

2014 HCA Leadership Summit Agenda

September 25th at the Admiral Nimitz Museum Ballroom in Fredericksburg, TX - [Map](#)

[Register Now](#)

8:30am - Registration opens - Coffee and a light breakfast will be served

9:00am - Opening Remarks, Milan J. Michalec, President of the Hill Country Alliance

Milan also serves as President of the Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District in Kendall County.

9:15am – Welcome to Fredericksburg, Ernie Loeffler, President of the Convention and Visitors Bureau

9:30am – Keynote Address: Chuck Marohn, President of [Strong Towns](#)

Passionate about the future of America's cities, towns and neighborhoods – Chuck's keynote will provide greater understanding of the costs associated with our communities' methods of growth and how we can address those costs via productive changes in the way we development.

10:45am - Break

11:00am – Blair Fitzsimons, CEO of the [Texas Agricultural Land Trust](#) and leading expert on conservation finance in Texas

Blair will share her wisdom about funding conservation in Texas, a place that is losing farms and ranches at an alarming rate.

11:30am - Ken Kramer, Water Resource and Policy Expert, Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club

With 38 years of experience working on water and other environmental issues as an academic, an environmental group leader, and public policy specialist, Ken will share his insight about water planning progress and challenges facing the Hill Country.

Noon – Lunch provided on the courtyard and time for networking

12:30pm – Optional small group "Chat with" Chuck Mahron"

1:00pm - Texas State Representative Doug Miller

House District 73: Gillispie, Kendall and Comal Counties. Representative Miller serves as Vice Chair of the House Committee on Special Purpose Districts and as a member of the Calendars and Natural Resources Committees. He formerly served as Chairman of the Board of the Edwards Aquifer Authority.

1:25pm - Andrew Murr, Republican Nominee for State Representative, House District 53 and former Kimble County Judge

Andrew is an 8th generation Texan and grandson of former Governor Coke R. Stevenson. District 53 includes much of the Hill Country including Bandera, Crockett, Edwards, Kerr, Kimble, Llano, Mason, Medina, Menard, Real, Schleicher and Sutton Counties.

1:45pm – Steve Nelle, Veteran Edwards Plateau Land Management Specialist, retired NRCS

“One of my greatest joys is to watch landowners become enthusiastically involved in conservation and land stewardship - private landowners are the key to a healthy Texas environment.”

2:15pm – Break

2:30pm – People with “can do” spirits fill our region

A panel of very special Hill Country people will share stories about great success. Moderated by **Carolyn Chipman Evans**, Founder of the [Cibolo Nature Center](#).

1. • **Chuck Patrick** - Rescuing the Odeon Theatre in Mason
2. • **John Watson** - Creating a sustainable movement, Fredericksburg Shines
3. • **Brad Flink** - Teaching our next generation about creative Rainwater Harvesting
4. • **Emily Neiman** - Rethinking and reviving Junction ISD landscaping
5. • **Patrick Sparks** - Preserving historic Hill Country dance halls

4:00pm – Christy Muse, Executive Director of the Hill Country Alliance

HCA Past, Present and Future - What a “Alliance” can accomplish.

4:30pm to 7:00pm – Please join us in the courtyard for our closing dinner reception with music provided by the Texas Hill Country’s own living legend, [Johnny Nicolas](#) (also of Hilltop Café fame) with his full band including [Cindy Cashdollar](#) on pedal steel.

HCA’s Issue Teams will be meeting the following day, September 26th, from 9:00 – 11:30 am followed by a joint leadership luncheon. For more information about Team Meetings or if you would like to be invited to serve, please contact [Christy Muse](#).