

BRYAN / COLLEGE STATION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MAY - JUNE 2023

CONNECTIONS

SUMMER IN B-CS



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION

10 THINGS TO DO THIS
SUMMER IN B-CS

SCHOOL YEAR
SHOWCASE

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Features

2

A NOTE FROM GLEN BREWER
*B/CS Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO*

3

NEW MEMBERS
*Welcoming New Businesses
to Bryan/College Station*

4

CHAMBER PROGRAMS
Business After Hours

6

ISD SCHOOL YEAR SHOWCASE
Bryan ISD & College Station ISD

8

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT
Bryan & College Station Spotlights

10

10 THINGS TO DO THIS SUMMER IN B-CS
Visit College Station & Destination Bryan

14

DELUXE RIBBON CUTTINGS
*Celebrating the Start of
Something New in B/CS*

16

CHAMBER PHOTOS
See What The Chamber Has Been Up To

Calendar

JUNE

6.8.23

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
Extraco Banks

6.15.23

COMMUNITY SOFTBALL
CLASSIC
Edible Field - Home of the Brazos Valley Bomber

6.23.23

FOUNDERS NIGHT
The Stella Hotel

JULY

7.13.23

LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON
Pebble Creek Country Club

7.20.23

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
Parc at Traditions



To register for Chamber events, scan
the QR code above or call the Chamber
office at 979.260.5200

A WORD FROM GLEN BREWER

Howdy,

One of the many ways your Chamber of Commerce works for local business is through our Legislative programs. We have already visited Austin this year to discuss state issues and now our delegation of community, education and business leaders has returned from Washington D.C. There will be more details about this in our next issue of Connection Magazine. We stood together and delivered our pro-business message from the Bryan/College Station business community. In addition to delivering our local Federal Legislative Action Plan to each member of our Texas congressional delegation, our Congressman Michael McCaul brought a high-level group of elected officials to meet with us in person and inform us of what is going on behind the scenes and to also hear from us about the needs of B/CS businesses. Thank you, Congressman McCaul, for working to make this happen!

We recently celebrated the graduation of the 41 members of our 40th class of Leadership Brazos. From their overnight retreat at Camp Allen, to each day spent learning more about Healthcare, Criminal Justice, Government, Education, Agriculture and more, the class members were able to see behind the scenes of what makes Brazos County so unique. Applications for the 2024 Class of Leadership Brazos will be available in July.

Our Washington delegation and Leadership Brazos Program are just two of the many ways your Chamber of Commerce is working to create a successful business climate here in Bryan/College Station. If you are new to the Chamber, or maybe you just want to learn about the many different ways to get involved, please reach out to us at (979) 260-5200 or follow us on Facebook. There is always something going on at the Chamber!

If you have some ideas of how we can continue to develop our mission, please come by the Chamber office, or give me a call at 979-260-5200. We want to continue to improve and grow as we promote business and commerce in our world-class community.



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Chamber Connections is a publication of the Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce and a public service to Chamber members. Editorial and advertising inquiries should be addressed to Taylor Hughes by email at taylor@bcschamber.org.

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BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

The Bryan/College Station Chamber of Commerce offers monthly networking opportunities hosted by different businesses each month to connect Chamber members to each other. Socialize, engage and network with the business community from across the Brazos Valley. Our Business After Hours events begin at 5:30 pm and wrap up around 7 pm. See you at the next event!



JUNE 8TH

Hosted By:
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BANKS**

JULY 20TH

Hosted By:
PARC AT TRADITIONS

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

IF YOUR BUSINESS IS INTERESTED IN HOSTING A BUSINESS AFTER HOURS,
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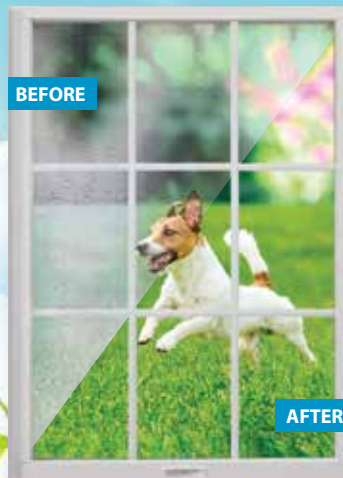


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BRYAN ISD SCHOOL YEAR SHOWCASE

When Bryan ISD started the 2022-2023 school year, the goal was to provide students with many opportunities to prepare them for the future.

