



The Future is NOW!

The Chamber
Brazosport Area
The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

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February 2017

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Holiday Tour of Homes



We would like to give a big Thank You to our lovely Holiday Home Tour Hostesses! L to R: Sue Merritt, Jeannette Merritt, Holiday Home Tour Chair, Helen Jones and Leslie Barber. Not pictured: Lesley McGehee.



Many thanks to the homeowners who graciously opened up their beautiful homes for the Brazosport Area Chamber's Holiday Home Tour held in December. The homeowners were presented paintings of their homes as a token of appreciation from the Chamber. Standing L to R: Danny Pearson, Luke Guidry, Katie & Andrew Tolchin, LeeAnn Rudolph and Judy Nolen.

Chairman's Message



Congratulations to the 2017 Board of Directors. We have an exciting Strategic Plan for this year that I look forward to working on with you. As the Chamber approaches its 72nd year in business, we are already off and running.

The Leadership Class of 2017 kicked off with its first session January 12. The class will be attending sessions every other week until May and will wrap up with an awards luncheon at the Chamber.

Under the leadership of Tony Wood, Baywood Foods, the Taste of the Town Committee has already been working hard on this year's event, which will take place April 30, 6:30-9:30 p.m., at Brazos Mall. You will not want to miss this eating extravaganza. Please mark your calendars now and plan to come hungry!

I also want to make sure you are aware of The Brazosport Professionals Network (previously known as Young Guns), which is co-chaired by Meredith King, True to Life Ministries and Anne Bartlett, Brazosport College. The Network provides an opportunity for professionals to focus on leadership and business development in order to promote success, excellence, and innovation among our community's leaders. The first meeting was January 13 and more than 70 people attended. Several great programs are lined up for the rest of the year and there is no longer an age limit to participate. Let us know if you are interested in being a part of the Network.

Please make plans to attend Brazoria County Day in Austin on March 7th at Fiesta Gardens. This event, also known as the "World's Largest Shrimp Cocktail", is one of the most popular theme days at the Capitol. It offers Brazoria County the opportunity to showcase its best and discuss issues of importance with State Legislators and State Agencies. All Brazoria County Residents are invited to attend this event. A Legislative Breakfast will be held at 7:30 a.m. on March 7th at the Hyatt with guest speaker Governor Greg Abbott. This breakfast is limited to the first 300 people. You can reserve a room at the Hyatt Regency Austin on-line at <https://resweb.paskey.com/go/bcd2017> or by calling 512-477-1234.

Listed inside this newsletter are the committees and task forces that are included in this year's Strategic Plan (including a committee selection form). I encourage each of you to get involved in the Chamber by filling out the form and sending it back. It doesn't take that much time to serve and it benefits the Chamber as well as the Brazosport community.

I look forward to working together in 2017. Our future is NOW!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Winder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D".

David Winder
Chairman of the Board

The logo for The Chamber Brazosport Area. It features the word "The" in a small green font above "Chamber" in a large, bold, dark blue font. Below "Chamber" is "Brazosport Area" in a green font. To the right of "Chamber" is a circular emblem containing a stylized star or flower. Below the main text is a horizontal line, and underneath that line is the tagline "The Economic Engine of Brazoria County" in a smaller, dark blue font.

The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

Government Affairs Committee



Representative Dennis Bonnen addressed the Government Affairs Committee in January. L to R: Ravi Singhanian, Port Freeport Commissioner and Government Affairs Committee Chair; Sandra Shaw, Brazosport Chamber; Representative Dennis Bonnen; David Winder, Dow Texas Operations and Chamber Chairman of the Board.

Leadership Brazosport Affirm OF 2017



The Leadership Brazosport Class of 2017 held a "Get Acquainted" session at the Chamber office on January 12, 2017. Many thanks to Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance Agency and Nicole Maddox, Farmers Insurance Agency, for Co-Chairing this great program!



