the city has restaurants you won't find anywhere else but here. If you are in the mood for Mexican-style "huevos rancheros" or "home style" cooking, stay along Business 59/Richmond Road. Some of these locally-owned restaurants like Freddie's, Larry's or Regio's only take cash so be prepared just in case. Don't be surprised if you run into a Wharton councilperson or school district trustee as they frequent these restaurants as diners just as the day is getting started. Freddie's is also our bus stop for travelers who might be coming through or destination Wharton.

Once you've done eating, visit the Downtown Monterey Square Historic District for antiquing, a piece of history and morning coffee and pastries. The Milam Street Coffee: Java & Junque recently switched ownership and antiques are something the new owners John and Jane Bard have introduced to our citizens and now you!

There are other antique shops along Milam Street that would interest you and the nicest owners you'll ever meet. Across the street from Milam Street Coffee is another spot you want to add to your list of Wharton stops: The Tejano y Conjunto Gallery of Legends Museum, which is at 146 West Milam Street. Owners John and Lucy Alaniz said when they were looking for a location to place the museum, Wharton was the best place as it's located along a busy US 59 corridor between Corpus Christi and Houston—and it's not too far from San Antonio.

While hopping from store to store with a whartonchamber.com

glimpse of the past musically speaking, make sure to visit the original Wharton County Courthouse. Join others who stroll around the courthouse with their cell phone in hands taking selfies. The famous Texas architect Eugene T. Heiner constructed the building in 1889. As decades went by, markers were erected on the courthouse grounds at various corners. While circling the square, you might get a glimpse of a mural or two. Count them all as you visit through town, there are at least half a dozen to chose from. Address is 100 South Fulton Street.

Afternoon

After all that walking, shopping and learning you're probably hungry and you can't visit Texas without eating some Tex-Mex. In town, there are a handful of Tex-Mex restaurants to choose from. In the downtown area, we have Larry's Mexican Restaurant, Cuevos Mexican Restaurant, Taqueria Las Regias and Los Cucos for an authentic Tex-Mex experience. If Tex-mex isn't your cup of tea you can always rush on over to Provisions Bistro and Market for organic and locally sourced food. Owner and operator, Debra Medina, once ran for the governor and was another reason that put Wharton on the map.

Walk off the meal by visiting Wharton's life-size dinosaur sculpture at what the locals call Dinosaur Park on the west end of Riverfront Park, which runs along downtown and the Colorado River, which sometimes reached at least 30 feet of water. Address is Colorado Street at North Richmond and Business 59.

Check out the recently restored Southern Pacific Railroad Depot. It was built in 1912 as a social and transportation center for Wharton. The depot sits on the "Macaroni Line" named in honor of the 1,200 Italians who helped build the track for the New York, Texas and Mexican railroad in 1882. Address is 100 South Sunset. Hours are Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Finish the afternoon off by visiting another museum, this one the 20th Century Technology Museum. It has an address of 615-625 North Fulton Street. Items include papers enabling NASA's Man in Space program, NASA reports including biomedical results of Skylab, debriefing reports from Apollo astronauts and various engineering planning reports, among other historical collections. Wharton is home to the Wharton County Historical Museum, but unfortunately it is closed due to Hurricane Harvey in 2017. County leaders are working to look for funding to make it operable once again.

Evening

If you know about the Plaza Theatre located at 120 South Houston Street and its numerous productions, you'll want to plan a day in February, April, June and August. Now that the 2019 theatre season is upon us, you want to visit the Plaza's website at www.whartonplazatheatre.org for dates and times. Before a show, try Wharton's barbecue. If you're in the mood for this, try Hinze's on Richmond Road or Hinze's Country Kitchen for a more home cooked meal, located off Texas 60. If you're feeling fishy, try Wharton Seafood on Richmond Road for a versatile seafood menu. For a little bit of everything (including hamburgers, chicken-fried steak, subs, steaks, salads and more) try 9er's Grill off Boling Highway and Fulton Street.

Wherton's Pick & Flip to Hick Offin 20191

Makers, flippers and junkers will be the center of attention when the inaugural Pick & Flip happens later this year.

You will be invited for a one-of-a-kind event that will be held in conjunction with the 10th Annual Citywide Garage Sale. Participants and you will gather at Monterey Square to see judges decide who has the best DIY skills.

Participants will be given a set amount of time to shop downtown and find their perfect "pick" before rushing back to a DIY station to begin transforming the piece into a "flip."

Judges will name a winner, and all finished pieces with be up for sale the same day.

Again, the first-ever Pick & Flip will be held in conjunction with the garage sale, which will be Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1.

Times of when contestants will be participating will be announced.

Email Pick & Flip organizer Amy Morales at amy@kapeeshllc.com for more information.





The Wharton County Courthouse does not resemble what people remember from the 1950s. In the 1930s and 1940s, the courthouse was remodeled to gain needed space. Wings were added on each side. The bell, clock tower and mansard roof had been removed. Its original red bricks covered in stucco and painted yellow. It was redesigned in an art deco look of the time period.

Famous playwright Horton Foote, who was a Wharton native, was upset with the changes and he referred to it as "the Sulphur Block" because it was painted yellow.

By the 1980s the added wings were pulling on the center structure and causing major engineering concerns. The question was, "Do we raze it or save it through restoration?"

For a while it looked like the 1889 Wharton County Courthouse would be no more. Structural issues became the focal points of the emotional issue. Restoration of the courthouse caused divisions among residents of the county.

Preservationists said save it at all cost; others were for replacing with a more modern structure. A third group thought it could not be restored. Local preservationists quickly organized and looked for ways to save the building. They considered the courthouse to be "the heart and soul of Wharton County."

The preservationists won, and courthouse history was researched by Wharton native and architect David Bucek Jr.

After four years of planning, trips to Austin's Texas Historical Commission and fundraising, the task of restoring the historic courthouse began — and it would be restored to its Victorian style.

The courthouse was designed by Eugene T. Heiner, who arrived in Houston from Dal-

las in 1878. Between 1878 and his death in 1901, he designed 12 courthouses - only six survive.

The courthouse was built in a classic Victorian design. Its design was a combination of two popular Victorian styles of the 1880s—the Second Empire style and the Italianate style. It was a three-story masonry building with limestone trimmings topped with a mansard roof and a central clock tower. Its bricks were made from clay gleaned from the Colorado River.

By the 1950s, the Heiner-designed courthouse looked nothing like it originally did.

But cost and time to restore the structure were underestimated. The courthouse had an original estimate of \$2.9 million but ended up costing \$7.4 million. The restoration began in July 2003 and was completed in July 2007. It was the most extensively restored courthouse in the state's history.

Finally, in August 2005, Wharton residents gathered on the courthouse square to watch as the massive clock tower was lifted to the top of the building. The tower is an exact replica of the original. The courthouse bell, which had been saved by First Baptist Church, was returned to the county and placed in the tower.

Today, with the restoration complete, the courthouse as it looked in its 1889 glory is the gem of Wharton's downtown Monterey Square. It joins Hallettesville as the only two Heiner works that are as the architect originally designed them.

The courthouse is featured in the PBS television documentary, The Golden Age of Texas Courthouses.

The Wharton County Courthouse is at 100 S. Fulton St. in downtown Wharton. Visit whartoncountycourthouse.com.

Wharton Museums

The **Tejano y Conjunto Gallery of Legends Museum** is one of the newest attractions in downtown Wharton. The gallery is located inside the Wolf Pak Radio Studio building at 146 West Milam across from the Wharton County Courthouse.

John Alaniz is the operating director and his son, Lee Cruz aka DJ Lobo, is the museum director. The museum is now a 501c3 non-profit organization, which affords them the opportunity to expand on their operation, which sometimes includes Tejano music dances in the Wharton area. Just recently, the inaugural Musicians Reunion was held to honor performers from as far back as the 1960s.

"We are dedicated on persevering our culture's roots," Alaniz said. "The museum has a lot of talented musicians that have contributed to Tejano and conjunto music."

Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information John Alaniz at 979-533-4009 or Lee Cruz at 979-533-6170. Email djlobo@xvolfpakradio.com

Location: 146 W Milam Street Wharton, TX 77488 The new Library Annex and Research Center for the **Wharton County 20th Century Technology Museum** is now open.

