



# Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce

The  
**Chamber**  
Brazosport Area  
The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

*“Brazosport Area... A Treasure at the Rainbow’s End”*

300 Abner Jackson Pkwy, Brazosport, TX 77566  
979-285-2501 Fax 979-285-2505 Website: [www.brazosport.org](http://www.brazosport.org)  
E-Mail: [chamber@brazosportchamber.org](mailto:chamber@brazosportchamber.org)

Check us out on Facebook  
for the most current  
events!



May 2019

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## Outstanding Volunteers!



The Taste of the Town Committee was named Outstanding Volunteers for leading another successful event this year! L to R: Heather Rimato-Morrison, Rimato Insurance—Kings Feast; Jordan Strother, First State Bank—Door Collections; Debra Perry, State Farm Insurance—George Franklin—Auction; Vicki Melass—Auction; Bruce Juback, El Chico—Vendors; Raylene Wilson, Steve Wolverton Allstate Insurance Agency—Auction; Wayne Shaw—Auction Presentation; Karen Juback, Brazos Mall—Logistics; Karla Christman, Brazosport ISD—Kings Feast Student Volunteers; Cindy Cornette, The Facts—Publicity; Patty Sayes, The Center for the Arts & Sciences—Ice Volunteers; & Chairman Joe Ripple, Brazoria County. Not Shown: Nancy Wollam, Speaker Dennis Bonnen's Office—Auction, Jannette Hammond, CenterPoint Energy—Beer Booth Volunteers, Lucilla Henderson, TDECU—Door Volunteers, Amber Garkow, Staybridge/Candlewood Suites—Raffle & Ticket Sales.



The Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors named Annette Medina and Danny Hickey, both with The Blueline Print Shop, as Outstanding Volunteers for graciously donating all of the Taste of the Town printed materials. L to R: Chairman of the Board Joe Ripple, Brazoria County, Annette Medina & Danny Hickey, The Blueline Print Shop.

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# Chairman's Message.

The Chamber will be co-sponsoring the upcoming Safetytown Program this summer. This comprehensive safety training program is for children who will enter the first grade and has been scheduled for June 3rd to 13th at A.P. Beutel Elementary in Lake Jackson. This life-saving summer program has been utilized by other cities throughout Texas because of its effectiveness in training children. Registration forms have been distributed throughout all of the elementary campuses in the B.I.S.D. School District. For more information, please contact the Chamber office at 979-285-2501.

I would like to invite you to attend our next membership luncheon scheduled on June 20th, 12:00 noon, at the Dow Academic Center. The guest speaker will be James Bass, Executive Director, TxDOT. The Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Speaker of the House, will introduce him. You can make your reservations online at [Brazosport.org](http://Brazosport.org) or by contacting the Brazosport Chamber office at 979-285-2501.

Be sure and mark your calendars for the Chamber's 75th Anniversary Kick-Off Dinner & Dance Celebration on November 8th at the Dow Academic Center from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The Cole Degges Band will perform and tables of ten cost \$850.00 or individual reservations are \$75.00 each. There is limited seating so please be sure and make your reservations online at [Brazosport.org](http://Brazosport.org) or by contacting the Chamber office at 979-285-2501.

I wanted to let you know that our Taste of the Town event was a tremendous success this year with more ticket and raffle sales than ever before! Our next newsletter will be entirely dedicated to this event so be sure and watch for the June issue in your in-box.

I want to thank all of you for your continued dedication and support of the Brazosport Chamber!

Sincerely,

Joe Ripple  
Chairman of the Board





# The Chamber Brazosport Area

## Leadership BRAZOSPORT

### Class of 2019

## Austin Trip



The 2019 Leadership Brazosport Class pictured with The Honorable Dennis Bonnen, Speaker of the House on the House Floor. Pictured front row L to R: Tracee Watts, Brazosport College & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair; Patty Kersey, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Edith Fischer, Brazosport Convention & Visitors Council; Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair; Sandra Shaw, Brazosport Chamber. 2nd Row L to R: Kelsey Mach, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Premila Martin, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Gabby Cuellar, TDECU Business Services; Connie Wiegel, Port Freeport; Deborah Ewing, Brazosport College; Donna Hargraves, Brazosport Chamber; Speaker of the House Dennis Bonnen. 3rd Row L to R: Michelle Gutermuth, Olin Corp.; Andrea Raiff, Dow Chemical Company; Jeffrey Spoor, First State Bank; Matt Allen, The Cordoba Law Firm, PLLC & Brian Cole, Brazosport I.S.D.