The Leadership Brazosport Class of 2017 toured The Clarion as part of the Education Session held in January. L to R: Doug Wright, SI Group; Preston Phillips, Heritage Bank; Brian Martin, SI Group; Nicole Maddox, Farmers Insurance; Greg Deatricks, Olin; Kari Mays, BancorpSouth Mortgage; Tracee Tolett Watts, Brazosport College; Brittany Rosenbohm, BISD Education Foundation; Andrew Keppta, Brazos Mall; Bryan Frazier, Brazoria County Parks Department; Rachel Arthur, BISD; Daniel Gonzalez, TDEC and Desire Risinger, TDEC.

Brazosport Professionals Network

The Brazosport Professionals Network (previously known as Young Guns), which is Co-Chaired by Meredith King, True to Life Ministries and Anne Bartlett, Brazosport College, invites you to be a part of this new Network. There are some great speakers scheduled for the rest of the year and there is no longer an age limit to participate. Meetings are held every second Friday of the month at 12:00 noon. Please let us know if you are interested in participating by calling the Chamber office, 979-285-2501 or e-mailing Chamber2@sbcglobal.net



Thank you to George Franklin - State Farm Insurance Agency and PC Care for sponsoring the January Business Professionals Network Meeting. Pictured are Debra Roman Perry, State Farm Insurance; Meredith King, True to Life Ministries, Co-Chair and Paige Park, PC Care.



There were over seventy in attendance at the first Brazosport Professionals Network meeting.



Thank you to Mark Monical for his presentation on leadership.



Meredith King, True to Life Ministries, Co-Chair, announces the great speakers that are lined up for future meetings of the Brazosport Professionals Network.

Brazosport Chamber *Board* SERVES *Hospital Leadership*

The Brazosport Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors served lunch to CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport's Leadership Team on November 29th. This was an item that CHI St. Luke's purchased at the Taste of the Town auction.



L to R: Al Guevara, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Art Vandaveer, TDECU -Your Credit Union; Vicki Melass; Brent Bowles, iAD Architects; Jim Mahon, Candlewood Suites and Joe Ripple, Brazoria County Flood Plain Director.

What A Team!

Joe Ripple



Art Vandaveer



Jim Mahon



Vicki Melass



Brent Bowles

Sandra Shaw *celebrates* 40 YEAR *Anniversary*



Congratulations to Sandra Shaw, Brazosport Chamber of Commerce President & CEO, who celebrated her 40th anniversary with the Chamber on January 13, 2017. Loris Canahuati, Braskem America, presented her with a gift in honor of her many years of service. L to R: Loris Canahuati, Braskem America; Sandra Shaw, Brazosport Chamber President & CEO and David Winder, The Dow Chemical Company and Chairman of the Board.

The
Chamber
Brazosport Area



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Ribbon Cutting

Quintana Beach County Park staff, Brazoria County Park Department staff, Brazoria County Officials, Quintana Elected officials and Chamber Ambassadors participated in the Ribbon Cutting at Quintana County Park Education Center.



Congratulations to the 2017 Board OF Directors



Seated L to R: Wendy Mazurkiewicz, Freeport LNG; Sandra Shaw, Brazosport Chamber President & CEO; Heather Rimato-Morrison, Rimato Insurance; Yvonne Mintz, The Facts and Patty Sayes, Brazos Mall. Standing L to R: Bob Sipple; Phil Holsten, Phillips 66; Judge Jack Brown, Justice of the Peace Pct. 1, Pl. 1; Danny Massey, Brazosport ISD; Jeff Strader, Port Freeport; Donald "Dude" Payne, Brazoria County Commissioner; Nancy Wollam, Representative Dennis Bonnen's Office; Meredith King, True to Life Ministries; David Winder, The Dow Chemical Company & Chairman of the Board; Jim Mahon, Candlewood Suites; Loris Canahuati, Braskem America; Brent Bowles, iAD Architects; Scott Daigle, MEGlobal; Art Vandaveer, TDECU and Joe Ripple, Brazoria County Flood Plain Director. Not pictured: Vicki Melass; Nicole McGlone-Santistevan, BASF Corp.; Al Guevara, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport and Christian Sullivan, Zachry.