After flooding damage from Hurricane Harvey, the museum had been closed, but now visitors can visit, said founder Art Schulze.

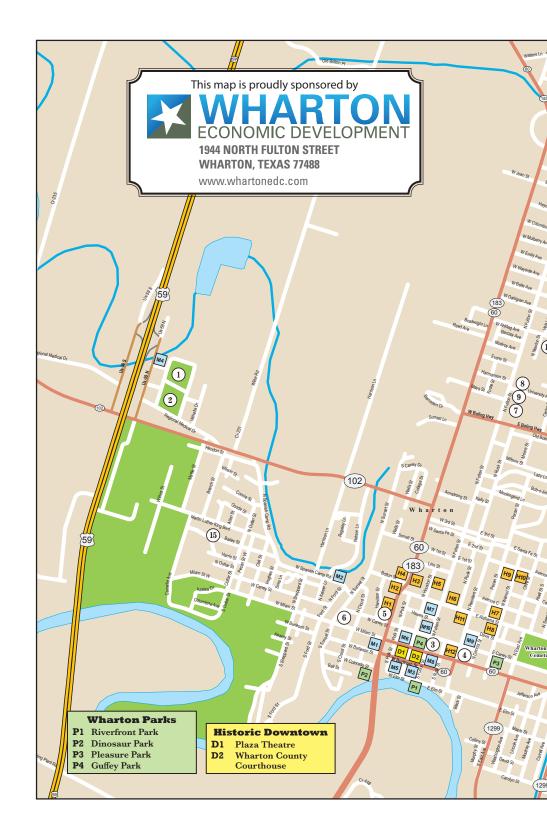
There are many items currently on display in the center; which has an address of 615 through 625 North Fulton Street in Wharton

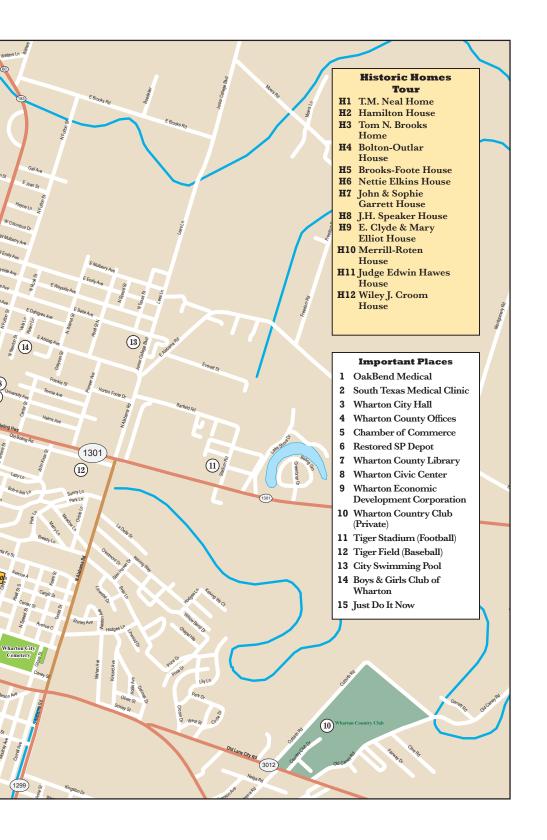
Items include books signed by pioneers in biomedical engineering center in the Houston area, papers enabling NASA's Man in Space program, NASA reports including biomedical results of Skylab, debriefing reports from Apollo astronauts and various engineering planning reports, historical collection of radios, comprehensive local barbed-wire collection, cameras and computers including rare Thomas Edison radios and a collection of selected organ technology including a pump, an electronic reed, a Baldwin Fun Machine and Hammond.

The public is welcome to come visit the center for free, though during this transitional phase an appointment must be made ahead of time, Schulze said.

To make an appointment, call 979-282-8810.







Parks and Recreation

The City of Wharton continues to make improvements at its park facilities to enhance the quality of life to residents and visitors.

The Beautification Commission moved forward on applying for the construction of two butterfly gardens to be installed in city parks. The grant if received would come from the Texas Keep America Beautiful Fund.

The Facilities Maintenance Department responsibilities include maintaining approximately 60 acres of City Parks and 65 pieces of park equipment.

Riverfront Park was dedicated on June 24, 1992 when Garland Novosad was the mayor. Nearly 24 years later, the sign has been upgraded and its deck has been renovated.

The parks continue to be used during festival cook-offs, reunions, organizational events, business and birthday parties, or just for fishing.

Wharton's parks and recreational facilities include:

- Wharton Municipal Pool, Junior College Boulevard and East Belle Avenue
 - Riverfront Park, Elm and Fulton
- Dinosaur Park, West Colorado and Bell Street
- Pleasure Park, North Walnut Street and East Mulberry Street
- Guffey Park, Houston and Caney Streets





The Rotary Fountain highlights the Santa Fe Trail which runs through Wharton

- Santa Fe Trail, North Fulton Street and East Santa Fe Street
- Croom Park, North Alabama Street and Shirley Avenue
- Harris Park, South Outlar Street and Harris Street
- Hollywood Bottom, County Road 444

For locations of the parks, see the map on Pages 24-25.

If you wish to reserve the pavilions or have a function at any of the parks, contact Wharton City Hall at 979-532-2491.

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This is Wharton Hello!

By CHAD ODOM Wharton EDC Executive Director



Whether you are relocatvisiting or ing to Wharton, the Wharton Economic Development Corporation's board of directors welcomes vou! We hope that you will relax and enjoy the small-town pace of life and our rich cultural heritage. WEDC is here to serve entre-

preneurs looking to start up small businesses, facilitating business relocation, or finding a home for your entrepreneurial dream—whatever it may be. We are here to bring resources to your dreams. Our staff also works closely with the city, Wharton County, and other stakeholders on maintaining and enhancing our quality of life through parks planning and funding.

Our economy is poised to see unprecedented growth in the coming years as our lands are protected from flooding by a 100 percent federally-funded Hazard Mitigation Program that is soon to commence; Wharton schools are to receive updates with varying types of renovation and construction through a robust bond proposal passed by 70 percent of our citizens; and our transportation infrastructure is enhanced by Interstate 69 expansion and connectivity planning to increase the safety of our walkable community.

These commitments and other private business expansion plans total to over \$250 million in investment stimulus that will occur locally during the next five years. The impact will add 600 to 1,000 jobs to our economy during this timeframe and add close to \$1 billion to our economy, truly making this "the time" to invest in our community or to make Wharton your business' new home!

Whether you are appreciating the ease of access to the Houston area with the ongoing interstate improvements or taking a stroll downtown along our riverfront or the Santa Fe Trail, we hope you enjoy our community

as a unique place to visit and explore! We're confident you'll enjoy your stay here and encourage you to consider your opportunities and reach out for assistance with your business needs.

WEDC's mission "To create a diverse economy and positive business climate that stimulates development" is only fulfilled by helping you make Wharton your new home, place of business or destination to unwind and enjoy away from the hustle and bustle of big city living.

As executive director, I welcome you to schedule a time to talk about your interest in starting, locating, or relocating a business here in Wharton, or your ideas about how to better our town. Our staff is here to serve you and to bring our vast array of resources to projects that will enhance Wharton's quality of life and make economic prospects become a reality.

Enhanced by an eager embrace of our cultural history, our quality of life is evident in the restoration and maintenance of our historic structures. This includes Wharton's historic Plaza Theater, hosting many live plays, concerts and special events yearround! Our hospitality is second to none ... to find out just stop into one of the many locally-owned businesses on the square and give them a "howdy!"

Welcome to wonderful Wharton, Texas! We hope our home will become your home!





By BETTY A. MCCROHAN Wharton County JC President



WCJC is a multicampus, comprehensive community college created in 1946 to serve the educational needs of Wharton County and adjacent counties in the Gulf Coast Region of Texas.

Whether your goal is to transfer to a university and pursue a bachelor's degree or to secure em-

ployment immediately upon completion of your studies at WCJC, we're here to help you achieve that goal.

In addition, the college offers a wide range of

customized training for business and industry, from entry-level job training to advanced programs for career enhancement. These programs are offered at our campuses, at one of several off-campus locations, or on-site at the client's place of business.

A wide variety of personal enrichment courses is also available, from aerobics to tax preparation, computer literacy to foreign languages, personal financial planning to marketing for small businesses.