In 2023, we partnered with BCS Habitat for Humanity for the Bryan ISD Build project. In nine months, our students and staff worked together with the community to raise \$80,000 and became actively involved in the build. The deserving Bryan ISD family will move into their new home this summer!

The Bryan ISD Build project perfectly encapsulates our Essential Eight program. Throughout our campuses, we focus on eight character traits that will position our students for success: Kindness, Tolerance, Gratitude, Philanthropy, Work ethic, Optimism, Courage and Leadership.

Furthermore, we introduced the Student Ambassador Program, composed of a diverse and dynamic group of student leaders who engaged in multiple volunteering and leadership opportunities throughout the community.

Academically speaking, preparing students for success after graduation is a priority. In Bryan ISD we offer multiple nationally recognized programs including International Baccalaureate and AP Capstone. We also have students earning certifications in Career and Technical Education areas and our Advanced Academics program is expanding rapidly and remains a focus for our high achieving students.

Students at Bryan Collegiate HS continued the tradition of community service. They logged more than 13,000 service hours while graduating with an average of 50 college hours. Bryan Collegiate also has been ranked in the U.S. News and World Report as one of the highest performing high schools in the nation for the last 10 years.

This year, hundreds of seniors will continue on to post-secondary studies after graduation, from Texas A&M to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and beyond. We cannot wait to see how our 2023 graduates impact the world.

We have celebrated UIL accomplishments at all levels and for the first time, hosted the State Mariachi Invitational in Bryan ISD. Our very own Mariachi Band, Los Vikingos from Bryan HS competed and our performing arts groups and visual arts students shined in multiple regional and state competitions. We also watched our drill team members as they danced in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. In the field of Career and Technical Education, we had over 450 students compete at the state level in many disciplines, from underwater robotics to the district's first BBQ team.

As we continue to grow, we look forward to the opening of our third intermediate school, Sadberry Intermediate this coming August. The new Ruby Haliburton Auxiliary Complex is scheduled to open in 2024 as well.

From the turf to the gym floor, we proudly added to our athletic accomplishments. Our students represented us at the local, area, regional, and state levels. The state medals they earned reinforced the notion that we are competing at the highest level.

"Looking ahead, we will continue to empower our students to reach their full potential with choices and opportunities in academics and extracurricular activities," Superintendent Ginger Carrabine said. "I am thankful our School Board champions our vision, Children First. Always."



The Bryan High School Los Vikingos Mariachi ensemble entertain community members attending the Bryan ISD Showcase and First Friday in Downtown Bryan. The Bryan ISD Showcase gives all Bryan ISD campuses, departments and student groups an opportunity to shine.



Rudder High School Valedictorian Miranda Skaggs high fives kindergarteners at Bowen Elementary School. Skaggs attended Bowen as a younger student, and in high school she has been involved in the AP Capstone program and is a leader in the FFA program.



▲ National Merit Semifinalists

▼ Scripps National Spelling Bee Qualifier



◀ Texas Newspaper Editor-of-the-Year

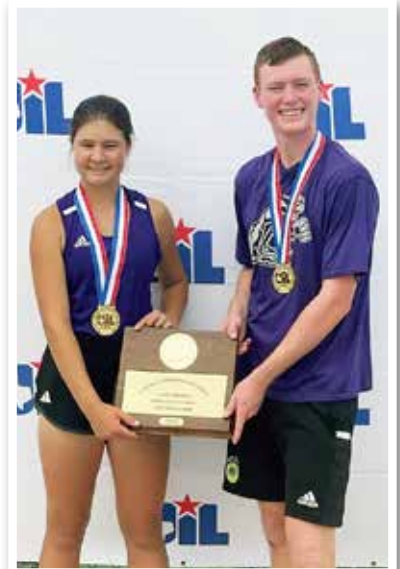
SUCCESS:

Each Life ... Each Day ... Each Hour.