Thank You's

Butch Murrell, for the holiday containers of scrumptious candy!
Haley Georges, H-E-B, for the delicious coconut cake!
Brent Bowles, iAD Architects, for the yummy Christmas cookies!
Deepak Patel, Comfort Suites, for the delicious gift basket!
Bob Sipple, for the beautiful poinsettias
Nicole Yaklin, Yaklin Ford, for the beautiful poinsettia

Many Thanks to our Building Donors



Our “Retire the Debt” building campaign is an on-going campaign until the building note is paid in full. We will continue to list our donors in future publications. We are so grateful to these members for their contributions to the Chamber as well as the community.

Gordon & Nancy Wollam.....	\$550.00
Bob & Lori Sipple.....	\$500.00
Allstate Insurance Agency – Vicki Melass.....	\$300.00
Gulf Coast S & S.....	\$300.00
Comfort Suites.....	\$250.00
2015 Leadership Brazosport Class.....	\$220.00
American Realty.....	\$200.00
McDonough Engineering.....	\$200.00
Snap Fitness 24-7.....	\$160.00
Commissioner Dude Payne.....	\$125.00
Art Vandaveer.....	\$125.00
Dr. Alkesh Amin.....	\$100.00
Angleton Decorating Center.....	\$100.00
Blue Water Dental Center.....	\$100.00
Brevard Company.....	\$100.00
CHI St. Luke’s Health Brazosport.....	\$100.00
Dairy Bar.....	\$100.00
Goodpaster's & Associates.....	\$100.00
Kitty's Purple Cow.....	\$100.00
Luycx Plumbing.....	\$100.00
Dr. Perry Mueller, DDS.....	\$100.00
On The River/River Point Restaurants.....	\$100.00
Sorrell Construction.....	\$100.00
Victory Insurance Agency.....	\$100.00
Texas Crewboats.....	\$100.00
Dr. T.E. Allen.....	\$75.00
ABC Realty.....	\$50.00
Baymont Inn & Suites.....	\$50.00
Emprint.....	\$50.00
Mejia Industrial Supply Company.....	\$50.00
MSR Houston.....	\$50.00
Payroll Vault.....	\$50.00
Total Safety US, Inc.....	\$50.00
Judge Jack Brown.....	\$25.00
Red Snapper Inn.....	\$25.00

New Members

Allstate Insurance Agency—Teresa Jacobs
628 Dixie Drive, Clute
Tammie Donley, 979-297-1185
www.agents.allstate.com/teresa-jane-jacobs-clute-tx.html
Insurance Agency

Angels Care Home Health
113 Abner Jackson Pkwy., Ste. A, Lake Jackson
Jennifer Littleton, 979-297-3400
www.angelscarehealth.com/lakejackson/
Home Health Care

Brazoria Neurological Associates
214 Parking Way, Lake Jackson
Shanna Prihoda, 979-299-3376
Physican/Neurology

Events All Around, LLC
113 N. Velasco, Angleton
Jessica Haviland, 979-849-5595
www.eventsallararoundllc.com
Event Equipment Rental/Planning

Farmers Insurance—Nora Harper Agency
716 W. Plantation Drive, Ste. 107, Clute
Nora Harper, 979-266-7600
www.farmersagenct.com/nharper
Insurance Agency

Gateway Mortgage Group
125 Circle Way, Ste. 102, Lake Jackson
Jeannette Merritt, 979-318-2889
www.gatewayloan.com
Mortgage Company

H&E Equipment Services
603 CR 227-A, Freeport
Mark Ford, 979-705-7222
www.he-equipment.com
Equipment Sales, Rentals, Parts & Service

Nancy Holley
holley-nancy@yahoo.com
979-665-9399
Individual

The Preserve at Oyster Creek
3115 Shady Creek Lane, Oyster Creek
Sherry Anthony, 979-233-9130
www.preserveatoystercreek.com
Cabin Rentals

Urban Crest Lake Jackson—Bakke Mgmt.
221 Hwy. 332 W., Lake Jackson
Sherry Anthony, 979-297-4000
www.urbancrestlj.com
Apartments

2017 COMMITTEES & TASK FORCES
PLEASE GET INVOLVED AND HELP OUR COMMUNITY GROW & PROSPER

The following list of committees and task forces give you an opportunity to become personally involved in the work of the Chamber. Through your involvement, you will be able to see first-hand how your membership dues are invested in the numerous activities and projects the Chamber undertakes, and the effect it has on the area. Please look over the following list, make your selection(s), and e-mail or fax the committee selection form. You will be placed on the Committee list and a notice of each meeting will be e-mailed, and a reminder call made, for your convenience.