WCJC also serves as a cultural center for the region, offering jazz, choir, and band concerts, three or four plays a year, art exhibits, and guest lectures that are open to the community.

Browse www.wcjc.edu. See how we look to you. Remember our objective is to provide the best possible education and related services. If you have any questions or comments, give us a call at one of the numbers on this website.

I hope to see you on campus!

WGJCHHigher Education in Wharton

Wharton County Junior College enters its 73rd year in 2019 following a major expansion.

WCJC opened the 34,000- square-foot Johnson Health Occupation Center to include an 18,000-square-foot addition. The renovated facility was completed in 2018. The cost of the project was more than \$6 million, not including equipment and furnishings.

WCJC was created April 6, 1946, and welcomed its first students the following fall. Around 200 students were part of that inaugural class, meeting in temporary Wharton County Fair buildings.

Over the years the college has grown dramatically, currently serving more than 7,400 students in an area that encompasses Wharton, Matagorda and Colorado counties as well as portions of Jackson, Austin and Fort Bend counties.

WCJC operates four campuses at Wharton, Sugar Land, Bay City and Richmond.

With a tax district encompassing Wharton County and the Needville Independent School District, Wharton County Junior College also has a service area that includes Wharton, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Colorado and parts of Jackson and Austin counties.

It has a central campus in Wharton and campuses in Sugar Land, Richmond and Bay City. In addition, the college offers classes at an extension center in El Campo.

College-wide, WCJC offers more than 40 programs including certificates, associate of applied science degrees, associate of arts degrees, dual credit programs and continuing education courses.

Many students live at home; however, students have the opportunity to live on the Wharton campus in dormitories and to participate in campus life.

The college participates in three competitive sports: volleyball for women, baseball for men and rodeo for men and women. The college has a choir, a band and a drama program. These sports and fine arts programs offer student scholarships.

Campus life includes intramural activities for men and women, a Presidential Scholars Program, student government and a variety of clubs and organizations.

Wharton County Junior College is a Texas public, two-year, comprehensive community college offering a wide range of postsecondary educational programs and services including associate degrees, certificates, continuing education courses, cultural affairs and leisure-time activities for the benefit of the community and a population of students that varies in age, background and ability.

WCJC operates campuses in Wharton, Sugar Land, Richmond and Bay City.

For more information, visit wejc.edu.

Wharton's Positive Outlook

By ANDRES GARZA Wharton City Manager



As the City of Wharton comes to the end of 2018, we look back at a busy and productive year. Many projects got under way after Hurricane Harvey devastated the city a year before.

Early in the year, the city was awarded a Class 9 rating from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). This was good news for the citizens of Wharton due to the rating allowing for lower cost flood insurance rates, just from the city taking extra efforts to engage in additional mitigation activities.

The City of Wharton partnered with GrantWorks, Inc. to create a 2018-2028 Comprehensive Plan for the community. Surveys and public meetings brought residents together to plan for a better future.

One of the many projects the city continued to work on was the reimbursement for restoration of Riverfront Park. The flooding events in 2015 and 2016 damaged the park near the pier and residents have not been able to enjoy it. We are continuing to work with FEMA to make it usable again.

Quite possibility the best news received was notice of the Flood Reduction Project being fully funded through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The city started a flood mitigation plan in May of 1999 and continued to work on the project over the past 19 years making it shovel ready. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott along with local leaders identified the Lower Colorado River Phase 1 (Wharton), TX project as one

of the high-priority projects which would make the city more resilient to future storms and flooding.

Several grants were applied for throughout the year. One being in conjunction with the Wharton Economic Development Corporation that submitted an application for grant funds to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation for improvements to Harris Park on behalf of the City of Wharton. If approved the grant would provide, a lighted walking trail, additional soccer field equipment and ADA and sensory playground equipment.

A grant was awarded through FEMA for an upgraded Siren Warning System. This system would allow residents to be notified throughout the entire city, when the need of a mass notification arises.

The City Council saw a need for housing and created a Housing Finance Corporation. The council appointed seven residents to represent each council district and the mayor at-large. This creates the opportunity to bring housing to the city.

Within a few short months, the corporation had already worked with the Wharton Long Term Recovery Team and the Wharton West End Initiative to begin the process of providing six new homes to Wharton residents with plans for additional homes.

With so many exciting and new changes coming to the City of Wharton, we look forward to a productive and busy new year!



Horton Foote

An Academy Award winner and Pulitzer Prize recipient, Horton Foote immortalized Wharton and loved the community until the day he died on March 7, 2009 at age 92. He is buried in Wharton City Cemetery.

Foote is the dramatist who won Oscars for "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Tender Mercies" and a Pulitzer Prize for his stage play "The Young Man From Atlanta."

Known to work best during the night, he wrote his plays with a pencil on notebook paper to be transcribed later. The playwright left a legacy and body of works which may never be duplicated.

Foote was raised in a middle class, hardworking family. He was born here on March 14, 1916, the son of Wharton haberdasher Albert Horton Foote and the former Hallie Brooks

His writing captures a unique era in the life of a small Texas town. His subject matter is those in that era trying to cope with everyday life and the twists and turns life brings.

Writers, it is said, are supposed to write about what they know. Foote drew upon everyday occurrences he heard as a child listening to his parents and grandparents talk.

When asked about his writing style, Foote is quoted to have said, "But I don't really write to honor the past. I write to investigate, to try to figure out what happened and why it happened, knowing I'll never really know. I think all the writers that I admire have this same desire, the desire to bring order out of chaos."

Foote left Wharton by train and headed for Dallas at age 16 to pursue an acting career, but he carried with him the memories of his home. Wharton, with its pecan trees, its Victorian homes and the character of its residents, would become part of his plays and films.

He spent two years studying acting at Pasadena Playhouse in California. Then he headed to New York City "to make a name for himself as a Broadway star." He continued his studies there with Tamara Daykarhanova and joined Mary Hunter's American Actors Company.

One of his assignments was to perform a one-act improvisational play based on the actor's hometown. After performing his, Agnes DeMille, a choreographer, asked if he had ever written anything.

His response was "no, what on earth would I write about?"

DeMille, who would become a lifelong friend, then gave him his best advice: "Write what you know about."



The budding playwright went home and wrote a one-act play called "Wharton Dance" that night. It was about the Friday-night dances in his hometown. He wrote himself into the lead. The company performed the play in an evening of one-acts. Foote appeared in other plays he wrote and pursued his acting career.

During a visit home, he wrote another play. This time it was a three-act play, a drama set in a small-town drugstore. It was called "Texas Town." The American Actors Company staged it in 1941. Foote again played the lead.

Brooks Atkinson, a critic for the New York Times, came to see it. He called it an "engrossing portrait of small-town life."

His "The Trip to Bountiful" starred his friend Lillian Gish in live theater. In 1985, the movie was made and Geraldine Page received an Academy Award for best actress and Foote was nominated for the screenplay.

Another film success was "Baby, the Rain Must Fall" (1965), a reworking of Foote's play "The Traveling Lady." The film starred Steve McQueen. and much of it was shot in and around Wharton.

Foote wrote more than 60 plays, most of which are set in the fictional Texas town called Harrison. It's a place where everybody knows everybody else's name and business — just as they did when Foote was growing up in Wharton. His career spanned six decades.

He wrote "The Young Man From Atlanta" in the 1950s. It won him the Pulitzer Prize in 1995.

His home in Wharton still stands at 505 N. Houston St. It is part of the driving home tour offered in Wharton.

Dan Rather

Dan Rather, the former news anchor for the CBS Evening News in the 1980s, is another native son of Wharton. Today, you can watch him on his show, The Big Interview with Dan Rather on the cable channel AXS TV. He has thought-provoking, in-depth interviews with some of the most talented artists from across the entertainment industry.

Daniel Irvin "Dan" Rather Jr. was born here on Oct. 31, 1931 to Daniel Irvin Rather Sr. and his wife, the former Byrl Veda Page. His father worked here in "the oil patch" when he was born. Dan spent the first six months of his life here and refers to Wharton as his hometown. The home where Rather spent the first days of his life has been saved and restored. It sits on the grounds of the Wharton County Historical Museum, 3615 N. Richmond Road, and is available for tours.