College Station ISD students had another very successful school year and here are few examples. Thanks to the teachers, staff, students, parents and community who all helped make it possible!



▶ 5A Mixed Doubles State Champs



▲ All-State Choir

▼ All-State Orchestra



▲ All-State Band

▼ Business Professionals of America National Champs



▼ SkillsUSA State Champs



▲ FFA Vet Science - 2nd in Nation





Community Spotlight

2023 KID OF THE YEAR - BRAZOS VALLEY REHABILITATION CENTER

The Brazos Valley Rehabilitation Center is proud to present their 2023 Kid Of The Year Award to Ella Schroeder. Ella is a 5th grader in College Station ISD. She lives with her parents, Justin and Ashlea, and brother, Jacob, along with their three beagles, and enjoys listening to music and watching Disney movies. Ella was diagnosed with Rhett Syndrome at 2 years old and has been actively participating in therapy at BVRC for 10 years.

NEW CORPS OF CADETS COMMANDANT

Texas A&M University has named Brigadier General Patrick R. Michaelis as the next Commandant of the Corps of Cadets. The 1993 Aggie graduate starts his new role on Oct. 1, after retiring from his current post as Commanding General, U.S. Army Training Center & Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Michaelis was Distinguished Military Graduate of Texas A&M who earned his bachelor's degree in history in 1993 and commissioned into the Army as a Second Lieutenant of Armor. The new Commandant's goal is to increase Corps of Cadets membership to 3,000 students.

VOLUNTEER WITH ALLUMINE HEALTH

Help brighten someone's world! Allumine Home Health & Hospice is looking for community volunteers to spend time with local Hospice patients. Volunteers are an important part of the mission of Allumine Hospice. They help light the way and make the most for each patient and their family! For more information, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Candice Lyon at volunteer@alluminehealth.com.

MIKE MARTINDALE RETIRES FROM COLLEGE STATION ISD

College Station ISD Superintendent, Mike Martindale, announced his retirement earlier this spring. His retirement will be effective June 30, 2023. "I am forever grateful for all of the colleagues I have been able to share this wonderful profession with over the last three decades," Martindale said. "I want to specifically thank those in College Station ISD that welcomed me and my family to the community in July of 2007. After 32 years in public education, it is time for me to enter the next stage of my life." We thank Mr. Martindale for his service to our students and community and wish him the best!



The Community Spotlight shares company news with the community. New leadership, major changes, anniversaries, employee achievements - celebrate milestones with a message!

If you would like to feature a Community Spotlight contact - taylor@bcschamber.org

COLLEGE STATION ISD CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER

College Station ISD has officially broken ground for phase 1 of its new Career and Technical Education Center. The 90-acre property is located on Dowling Road near Wellborn. The CTE Center is part of the district's 2021 bond package, which was approved by voters for a total of \$70.6 million. Phase 1 of the complex will be an agricultural barn facility for animal holding, a covered practice arena, an office space, restrooms, and a concessions room.

CASA MANGIARE

The best of Italian home cooking has made its way to College Station. Casa Mangiare is a high-end Italian restaurant that showcases the cuisine in the most elegant fashion and brings an experience to the residents of Bryan/College Station. With a unique menu and an array of cocktail and beverage choices, it is sure to have something for everyone. It is located at 840 University Dr E, and it is open Monday-Thursday from 4:00pm-10:00pm, Friday-Saturday from 11:30am-10:00pm and Sunday from 11:30am-9:00pm.