- **The Ambassadors**--Serve as the public relations arm of the Chamber at ribbon cutting ceremonies and various Chamber events throughout the year.
- **Annual Meeting Task Force**--Coordinate the annual meeting scheduled in February 2017.
- **Brazoria County Day Support Committee**—Support the Brazoria County Day in Austin event in conjunction with the Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County and the six other Chambers of Commerce in Brazoria County, to be held at Fiesta Gardens on March 7, 2017.
- **Brazosport Professionals Network**—Provides an opportunity for professionals to focus on leadership and business development in order to promote success, excellence, and innovation among our community's leaders.
- **Capital Projects Campaign**—Raise the necessary funding to retire the debt on the Chamber facility.
- **Governmental Affairs Committee**—Keep informed of local, state, and federal legislation affecting our business community and recommend appropriate action to the Chamber Board of Directors.
- **Holiday Tour of Homes**—Host a tour of some of Brazosport's finest and most unique homes in December of 2017.
- **Housing Development Committee**—Compile information on available property for residential development in the Brazosport Area to be distributed to potential developers.
- **Leadership Task Force**—Conduct the 2017 Leadership Brazosport Class designed to develop the future leaders of the community.
- **Lodging & Attractions Committee**--Gather and exchange information to cross-promote attractions.
- **Major Industry Sessions**—Chamber liaison meets with area industry managers in conjunction with Brazoria County Petrochemical Council to address industrial needs and concerns and establish how the Chamber can assist with these issues.
- **Mayors & City Managers Sessions**—Mayors and City Managers from the eight cities in the Brazosport area meet quarterly to discuss municipal activities and needs and enhance communication between the Chamber and cities.
- **Membership Luncheons**—Present luncheons throughout the year with speakers on various issues affecting the business community.

- **National Day of Prayer**—Work with the Brazosport Ministerial Alliance to implement prayer sessions on National Prayer Day
- **Safetytown Coordinating Committee**--Provide an organized, educational safety program for children having completed kindergarten.
- **Shop Local First**—Encourage shopping locally to support businesses that make up the fabric of our community.
- **State of the Community**—Host a luncheon in October of 2017 providing reports on various sectors of the Brazosport economy.
- **Taste of the Town**--Promote member restaurants by allowing attendees to sample the variety of cuisines offered throughout the Brazosport area at the Chamber's only major fund-raiser, celebrating its 26th year.
- **Transportation Committee**—Improve area transportation by meeting with TXDOT, Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport, Brazoria County Engineer and Port Freeport on transportation, signage and infrastructure issues and projects needed for the area.
- **Women In Business Luncheon**---Present luncheons that foster opportunities for networking and personal and professional growth.

2017 Committees & Task Forces

Mail To: Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce
300 Abner Jackson Parkway
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

Fax To: 979-285-2505

E-mail To: Chamber2@sbcglobal.net

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

- ☐ The Ambassador's
- ☐ Annual Meeting
- ☐ Brazoria County Day Support Committee
- ☐ Brazosport Professionals Network
- ☐ Capital Projects Campaign
- ☐ Government Affairs Committee
- ☐ Holiday Tour of Homes
- ☐ Housing Development Committee
- ☐ Leadership Task Force

- ☐ Lodging & Attractions Committee
- ☐ Membership Luncheons
- ☐ National Prayer Day
- ☐ Safetytown Coordinating Committee
- ☐ Shop Local First
- ☐ State of the Community
- ☐ Taste of the Town
- ☐ Transportation Committee
- ☐ Women In Business Luncheons



“TASTE” 2017

WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF OUR 2017 TASTE OF THE TOWN SPONSORS!

*We Couldn't Do It
Without You!*