Rather began his career in 1950 as an Associated Press reporter in Huntsville. In 1959, he entered television as a reporter for KTRK-TV in Houston and was later promoted to director for KHOU-TV.

In September 1961, Rather reported live from the Galveston Seawall as Hurricane Carla threatened the Texas coastline. He was hired as a CBS News correspondent in 1962. He was the White House correspondent during the Richard Nixon presidency.

There is also an exhibit set at the museum which recounts events in his life.

In January, 2018 he began hosting an online newscast called The News with Dan Rather on The Young Turks You-Tube channel. Rather is active on social media and reacts to events through his Twitter, Instagram and Facebook accounts

For more about Dan Rather, visit danrather. com.



Dan Rather visits with Whartonians at the Wharton County Historical Museum.

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115 W. Burleson St. P.O. Box 111 Wharton, TX 77488



County, city, school Information

(all area codes 979 unless otherwise indicated)

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

All emergencies: Dial 9-1-1 Wharton County Sheriff's Dept.: 532-1550 Wharton Police Dept.: 532-3131 Wharton Fire Dept.: 532-4811, Ext. 400 Wharton EMS: 532-4811, Ext. 700 Department of Public Safety (Pierce): 532-1700

Other helpful numbers

The Crisis Center: 531-1300 Family and Protective Services: 532-5310 The Share Center: 282-2021 Salvation Army: 532-1550

Wharton Chamber of Commerce: 532-1862

WHARTON COUNTY

co.wharton.tx.us

Red Cross: 531-1128

Wharton County Annex 309 E. Milam St. Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-4612

Wharton County commissioners court

County Judge: Philip Spenrath, 532-4612 Commissioners

Precinct 1: Richard Zahn, 532-1991 Precinct 2: Chris King, 335-7541 Precinct 3: Steven Goetsch, 543-0091 Precinct 4: Doug Mathews, 543-3561

Other county officials

Sheriff: Shannon Srubar, 532-1550 District Attorney: Dawn Allison, 532-8051 County Attorney: Trey Maffett, 532-2591 County Clerk: Barbara Svatek, 532-2381 District Clerk: Kendra Charbula, 532-5542 County Treasurer: Donna Thornton, 532-2971 County Tax Assessor-Collector: Grace Utley, 532-3312

County Auditor: Barbara Starling, 532-2640 Elections administrator: Cindy Richter, 532-0193

Emergency management coordinator: Andy Kirkland, 532-1123

Veteran Services Officer: Mike Harbaugh, 532-1311

Constables

Precinct 1: Michael Hubenak, 532-3941 Precinct 2: John Szymanski, 335-6210 Precinct 3: Robert Holder, 648-2022 Precinct 4: Shawn Ferguson, 543-1147

· Justices of the Peace

Precinct 1: Jared Cullar, 532-3941 Precinct 2: Glenn Russell, 335-6210 Precinct 3: Donna Wessels, 648-2363 Precinct 4: Timmy Drapela, 543-4322 329th District Court Judge: Randy Clapp, 532-1514 23rd District Court Judge: Ben Hardin, 864-1205

CITY OF WHARTON

cityofwharton.com

City Hall 120 E. Caney St. Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-2491 Fax: 532-0181

City officials

City Manager: Andres Garza Jr. City Finance Director: Joan Andel City Secretary: Paula Favors Director of Facilities Maintenance: Bob Baker Public Works Director: Wade Wendt Police Chief: Terry David Lynch Fire Chief: Anthony Abbott EMS Director: John Kowalik

Other city departments

Wharton Economic Development Corp. Director: Chad Odom, 532-0999 Wharton Civic Center Director: Makyla Monroe, 532-4811, Ext. 600 Municipal Court: 532-4811, Ext. 532

Wharton City Council

Mayor: Tim Barker District 1: Al Bryant District 2: Steven Schneider District 3: Terry Freese

District 4: Donald Mueller (mayor pro tem) District 5 at-large: Russell Machann

District 6 at-large: Alice Heard

COMMUNITY

WHARTON COUNTY JR. COLLEGE wcjc.edu

Wharton campus

911 Boling Highway Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-4560

President: Betty McCrohan

Vice President of Administrative Services:

Bryce Kocian

Vice President of Technology and Institutional

Research: Pam Youngblood

VP of Student Services: David Leenhouts Dean of Financial and Business Services: Gus

Wessels Jr.

Vice President of Instruction: Leigh Ann Collins Dean of Vocational Instruction: Megan E. Costanza

WCJC Board of Trustees

Chair: Danny Gertson, Position 7 Vice-chair: Amy Rod, Position 4

Secretary: Monty Mericka, Position 6

Position 1: Scott Glass Position 2: Larry Sitka Position 3: Ann Hundl Position 5: Merle Hudgins Position 8: Oliver Kunkel Jr. Position 9: Jack Moses

WHARTON ISD

whartonisd.net

Education Support Center (Administration Building) 2100 N. Fulton St. Wharton, TX 77488

Phone: 532-3612

Superintendent: Tina Herrington Deputy Superintendent: Randy Meyer

Excutive director of curriculum and instruc-

tion: Gavle Parencia

Director of student services: Cindy Mahalitc Director of operations: Emilio Vargas III Technology director: Heath Roddy

Director of special education: David Calbert

Police chief: Landy Williams Athletic director: Chad Butler

Wharton High School

(Grades 9-12) No. 1 Tiger Ave. Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-6800 Principal: Olatunji Oduwole Associate principal: Efrem Pierce Assistant principal: Alan Black Assistant principal: Yemi Oduwole

• Wharton Junior High School

(Grades 7-8) 1120 N. Rusk St. Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-6840 Principal: Jerrell Barron Associate principal: Patricia Brown

Assistant principal: Kim Moses

Wharton Elementary School

(Grades 3-6) 2030 E. Boling Hwy. Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-6882 Principal: Jennifer Spears Assistant principal: Monica Rath Assistant principal: Michelle Kubecka Assistant principal: Edwin Taylor

Sivells Elementary School

(Grades PreK-2) 1605 Alabama Road Wharton, TX 77488 Phone: 532-6866 Principal: Dana Foyt Assistant principal: Monica Rath Assistant principal: Anita Garza

Wharton School Board

President: Christine Stransky (Place 3) Vice president: Curtis Evans (Place 7) Secretary: Cody Pohler (Place 2) Place 1: Steven Roberts

Place 4: Rachel Rust Place 6: Chris Sparks Place 5: Sherrell Speer

FAITH CHRISTIAN ACADEMY wharton-fca.org

(infants to Grade 12)

Faith Christian Academy of Wharton

5227 FM 1301 Wharton, TX 77488

Phone: 531-1000

Email: fcawharton@gmail.org Administrator: Sandra Allen

Assistant Administrator: Diana Gajewsky

Utility Information

If you're a newcomer here, welcome to Wharton!

If you're moving into a new home, you will need to get your utilities set up. Read the information below.

New water and sewer customers within the Wharton city limits must provide a copy of a lease agreement or proof of ownership for the property, a valid U.S. identification and a deposit in the amount of \$100.

Senior citizens are eligible for a reduced deposit. This service also includes garbage pickup.

For more information, call 979-532-2491.

For residential customers outside of the Wharton city limits, contact a water well drilling provider. Centerpoint Energy is the area's natural gas provider.

Applications can be filled out online at centerpointenergy.com or by calling 713-659-2111.

Texas electricity customers can visit Power to Choose, the official and unbiased electric choice website of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Compare offers and choose the electric plan at powertochoose. org.

Chamber members can find highly-competitve rates through the chamber's Excite Energy Power Alliance. See more information about the alliance at whartonchamber. com.