NEVER FORGET GARDEN

The Veterans Memorial at Veterans Park and Athletic Complex is getting a new addition that will honor all missing and unknown veterans – the Never Forget Garden. The Never Forget Garden commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and will feature a 7 foot granite monument with wreath, a large granite star in the plaza center, engraved brick pavers on the inside border, two granite pedestals at the entrance to the memorial, flowers and trees native to the area, a Never Forget Garden plaque and a wrought iron bench. The Brazos Valley Veterans Memorial is accepting donations for the project as well as the engraved brick pavers. The hope is to have this addition completed by Spring 2024. Please visit the Never Forget Garden website for more details.

SARC NEW FACILITY

The Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC) has a new facility! The non-profit's brand-new facility is off of university drive at 404 Jane Street, making it centrally located right between Bryan and College Station. This space will provide counseling, support groups, and other resources to survivors. This facility will help continue their mission to support survivors of sexual violence through advocacy, counseling, and crisis intervention and work to end sexual violence in the Brazos Valley.

TROUBADOUR FESTIVAL TAKES OVER AGGIELAND

Following a successful event on March 20th, the Troubadour Festival organizers announced their return to AggIELand in 2024. In a tweet the Sunday after the festival they wrote, "AggIELand! Y'all showed up in a way beyond our wildest imagination! You welcomed us with open arms, and we hope y'all had a day as great as we did." The Troubadour Festival brought 34 of the best in Texas barbecue vendors and a full day of live music to Aggie Park. The festival included 8 music artists, with Midland headlining the event. Mark your calendars for May 18, 2024 for next year's festival.

THE QUEEN THEATRE SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

The Queen Theatre will be hosting a summer movie series and bringing back blockbuster favorites. "We are bringing our first family film in June to The Queen, it's Elemental" Schulman-Bell says the sequel to Inside Out is great for all ages. There are two nostalgic movies hitting the big screen, Harrison Ford is back in Indiana Jones and Tom Cruise is also making his return to Mission Impossible. The long-awaited Oppenheimer movie will also be screened at the theatre. "We're gonna have some great live entertainment and other specialty events so it's just gonna be a great, great summer here at the Queen," said Schulman-Bell. Check out their website for more details at queenbryantx.com.

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10 THINGS TO DO THIS

DESTINATION
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summer



IN BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION

FARMERS' MARKET IN BRAZOS COUNTY

EVERY SATURDAY
8 AM - 12 PM

Located at 500 North Main Street in Historic Downtown Bryan, The Farmers' Market in Brazos County is a venue where local farmers can connect directly with Brazos Valley consumers, to build a community in an urban setting, and to provide public education on regional farming, gardening and food preparation.



FIRST FRIDAYS IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BRYAN

JUNE 2 | JULY 7
AUGUST 4
5 PM - 10 PM

The streets of Historic Downtown Bryan transform into one big stage on the First Friday of each month with live music, performances, art demonstrations, and unique & interactive events and activities! Plus, all your favorite Downtown Bryan shops & restaurants stay open late for the evening. This is the place to be on the First Friday of each month in Aggieland!

BOMBERS BASEBALL SEASON

MAY 30 - JULY 30

Summertime in Bryan, Texas means The Brazos Valley Bombers Baseball team is swinging into the Texas Collegiate League's summer baseball season! Nationally ranked, The Bombers have won a number of championships and face off some of the best teams in the Texas Collegiate League. Join the Bombers at Travis Field Ballpark and bring out the whole family for some superb wood bat baseball!



LITTLE FIRECRACKERS AT LAKE WALK

JULY 1
3 PM - 6 PM

Join us for the ultimate, free kids Fourth of July Celebration with The Children's Museum of the Brazos Valley! Celebrate Independence Day with an afternoon full of family fun! ** NOTE typically there is also an Old Fashioned 4th of July at Heritage Park & Fireworks / Drone Show at Rellis Campus in Bryan. Destination Bryan does not have official dates or details on these events.



FIESTA ITALIANA

JUNE 10
10 AM - 4 PM

Join us in Historic Downtown Bryan for Fiesta Italian - a Food & Heritage Festival on June 10, 2023 from 10:00AM - 4:00PM! Experience free, family-friendly fun with a pasta eating contest, delicious Italian food vendors, live entertainment, a bocce ball tournament, and so much more!





