

## Hitchcock, Texas *Our Heritage*



Hitchcock's history and heritage is about as colorful as most "Old West" tales. One of the oldest communities in Galveston County, the original settlement on Highland Bayou began in 1820's when French settlers came to the area. Stories of pirates, buried treasure and gambling include the area of Hitchcock as an inland spot of activity.

In 1878, as a gift of loving memory, Mrs. L.M. Hitchcock gave land to the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad if they would agree to name the town after her deceased husband, Lent M. Hitchcock (who, by the way, never lived in Hitchcock). The donated site was two blocks long – there stood a depot and side tracks for the railroad.

Originally an important agricultural center, Hitchcock has a rich history. During World War II, it became a vital military center. The town was the site of the U. S. Naval Air Station, also known as the Blimp Base, and the U. S. Army facility, Camp Wallace, now the site of Jack Brooks park. Ruins of the Blimp Base still stand and the area is denoted by a Texas Historical Marker on Highway 6. Two other state historical markers honor Camp Wallace and the Stringfellow Home, which was the site of vast pear orchards that were planted by Stringfellow, an associate of Luther Burbank.

The Genevieve Miller Hitchcock Public Library and the Hitchcock Heritage Museum are connected by the Gordon and Ursula Latimer Park. The library, built with citizens' donations, is one of the finest in the area with historical displays and information. The library archives and museum exhibits depict the colorful local history.

### Important Phone Numbers:

|                                                      |              |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| AmeriWaste Incorporated (Trash Service)              | 409-316-1012 |
| Animal Control                                       | 409-948-2485 |
| CenterPoint Energy (Electric Service)                | 800-332-7413 |
| CenterPoint Energy (Gas Service)                     | 409-935-2468 |
| Galveston County Tax Office                          | 409-766-2481 |
| Galveston County WCID 19 Hitchcock (Water/Sewer)     | 409-935-6641 |
| Genevieve Miller Hitchcock Public Library            | 409-986-7814 |
| H.I.S. Ministries (Food Pantry/Resale Shop)          | 409-925-4697 |
| Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce                        | 409-986-9224 |
| Hitchcock City Hall                                  | 409-986-5591 |
| Hitchcock Family Welfare Sunshine Shop (Resale Shop) | 409-986-5632 |
| Hitchcock I.S.D.                                     | 409-986-5514 |
| Hitchcock Municipal Court                            | 409-986-9702 |
| Hitchcock Police Department                          | 409-986-5559 |
| Hitchcock Volunteer Fire Department                  | 409-986-7131 |
| Comcast Cable                                        | 800-266-2278 |
| United States Post Office                            | 409-986-9531 |
| Verizon Residential                                  | 800-483-4000 |
| Verizon Business                                     | 800-483-5400 |
| Verizon Repair                                       | 800-483-2000 |

## Chamber/Community Events and Meetings:

### EVENTS:

#### **Annual Awards Banquet**

Usually held in February

#### **Hitchcock Community Easter Egg Hunt**

Saturday, the weekend before Easter weekend

#### **Easter Bake Sale**

Good Friday

#### **H.I.S.D. Teacher Appreciation**

Usually held in May, call (409) 986-9224 for date

#### **Good Ole Days Festival & BBQ Cook-off**

Held the second Friday and Saturday in August

#### **Hitchcock Vol. Fire Dept. Benefit BBQ**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in October

#### **Thanksgiving Bake Sale**

Tuesday, before Thanksgiving

#### **Christmas Festival**

Usually held the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in December

### MEETINGS:

#### **Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce Board**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month

#### **Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce General Membership Meetings**

Held Quarterly, call (409) 986-9224 for dates

#### **Hitchcock City Council**

3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month

#### **Hitchcock Family Welfare Board**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, quarterly

#### **Hitchcock Heritage Society**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month

#### **Hitchcock I.S.D. School Board**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month

#### **Genevieve Miller Hitchcock Public Library Board**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month

## Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce

8300 Highway 6, Suite A  
P.O. Box 389  
Hitchcock, Texas 77563

Phone: (409) 986-9224  
Fax: (409) 986-6317

Email: [hcofc662@verizon.net](mailto:hcofc662@verizon.net)



“Home of friendly  
people.”

## Hitchcock, Texas

### Our City



Hitchcock, at the gateway to the Golden Gulf Coast, is an ideal location for easy access to retail and industrial centers, recreation, educational and medical facilities. This serene residential community is a great place to raise a family or to enjoy a tranquil retirement. Serving the citizens are an excellent library, an outstanding volunteer fire department, an efficient police department and dedicated public officials.