We Mean Business

- Networking
- Referrals
- Continuing Education
- Governmental Affairs
- Traveler Services
- Convention Services
- Business Promotion
- Tourism Marketing



225 N. Richmond Road Wharton, Texas 77488

Tel. 979-532-1862 Fax 979-532-0102

whartonchamber.com



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Accountants-Certified Public

Dobbins & Sheek, CPAs, LLC 300 W. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 532-4852

Stephenson-LeGrand, PLLC. 1609 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5964

Accounting & Tax Service

Dobbins & Sheek, CPAs, LLC 300 W. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 532-4852

Stephenson-LeGrand, PLLC. 1609 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5964

T2 Bookkeeping and Tax Service 209 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 531-3118

Agriculture

Bagley Pecan House 902 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton, (979) 532-4020

Caney Valley Cotton Company 2203 N Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5210

> Coastal Warehouse 602 N. Sunset, Wharton (979) 532-8550

> Hawes Company 614 E. Milam, Wharton (979)532-1321

Maxim Production Company, Inc. 580 Maxim Dr., Boling (979) 657-2891

Moses Gin Inc. 209 N. Cloud, Wharton (979) 532-3522

Northington Ranch Corp. P.O. Box 222, Egypt (832) 338-5855 $\begin{array}{c} Wharton Feed \& Supply \\ 1105 N. Fulton St., Wharton \\ (979) \ 532\text{-}8533 \end{array}$

Wharton Tractor Company 1007 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-3172

Aircraft Charter-Rental & Leasing

Silver Star Helicopters LLC 1201 Chapel Ln. El Campo (979) 541-9823

Alterations

Denise's Alterations & Things 223 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-0816

Animal Rescue

Friends of Wharton TX Animal Control 1390 CR 467, Wharton (979) 533-2081

Antiques

Bohemian Rhapsody II 134 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-5577

Burr Trading Company 411 CR 123, Wharton (979) 453-0860

Collector's Alley 210 N. Houston St., Wharton (281) 844-3188

Country Duck ReSale Shop 209 E. Milam St., Wharton (832) 628-2310

Glen Flora Emporium 103 S. Bridge Ave., Glen Flora (979) 677-3249

J.T.'s This & That 232 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-0977

Miss Hattie's Place 133 S. Fulton St., Wharton (713) 254-3334 Montgomery Gallery & Frame 110 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-3929

Apartments

Morning Star Apartments 1520 Barfield Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4007

River Bend Apartments 2500 Junior College Blvd., Wharton (979) 532-5453

Sweetwater Apartments/SETH 200 McElroy Avenue #8, Wharton (979) 532-2001

Architects & Architectural Illustrators/Planners

Stern and Bucek Architects 1610 Commerce St., Houston (713) 527-0186

Art Galleries/Graphic Arts

Burr Trading Company 411 CR 123, Wharton (979) 453-0860

Montgomery Gallery & Frame 110 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-3929

Assisted Living

Elmcroft 1930 Briar Ln., Wharton (979) 532-5800

Attorneys

Howard H. Singleton, P.C. 109 E. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-9800

John Roades, Attorney at Law 1201 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5320

Law Office of James Perez 105 W Burleson St., Wharton (979) 532-5500

Paul Webb, Attorney at Law 221 N Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-5331

Wadler, Perches, Hundl & Kerlick, Attys at Law 101 West Burleson St., Wharton (979) 532-3871

Automobile Dealers

Don Davis Motor Company, Inc. 2011 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-3291

Don Elliott Autoworld 1225 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2150

Von-Wil Ford 316 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4360

Automobile Parts

Richmond Road Truck & Auto Parts Company (NAPA) 1739 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4510

Star Parts 1119 E. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-1500

Von-Wil Ford 316 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4360

Automobile Repairs & Service

Big G Auto 2313 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2080

> Caney Auto Service 607 FM 102, Wharton (979) 532-4160

Don Davis Motor Company, Inc. 2011 N Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-3291

Don Elliott Autoworld 1225 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2150

> Macek's Garage LLC 4920 FM 3012, Wharton (979) 532-5139

Pekar's Body Shop 2720 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5805 Von-Wil Ford 316 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4360

Bakeries

H.E.B. Grocery Company 1616 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 282-2773

Banks & Banking Associations

Prosperity Bank - Wharton 143 W. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 282-2000

Texasgulf Federal Credit Union 2101 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 282-2300

The First State Bank 505 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-0404

Barber Shop

Clean Cuts 620 Richmond Rd., Wharton (832) 603-7121

Baseball Training Equipiment

Muhl Tech Gatekey Mfg. 503 Ogden St., Wharton (979) 532-8155

Beauty Salons

Alicia's Beauty Salon 1501 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 531-0678

The Cut Studio 217N. Richmond Rd, Wharton (979) 877-1721

Book Dealers, Stores & Depositories

Milam Street Coffee Java & Junque 200 West Milam St., Wharton (979) 282-9771

Boutiques & Specialty Shops

Alyssa's Kisses 117 S. Fulton St., Ste. 100, Wharton (979) 531-3188

> Burr Trading Company 411 CR 123, Wharton (979) 453-0860

Denise's Alterations & Things 223 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-0816

K&D Design 206 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-3250

Milam Emporium 238 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 559-1200

TNT Western Wear Inc. 3030 N Richmond Rd.Wharton (979) 531-8623

Bowling

El Campo Bowling Center 806 W. Loop, El Campo (979) 543-9999

Brewery Taproom

Bigleo Brewing Company 200 Polk St., Wharton (832) 857-9613

Business Services

Komprende 247 W. Milam St., Wharton komprendecoworking.com

Cafeteria

Great Western Dining 911 Boling Hwy., Wharton (903) 327-5189

Car Wash

City-Wide Storage 808 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-3823

Carpet & Rug Dealers/ Cleaning

Duraclean 17108 CR 278, East Bernard (979) 335-4375

Caterers

Great Western Dining 911 Boling Hwy., Wharton (903) 327-5189

Hinze's Bar-B-Que 1917 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2710

> Mrs. T's Kitchen 608 CR 243, Wharton (979) 532-5798

Reyna's Cafe 7902 US 59, Hungerford (979) 531-0880

S&P Barbecue 1316 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 422-4874

> Vincek's Smokehouse 139 S. Dill, East Bernard (979) 335-7921

Child Development & Day Care

Small Blessings Child Care Center 1717 Pioneer Ave., Wharton (979) 488-2818

Churches

Caney Creek Church 128 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-2533

First Baptist Church 507 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-4295

First Presbyterian Church 1602 John Knox St., Wharton (979) 532-3375

First United Methodist Church 1717 Pioneer Ave., Wharton (979) 532-1100

Grace Community Fellowship 1900 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-3999

Holy Family Catholic Church 2011 Briar Ln., Wharton (979) 532-3593

St. John's Lutheran Church 614 Pecan St., Wharton (979) 532-2336

St. Johns Catholic Church 101 Church St., Hungerford (979) 532-4747

St. Paul Lutheran Church 325 N. East Ave., Wharton (979) 532-2315

St. Thomas Episcopal Church 207 Bob-O-Link Dr., Wharton (979) 532-1723

Cleaners

Lone Star Cleaners 1309 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-8500

Cleaning Services

A&J Enterprises 124 W. First St., Wharton (979) 204-8240

Clinics & Medical Groups

AccessHealth 1720 B F Terry Blvd. Suite A, Rosenberg (281) 238-2303

Capital Advanced Wound Care 416 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 488-9438

Gulf Coast Family Medicine 10119 US 59 Hwy, Wharton (979) 532-1159

Memorial Hermann Medical Group 2100 Regional Medical Dr., Wharton (979) 532-1700

Nephrology Leaders and Assoc., PLLC 205 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 531-1822

Regent Adult and Pediatric Clinic 1403 Valhalla, Wharton (979) 532-2000

The Family Clinic 307 W. Milam St. Suite 311, Wharton (979) 557-2777

Clubs

Pilot Club of Wharton P.O. Box 963, Wharton

Rotary Club of Wharton P.O. Box 303, Wharton

Wharton Lions Club P.O. Box 106, Wharton

Clubs-Country & Tennis

Wharton Country Club 126 Country Club Dr., Wharton (979) 532-5940

Coffee Shops

Milam Street Coffee Java & Junque 200 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 282-9771

Collection Agencies

McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen PC P.O. Box 469, Wharton (979) 282-8089

Communications and Telecommunication Consultants

Computer Center & Radio Shack 119 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-1949

Tec-Tronic Systems 423 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-0011

Computer Services

Computer Center & Radio Shack 119 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-1949

Johnathan W. Davis Computer Repair & I.T. Services 1507 Avenue C., El Campo (979) 332-0664

Computers-Computer Products

Computer Center & Radio Shack 119 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-1949