CARS & COFFEE

JUNE 4
8 AM - 10 AM

Join us at our location on University Drive for a fun event! Teaming up with a few BCS locals, we have an exciting new event! With gorgeous cars from BCK Racing, and Texas A&M Sports Car Club and tasty coffee from Rockdale Coffee, you're sure to have a good time! Stop by. All are welcome!



SUMMER CELEBRATION

JUNE 3
9 AM - 11:30 AM

Join us for a morning of FREE family-friendly fun at our annual Summer Celebration. Enjoy cotton candy, snow cones, and other refreshments as you stroll through The Gardens and visit our various activity tables.



RANDY ROGERS & WADE BOWEN "HOLD MY BEER SHOW"

JULY 19
1 PM - 3 PM

Soak in the summertime at our monthly vendor market on The Green hosted by The Brunch Official! Stroll The Square, grab a bite from a nearby restaurant, and find local artisan booths on The Green from 1 - 3 PM.

While you're there, you can shop exclusive brands like Lucchese, Kendra Scott, lululemon, Onward Reserve, King Ranch, or support any of our local boutiques and stores (Galleria, Grass Stains, Merge, Apricot Lane, Brazos Running Co, and Hemline)!

For all vendor information, please visit www.thebrunchofficial.com



TRIVIA ON THE GREEN

EVERY THURSDAY
7 PM - 10 PM

Come out to Century Square every Thursday evening for TRIVIA NIGHT! Have fun and win prizes by competing with your friends each week to answer questions about sports, history, and music, as well as specific categories like cartoons, architecture, fashion, and more. The more you know, the more you win! Grab a bite to eat and something to drink from one of the surrounding restaurants, and head out to The Green to get your trivia on. This event is free and open to the public.



THE BRUNCH MIXER + MARKET

JUNE 17
1 PM - 3 PM

a. Soak in the summertime at our monthly vendor market on The Green hosted by The Brunch Official! Stroll The Square, grab a bite from a nearby restaurant, and find local artisan booths on The Green from 1 - 3 PM.

While you're there, you can shop exclusive brands like Lucchese, Kendra Scott, lululemon, Onward Reserve, King Ranch, or support any of our local boutiques and stores (Galleria, Grass Stains, Merge, Apricot Lane, Brazos Running Co, and Hemline)! For all vendor information, please visit www.thebrunchofficial.co

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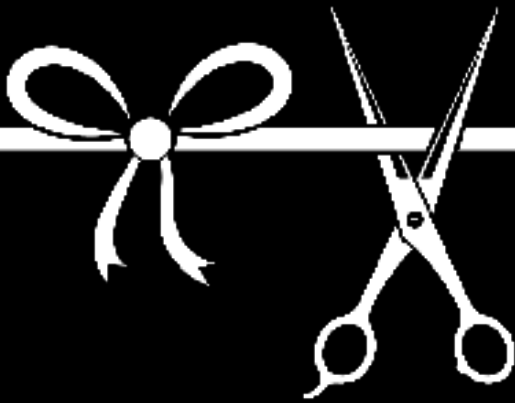
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CHAMBER PHOTOS



Admiral Catering showcases their display at the Chambers annual Taste of Aggieland event.



Students from CSHS competing in the Taste of Aggieland cooking competition.



Congratulations to the graduating class of Leadership Brazos 2023!



Chamber Board of Directors Minute-To-Win-It Winners at Watercooler 5K.



Thank you to our 2023 Job Fair title sponsor, Workforce Solutions.



Watercooler 5K participants before the race.



Chamber staff at the 2023 Job Fair.



Bryan High School culinary competing at the Tast of Aggieland.



Thank you to BigShots Golf Aggieland for hosting Business After Hours!



Watercooler 5K participants getting ready for the race!



Watercooler 5K attendees enjoying the entertainment.



BigShots Aggieland May Business After Hours.



2023 Taste of

Aggieland

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

35 Restaurants and over 1000 attendees!


































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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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