Highland Bayou and the Diversionary Canal both flow through the city; the Bayou to Jones Lake and the Canal to Galveston Bay. A public boat ramp in town provides access to the Diversionary Canal. As the waterways meander to the open waters, they pass the popular resort community of Bayou Vista and the exclusive waterfront development of Harborwalk. In the city limits of Hitchcock, Harborwalk is a gated, master planned community on West Galveston Bay offering easy access to the Intracoastal Waterway. This 850 acre luxury development plans for 550 plus home sites, a marina, a beach club, restaurant and boat slips.

**Location** - Located on State Highway 6 just south of Interstate 45, Hitchcock is only 20 minutes from Galveston and approximately 35 minutes from Houston. Hitchcock's strategic location, which encompasses 71 square miles, makes it the hub of the Greater Gulf Coast area, an asset that offers unlimited potential for future growth. Major shopping malls, hospitals, colleges and recreational facilities are only minutes away.

Ample waterfront property is open for residential and commercial expansion. An active local 4A Industrial Development Corporation (HIDC) offers its assistance to developers in securing municipal services and issues bonds for construction of new businesses.

**Services** - The city's population of 7,000 people are served by CenterPoint Energy, Time Warner Communications and Verizon. A well-equipped, well-trained volunteer fire department keeps insurance rates low for Hitchcock residents. Because Hitchcock is rated as a First Key City, businesses benefit from an additional 25% good credit rating on their insurance. The department has modern equipment including four pumpers, one of which is a 1,100 GPM pumper.

**Recreation** - The Highland Bayou Diversionary Canal connects the West Bay to Highland Bayou. The five mile long canal meanders through town through Jack Brooks Park and past the City Park. This body of water offers a number of recreational possibilities such as camping, fishing, swimming and skiing.

**Conveniences** - Within the city limits are many conveniences including a medical clinic and a dental office. There are several eating spots - a Mexican restaurant, a barbecue diner, two waterfront cafes and two fast food franchises. Within a few miles are numerous restaurants and fast food servers. A local shopping center provides a supermarket, a laundromat, a variety store and a beauty shop. Also in town are a modern library, a historical museum, two banks, a post office, a flower shop, another variety store, a video rental store, several service stations, two auto repair shops, two car washes, real estate offices, a law office and an engineering firm. Churches in town represent several major denominations.

**Climate** - Local climate conditions reflect the general coastal location - a warm semi-tropical sun, ideal any time of the year for almost any outdoor activity. Summer average temperature is in the 80's and winter average is in the 50's. Rainfall average is 41.81 inches; elevation, 16'.

**Schools** - Hitchcock Independent School District offers instruction in grades K-12 as well as a Head Start program. Also in the city limits are Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School, Pre-K through sixth grade, and Gulf Coast Christian School, K through twelve.

Fully accredited junior and senior colleges are within five to 30 minutes from the city--College of the Mainland in Texas City, University of Houston at Clear Lake, Galveston and Alvin Junior Colleges, the University of Texas Medical Branch and Texas A&M University at Galveston.

**Events** - Community spirit is evident in the volunteer activities that fill up the calendar. Community-minded residents spend untold hours of their time coaching Little League Baseball and Football, sponsoring a 4-H Club, protecting their neighbors from fire, volunteering at the Senior Center and at various charities. The Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce, an organization of volunteers, sponsors a city wide Easter Egg Hunt, a Teacher Appreciation reception, a Christmas celebration with a lighted parade and a scholarship award as well as the annual Good Ole Days Celebration. For more than 30 years, the Good Ole Days Festival has been an August tradition when friends and families get together for a great weekend of wholesome entertainment. Highlights of the event include a BBQ Cook-Off, a huge parade, Miss Good Ole Days pageants for all ages, a carnival and continuous entertainment. Lots of good food to eat and arts and crafts booths to shop make for a great outing in a beautiful wooded setting on Highway 6.

The people of Hitchcock are warm and friendly, and newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

## Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce Commitment:

The Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce is an organization of individuals and businesses who share an interest in the betterment of our community.

We are committed to:

- improving the quality of life for everyone in our community.
- involving business owners and community leaders in Chamber activities.
- promoting local business and providing information about the City of Hitchcock.

### Join the Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce

*We need the support and involvement of the people of our community and the surrounding areas in order to continue to broaden our efforts to promote our City as a great place to live and work.*

## Hitchcock Chamber of Commerce Membership Information:

|                                                    |          |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Small Business.....                                | \$ 50.00 |
| Association/Corporations<br>(1-5 Employees) .....  | \$100.00 |
| Association/Corporations<br>(6-24 Employees) ..... | \$150.00 |
| Association/Corporations<br>(25-Up Employees)..... | \$250.00 |
| Non-Profit Organizations .....                     | \$ 40.00 |
| Individual.....                                    | \$ 20.00 |
| Couple .....                                       | \$ 35.00 |
| Contribution to our American Flag Drive .....      | \$ 20.00 |
| Contribution to our Building Fund .....            | \$_____  |