Concrete

Alamo Concrete 7169 US 59 Rd., Wharton (979) 532-1962

Total Outdoor Solutions, LLC 1825 Foote St., Wharton (979) 559-6027

Consultants

Kapeesh 414 Blanche St., Wharton (713) 570-6603

Contractors-Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical

Eldridge Air Conditioning & Heating 1929 FM 1301, Wharton (979) 532-8150

Faust Air Conditioning & Heating 212 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2511

Rath Plumbing 216 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0223



Roberson Air Conditioning & Refrig., Inc. 200 E Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-5101

Convenience Stores

Circle K / Corner Store 405 East Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-1144

Cracker Barrel Partnership, LTD PO Box 18289, Sugarland (361) 655-5900

Love's Travel Stops US 59@FM 1161/Walnut St., Hungerford (405) 463-8069

Copiers

Bay City Office Technologies 1839 Seventh St., Bay City (832) 802-1093

Copies/Printing

Chritan Copies & Printing 2733 HWY 59 South, Rosenberg (979)618-6442

Counseling

Bay Area Council on Drugs & Alcohol 2911 South Shore Blvd. STE 150, League City, TX 77573 (800) 510-3111

Crisis Center Wharton 116 E. Burleson, Wharton 3010 6th St., Bay City (979) 245-9109

Great Oaks Recovery Center 10241 W. FM 1161, Wharton (979) 677-1000

StraightWay, Inc. FM 1161 W., Hungerford (979) 532-5613

TEXANA Center 4910 Airport Ave. Bldg B, Rosenberg (281) 239-1300

Therapy Solutions 4U, PLLC 1114 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 282-8100

Victory in Jesus Recovery Center 218 N. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-2319

Dancing

Taps & Mats Dance Studio 1109 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-0602

Dentists/Dental Labs/ Dental Care

Boehm Dental, PLLC 808 North Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-4400

David Tripulas, DDS 1016 Sunny Ln., Wharton (979) 532-4663

Travis Scott Pinkston, D.D.S. 1506-E N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-8110

> J.R. Kieler, Jr., DDS 1016 Sunny Ln., Wharton (979) 532-3636

Disc Jockey

Angel Wings Wharton 119 S. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 531-9202

Double Down DJ's 1314 Crestmont St., Wharton (979) 559-0552

JP Express Mobile DJ Service 126 CR 231, Wharton (979) 533-1852

Drug Store/Pharmacy

Savon Drugs 123 Leveridge Rd., East Bernard (979) 335-4810

Electrical Equipment & Supplies

Barbee Services 401 E. Caney St., Wharton (979) 532-4570

Tec-Tronic Systems 423 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-0011

Electricians

Barbee Services 401 E. Caney St., Wharton (979) 532-4570

H&M Electrical Services 220 Maude St., Wharton (979) 532-1204

Emergency Medical Services

OakBend Medical Center Jackson Street Hospital Campus 1705 Jackson St., Richmond (281) 341-3000 OakBend Medical Center 10141 US Hwy 59, Wharton (281) 344-6960

St. Christina's EMS 222 W. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 559-2961

Employment Agencies

Workforce Solutions 1506 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 531-0730 X2809

Energy

Seventus, LLC 8750 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Ste. 300E Chicago, IL 60631 (617) 217-1451

Energy Aggregator & Broker

Excite Energy LLC 500 E. 4th Street PMB623 Austin, TX 78701 (888) 336-8128

Engineers-Civil, Environmental, Mechanical & Consulting

Eldridge Engineering Services, LLC 4570 CR 121, Wharton (979) 559-0592

Jones & Carter, Inc. 6335 Gulfton Ste. 100, Houston (713) 777-5337

> Terracon 11555 Clay Rd., Houston (713) 690-8989

Entertainment

Angel Wings Wharton 119 S. Fulton, Wharton (979) 531-9202

Estate Services

Bohemian Rhapsody II 134 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-5577

Event Facilities

Jefferson at Peach Creek 2222 CR 129, Wharton 281-499-4855

Wharton Civic Center 1924 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-4811 x600

The Pierce Ranch House 1232 Ranch House Rd., Pierce (979) 559-0204

Events

James Simmons Jr. Juneteenth Committee 1709 Forrest Dr., Wharton (979) 282-1070

Wharton County Freedom Fest, Inc. 1225 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0927

Farms & Ranches, Commercial & Residential

Central Turf 1238 CR 107, Wharton (979) 657-1122

Foggy Hollow Ranch 5911 CR 225, East Bernard (281) 381-4311

Hawes Company 614 E. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-1321

Fences

Total Outdoor Solutions, LLC 1825 Foote St., Wharton (979) 559-6027

Festivals

James Simmons Jr. Juneteenth Committee 1709 Forrest Dr., Wharton (979) 282-1070

Wharton County Freedom Fest, Inc. 1225 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0927

Wharton County Youth Fair 6036 FM 961 Rd., Wharton (979) 677-3350

Financial & Financial Advisors

Edward Jones Investments 128 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-1282 Hollub Financial Services 727 N. Alabama RD. Suite A Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 488-9453

Fire Departments

Hungerford Vol. Fire Dept. P.O. Box 416, Hungerford (979) 532-0539

Wharton Volunteer Fire Dept. 319 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-4811 x401

Flooring

On The Square Floor Coverings 114 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-1040

Florist

Flower Shoppe 420 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-8620

> Flowers It Is 2521 CR 132, Wharton (979) 533-3449

Milam Emporium 238 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 531-3103

Food Trailer/Vendor

S&P Barbecue 1316 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton8 (979) 422-4874

Foster Care & Adoption

Houston Serenity Place Child Placement & Adoption Agy. 303 Chimney Rock Rd. Ste 400 Houston, TX 77056 (832) 834-6152

Foundations

Mary Louise Dobson Foundation 622 Lakeshore Dr., Wharton (979) 282-7000

Framing

Montgomery Gallery & Frame 110 S. Houston St. , Wharton (979) 532-3929

Funeral Homes & Memorial Parks

Gooden Hatton Funeral Home 110 N. East Ave., Wharton (979) 532-3602

Wharton Funeral Home 515 E. Boling Highway, Wharton (979) 532-3410

Furniture

Mattress Discounters of Texas 228 W. Milam St., Wharton (210) 326-3177

Glass

Roberson Air Conditioning & Refrig., Inc. 200 E Milam St, Wharton (979) 532-5101

Grocery

H.E.B. Grocery Company 1616 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 282-2773

Hall Rental

Egypt Plantation Enterprises, LLC P.O. Box 219, Egypt (979) 533-0096

Hungerford Community Center 235 Cypress, Hungerford (979) 453-0060

Simply Divine Event Center 314 W. Milam St., Wharton (832) 279-5850

The Orchard at Caney Creek 923 County Road 235, Wharton (979) 532-5856

Wharton Knights of Columbus 2820 N. Fulton, Wharton (979) 532-2218

Hang Gliding Flight School/ Center

Cowboy Up Hang Gliding, LLC Wharton Regional Airport 714 Robert Vonderau Dr., Hangar 32 Wharton, TX 77488 (832) 740-2004



Hardware

Star Parts 1119 E. Milam, Wharton (979)532-1500

Zarsky Lumber Company, Inc. 1106 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2574

Health Centers/ Equipment

Angels Care Home Health 315 N. Alabama Road Ste. A Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 282-2629

Beltone Hearing Care Center 241. W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-8300

MEHOP 101 Ave. F, Bay City, TX 1 HWY 59 Suite A, Wharton

10141 HWY 59 Suite A, Wharton (979) 559-3550

TEXANA Center 4910 Airport Ave. Bldg. B, Rosenberg (281) 239-1300

Wharton Nursing & Rehabilitation 1220 Sunny Lane, Wharton (979) 532-5020

Health Maintenance Organizations

Sam's Place 1130 Westgate Drive, Wharton (979) 531-3023

Heating & Air Conditioning Distributors, Eqpt & Repairs

Eldridge Air Conditioning & Heating 1929 FM 1301, Wharton (979) 532-8150

Faust Air Conditioning & Heating 212 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2511

Roberson Air Conditioning & Refrig., Inc. 200 E Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-5101

Home Health

Angels Care Home Health 315 N. Alabama Road Ste. A Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 282-2629

Caring Senior Service of Wharton County

122 W. Way St. Suite 300 Lake Jackson, TX 77566 (979) 488-2662

Hospice Services/ Healthcare

Altus Hospice 11352 Sugar Park Lane, Sugar Land (832) 526-7665

Hospitals

El Campo Memorial Hospital 303 Sandy Corner Road, El Campo (979) 543-6251

Memorial Hermann Sugar Land 17500 W. Grand Parkway South Sugar Land, TX 77479 (281) 725-5296

OakBend Medical Center Jackson Street Hospital Campus 1705 Jackson St., Richmond (281) 341-3000

OakBend Medical Center Wharton, TX 77488 10141 US Hwy 59, Wharton (281) 344-6960

Hotels/Motels

Countryside Inn 1808 FM 102, Wharton (979) 282-8300

Holiday Inn Express & Suites 10248 HWY 59, Wharton (979) 282-8300

Travelers Inn & Suites 1527 N. Richmond, Wharton (979) 532-0740

Humane Society

Wharton County S.P.O.T. P.O. Box 584, Wharton (979) 253-3446

Insurance

Barcenas Insurance Agency 209 E. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 531-3221

Bremser Insurance Agency 211 W. Milam St. , Wharton (979) 532-1586

Cody Sweat - State Farm Insurance 415 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-4572 Hank Hall State Farm 727 N. Alabama Rd. , Wharton (979) 532-5151

InsuranceNet, Inc. 101 W. Caney St. , Wharton (979) 532-1011

Irby R. Kerlick's Insurance 1317 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 282-2002

S. Cochrane Insurance Agency -Farmers Insurance 140 W. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-3885

Schulz Insurance Agency 1327 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0021

Siska Life & Health Insurance 4519 CR 155, Wharton (979) 282-1350

Wharton County Farm Bureau 120 N. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-2852

Interior Decorators & Designers

Jamie Feyen Designs, LLC 3533 FM 1299 Rd., Wharton (979) 533-8920

Investment Counselors

Edward Jones Investments 128 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 532-1282

Hollub Financial Services 727 N. Alabama Rd. Suite A, Wharton (979) 488-9453

> K-Mana, Inc. P.O. Box 588, Wharton (979) 282-7000

Jewelers

Tyler's Jewelry & Pawn 2310 N. Richmond Rd., Wharto (979) 532-0971

Landscape Architects-Contractors & Designers

El Campo Spraying Inc. 2601 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-7811

Total Outdoor Solutions, LLC 1825 Foote St., Wharton (979) 559-6027

Lawn & Garden Services

El Campo Spraying Inc. 2601 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 543-7811

Liquor Stores

Louie's Package Store 2005 Hwy. 60 South, Wharton (979) 532-2378

Lodging

Countryside Inn 1808 FM 102, Wharton (979) 532-1152

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites 10247 Hwy. 59, Wharton (979) 282-8300

> Motel 6 9985 US 59 Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0301

The Pierce Ranch House 1232 Ranch House Road, Pierce (979) 559-0204

Lumber

Zarsky Lumber Company, Inc. 1106 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2574

Machine Shops

Koenig Welding Service, Inc. 2305 N. Richmond Rd. , Wharton (979) 532-4161

Mailing Services

Pamela Printing Company 505 Julie Rivers Drive Suite 310 Surgar Land, TX 77478 (281) 240-1313

Manufacturing/Manufacturers Representatives

Dorian Tool International, Inc. 615 CR 219, East Bernard (979) 282-2861

> Drawworks, L.P. 10555 FM 1301, Boling (979) 657-1216

J-M Manufacturing 10807 US 59 Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5640

Lamberti USA, Inc. PO Box 1000, Hungerford (281) 342-5675

Prime Eco Group, Inc. 2933 S. State Hwy. 60, Wharton (979) 531-1100

Marketing Research & Marketing Companies

Kapeesh Marketing, LLC 414 Blanche St., Wharton (713) 570-6603

Massage Therapy

Healthy Touch Knead to Relax 110 S. Resident St., Wharton (979) 282-8881

Meat Markets

H.E.B. Grocery Company 1616 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 282-2773

Jr.'s Texas Best Smokehouse 164 CR 467, Wharton (979) 531-0888

Vincek's Smokehouse 139 S. Dill, East Bernard (979) 335-7921

Mortgage Services

Hancock Mortgage Partners 1605 7th St., Bay City (979) 824-6761

New American Funding 1650 HWY 6 Suite 325 Sugar Land, TX 77478 (979) 533-4188

Motorcycle Dealers

El Campo Cycle Center 28268 US Highway 59, El Campo (979) 543-8442

Museums

20th Century Technology Museum 3615 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 282-8810

Egypt Plantation Enterprises, LLC 1914 FM 102, Egypt (979) 533-0096 Wharton County Historical Museum 3615 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2600

Musical

Double Down DJ's 1314 Crestmont St., Wharton (979) 559-0552

Newspapers

Wharton Journal-Spectator 115 W. Burleson St. , Wharton (979) 532-8840

Nursing Homes

Avalon Place 1405 Valhalla Dr. , Wharton (979) 532-1244

Elmcroft 1930 Briar Ln. , Wharton (979) 532-5800

Wharton Nursing & Rehabilitation 1220 Sunny Ln., Wharton (979) 532-5020

Oil Distributors

South Texas Oil & Distributing 409 W. Loop St., El Campo (979) 543-1791

Optical Shop

Lifestyle Vision 10119 US Hwy. 59 South, Wharto (979) 488-2781

Optical, Optometrists, Opticians & Optical Labs

Berkeley Eye Center-Wharton 1120 N. Fulton St. , Wharton (979) 532-0805

Exceptional Eye Care 202 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-4500

Wharton Eye Associates P.A. 10119 US Hwy 59 South #4 Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 533-7337

Organizations

100 Club of Wharton County P.O. Box 46, El Campo (979) 543-1040

American Cancer Society 4401 Lilac Ln., Victoria, TX 77901 (361) 578-2840

Boys & Girls Club of Wharton 2120 N. Newton, Wharton (979) 282-9660

Bright Minds Scholarship Fund 1609 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-5964

Caney Creek Cons. Foundation 1416 Barfield Rd., Wharton (979) 533-2447

East Wharton County Crime Stoppers P.O. Box 145, Wharton (979) 533-3262

Fraternal Order of Eagles #4507 P.O. Box 386, Wharton (979) 533-2835

Habitat for Humanity East Wharton County P.O. Box 451, Wharton (979) 532-4850

Hospice Support, Inc. 1102 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 578-0314

Hungerford Community Center 235 Cypress, Hungerford (979) 453-0060

James Simmons Jr. Juneteenth Committee 1709 Forrest Dr., Wharton (979) 282-1070

Just Do It Now, Inc. 1619 Martin Luther King Blvd. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 531-1975

> MLK Scholarship Fund P.O. Box 84, Glen Flora (979) 532-0659

Pilot Club of Wharton P.O. Box 963, Wharton

Rotary Club of Wharton P.O. Box 303, Wharton (979) 532-2636

StraightWay, Inc. FM 1161 W., Hungerford (979) 532-5613

Team Wharton, Inc. P.O. Box 588, Wharton (979) 282-7000 United Way 2417 Avenue G, Bay City (979) 245-5852

Wharton Babe Ruth Baseball, Inc. Old Boling Hwy. (Tiger Park) Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 533-0148

Wharton County A&M Club 601 E. Jackson St., El Campo (979) 543-5388

Wharton County Freedom Fest, Inc. 1225 N. Alabama Rd. , Wharton (979) 532-0927

Wharton County Interfaith Coalition Inc. dba SHARE 229 W. Milam St. P.O. Box 101, Wharton (979) 282-2021

> Wharton County Youth Fair 6036 FM 961 Rd, Wharton (979) 677-3350

Wharton Garden Club P.O. Box 397, Boling

Wharton Knights of Columbus 2820 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-2218

> Wharton Lions Club P.O. Box 106, Wharton (979) 532-4532

Wharton Little League P.O. Box 1106, Wharton (979) 533-1323

Wharton Training High School & Ex-Students Association PO Box 1131, Wharton (979) 532-0916

Pawn Shops

Tyler's Jewelry & Pawn 2310 N. Richmond Road, Wharton (979) 532-0971

Pecans

Bagley Pecan House 902 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4020

Pest Control Services

Bricker Pest Control 875 Nichols Ave., Bay City, (979) 244-5811 BUGABUG 1117 Tobola, Rosenberg (281) 344-8266

Photographers

Sharon Joines Photographs 822 Caney Trail Dr., Wharton (979) 532-2636

> KGibson Photography 7497 FM 1301, Wharton (979) 533-1409

Physicians & Surgeons

Memorial Hermann Medical Group 2100 Regional Medical Dr. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 532-1700

Plastic Molding

Nan Ya Plastics Corporation.USA 2081 FM 102 Rd., Wharton (281) 727-7300

Plumbing

Rath Plumbing 216 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0223

Portable Toilets

ALLStar 4828 South State Highway 71 El Campo, TX 77437 (979) 543-1500

Printers, Publishers, Typesetters & Graphics

J & M Printing 813 E. Alabama St., Wharton (979) 532-5240

Town Square Publications, LLC 155 E. Algonquin Rd. Arlington Heights, IL 60005 (847) 427-4905

Real Estate

C.E. Muegge Real Estate 213 N. Richmond Rd., Wharto (979) 532-5252

The Ron Brown Company 2618 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-1013

Hudgins Groover Real Estate 2103 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-0007

R.C. Harrison, Jr., Realtors 108 Santa Fe Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 532-8000

Wied Realty 1506 N. Alabama Suite B, Wharton (979) 532-0334

Real Estate Appraisers

Gary Ward Appraisal Services 1120 Linwood, Wharton (979) 531-8190

Hudgins-Groover Real Estate 13403 TX-36,, Needville, TX 77461 (979) 793-4100

> R.C. Harrison, Jr., Realtors 108 Santa Fe, Wharton (979) 532-8000

TWGlass Appraisal 102 S. Houston St. , Wharton (979) 488-2886

Real Estate Developers & Investors

LL & C Properties, Inc. 2211 Norfolk Ste. 1030 Houston, TX 77098 (713) 851-7777

Wharton Industrial Foundation 1610 North Alabama, Wharton (979) 532-2631

Real Estate-Commercial & Residential

Century 21 Olympian-Wharton 702 N. Richmond Td. Suite G Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 332-0753

RE/MAX Professionals 1707 West Loop, El Campo (979) 543-7006

Recreation

El Campo Bowling Center 806 W. Loop, El Campo (979) 543-9999

Plaza Theatre 120 S. Houston St., Wharton (979) 282-2226

Showplace 3 Cinema, Inc. 820 W. Loop, El Campo (979) 543-8182

Restaurant Mobile

S&P Barbecue 1316 N. Alabama Rd., Wharton (979) 422-4874

Restaurants

9ers Grill 112 W Boling Hwy, Wharton8 (979) 532-2025

Denny's #8588 10367 Hwy. 59, Wharton (979) 532-3200

Grand Buffet 125 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 531-1998

Hinze's Country Kitchen 1512 E. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-1799

Hinze's Bar-B-Que 1917 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2710

Jr.'s Texas Best Smokehouse 164 CR 467, Wharton (979) 531-0888

Los Cucos Mexican Restaurant 211 W. Elm St., Wharton (979) 531-1961

McDonald's 1404 Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-8884

Pizza Hut 2302 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-1692

Prasek's Hillje Smokehouse, Inc. 29714 US 59 Hwy., El Campo (979) 543-8312

> Reyna's Cafe 7902 US 59, Hungerford (979) 531-0880

Sonic Drive In-Wharton 217 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-1611

> Vincek's Smokehouse 139 S. Dill, East Bernard (979) 335-7921

Whataburger 10319 US 59, Wharton (979) 532-1208

Roofing

Priority Roofing and Construction 2030 Ranchero Dr., East Bernard (979) 559-7281

Weather Guard Roofing 708 E. Milam St., Wharton (979) 532-0928

RV Parks

Coyote RV Resort 272 Greendale Rd., Wharton (979) 533-5959

RV Village-Wharton LLC 2601 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (713) 690-0791

Schools, Colleges & Education

Faith Christian Academy of Wharton 5227 FM 1301, Wharton (979) 531-1000

Taps & Mats Dance Studio 1109 N. Fulton St. , Wharton (979) 532-0602

Wharton County Junior College 911 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-4560

Wharton I.S.D. 2100 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-6201

Septic System Pumping

ALLStar 4828 South State Hwy. 71 El Campo, TX 77437 (979) 543-1500

Signs

Custom Creations 202 N. Houston St. , Wharton (979) 531-0000

Social Service Agencies

1-Absolute Care HCS 1330 North Richmond Rd. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 677-3511

Crisis Center Wharton 116 E. Burleson 3010 6th St., Bay City (979) 245-9109

Hospice Support, Inc. 1102 N. Mechanic St., El Campo (979) 578-0314

Just Do It Now, Inc. 1619 Martin Luther King Blvd. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 531-1975

TEXANA Center 4910 Airport Ave. Bldg. B Rosenberg, TX 77471-5759 (281) 239-1300

Stocks & Bonds Brokers

Edward Jones Investments 128 S. Houston St. , Wharton (979) 532-1282

> K-Mana, Inc. PO Box 588, Wharton (979) 282-7000

Storage Facilities - Rentals

City Wide Storage 808 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 532-3823

General Sales Company 808 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton8 (979) 532-3823

MFS Storage, Inc. East Bernard 9031 Hwy. 60 & Hwy. 90 108 Old Wharton Rd., Wharton (979) 532-2451

My Storehouse Mini Storage P.O. Box 827 1827 Stadium Rd., Wharton (979) 532-4422

Reitz Storage 1305 Kelving Way, Wharton8 (979) 488-9458

Substance Abuse Treatment Facility

Bay Area Council on Drugs & Alcohol 2911 South Shore Blvd., STE 150 League City, TX 77573 (800) 510-3111

Great Oaks Recovery Center 10241 W. FM 1161, Wharton (979) 677-1000

Surveyors

K M Surveying, LLC 3902 Reese Rd. Suite C100 Rosenberg, TX 77471 (713) 806-1814 Robert Kolacny & Assoc. LLC 140 S. Houston St. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 532-8056

Television-Cable

Cable One 1302 Wisteria Way, Wharton (979) 532-3920

Theaters

Plaza Theatre 120 S. Houston, Wharton (979) 282-2226

Showplace 3 Cinema, Inc. 820 W. Loop, El Campo (979) 543-8182

Tire Dealers

Gensco Kross Wholesale Tire Co., Inc. 102 CR 140 at Hwy. 60, Wharton (979) 532-4800

Title Companies

Mid-Coast Title Company 111 N. Fulton St., Wharton (979) 532-1512

Transportation

Sacred Care Transportation 222 W. Burleson St., Wharton (979) 559-2961

Trophies & Plaques

Custom Creations 202 N. Houston St., Wharton (979) 531-0000

Turfgrass / Farming

Central Turf 1238 CR 107, Wharton (979) 657-1122

Utilities

CenterPoint Energy Houston 4011 Ave. H Rosenberg, TX 77471 (281) 561-3202

Exelon Colorado Bend Power Plant 3863 South State Hwy. 60 Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 358-3027 Wharton County Electric Cooperative 1815 East Jackson St., El Campo (979) 543-6271

Wharton County Generation New Gulf Power Plant 206 Vat Rd., Boling, TX 77420 (979) 657-0343 x 102

Veterinarians

Alamont Veterinary Clinic 1907 E. Boling Hwy., Wharton (979) 532-5569

Wharton Veterinary Clinic 1518 Hwy. 60 South, Wharton (979) 532-1431

Western Wear

TNT Western Wear Inc. 3030 N. Richmond Rd., Wharton (979) 531-8623

Wheelchair Manufacturer & Repairs

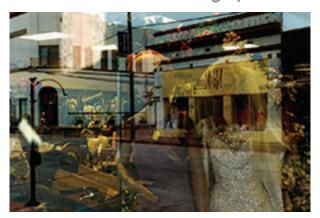
Box Wheelchairs 918 Pecan Valley Dr., Wharton (951) 283-2977

Window Replacement

Replacement Windows of Katy 2900 Katy Hockley Cutoff Rd. C 305 (281) 392-5353



Sharon Joines Photographs



www.sharonjoines.com



Sharon Joines Photographs is a photographer who lives and works in the Wharton County area.

Services include: construction, pipeline, reservoir, oil and gas photography, as well as, portrait and event photography 979-533-1981 | sharon.joines@gmail.com

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