# The Chamber Brazosport Area

## Leadership BRAZOSPORT

### Class of 2019



The 2019 Brazosport Chamber Leadership Brazosport Class visited Freeport LNG. L to R: Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance Agency & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair; Christina Korenek, Clark Rotating Equipment Services; Deborah Ewing, Brazosport College; Gabby Cuellar, TDECU-Business Services; Michelle Gutermuth, Olin Corporation; Amber Garkow, Candlewood/Staybridge Suites; David Van Buskirk, Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union; Jeffrey Spoor, First State Bank; Tracee Watts, Brazosport College & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair and Wendy Mazurkiewicz, Freeport LNG.

The 2019 Brazosport Chamber Leadership Brazosport Class visited the Dow Chemical Company Pack Studios. L to R: Leslie Carter, True to Life Ministries; Michelle Gutermuth, Olin Corporation; Christina Korenek, Clark Rotating Equipment Services, LLC; David Van Buskirk, Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union; Gabby Cuellar, TDECU-Business Services; Jeffrey Spoor, First State Bank; Amber Garkow, Candlewood/Staybridge Suites; Deborah Ewing, Brazosport College; Tracee Watts, Brazosport College & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair and Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance Agency & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair



The 2019 Brazosport Chamber Leadership Brazosport Class had their Health Session at CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport. L to R: Leslie Carter, True to Life Ministries; Michelle Gutermuth, Olin Corporation; Jeff Spoor, First State Bank; David Van Buskirk, Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union; Al Guevara, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Clayton Hammontree, MEGlobal; Amber Garkow, Candlewood/Staybridge Suites; Gabby Cuellar, TDECU-Business Services; Christina Korenek, Clark Rotating Equipment Services, LLC; Dawn Nelson, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport & Connie Wiegel, Port Freeport.

The  
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Leadership BRAZOSPORT

Leadership Brazosport *Class of* **2019** Awards Luncheon



The Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Brazosport Class Awards Ceremony was held on May 9th at Wurst Haus Restaurant. Congratulations to the graduates L to R: David Van Buskirk, Brazosport Teachers Federal Credit Union; Jessie Jennings, Brazosport I.S.D.; Brian Cole, Brazosport I.S.D.; Michelle Gutermuth, Olin Corp.; Andrea Raiff, Dow Chemical Company, Premila Martin, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Kelsey Mach, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Clayton Hammontree, MEGlobal; Christina Korenek, Clark Rotating Equipment Services, LLC; Gabby Cuellar, TDECU Business Services; Jeffrey Spoor, First State Bank; Patty Kersey, CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport; Leslie Carter, True to Life Ministries; Deborah Ewing, Brazosport College; Amber Garkow Staybridge/Candlewood Suites; Connie Wiegel, Port Freeport; Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance Agency & Leadership Brazosport Co-Chair and Matt Allen, The Cordoba Law Firm, PLLC.

Leadership is not a title, it's a responsibility



# Brazosport Professionals Network



Giovanna Swisher, Baird, gave a presentation on Best Practices for savings, retirement and college funds to the Brazosport Professional's Network group. Pictured are: Giovanna Swisher, Baird and Meredith King, True to Life Ministries.



The Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce Co-Hosted the National Day of Prayer at several cities in the Brazosport Area. Many thanks to Fred Ortiz, Help, Inc., for Chairing this event. Photo: The National Day of Prayer held in Lake Jackson



## Congratulations



Congratulations to the Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport for being recognized as Texas' General Aviation Airport of the Year by the Texas Department of Transportation!

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Angleton ISD Education Foundation  
1900 N. Downing Rd., Angleton  
Allison Hemphill, 979-864-8000  
Education Foundation

Brazos Crossing Apartment Homes  
4501 Brazosport Blvd. North, Richwood  
Brandi Sullivan, 979-529-9851  
[www.BrazosCrossingApts.com](http://www.BrazosCrossingApts.com)  
Apartment Complex

Bridwell Wellness Center  
113 Abner Jackson Parkway, Ste. C, Lake Jackson  
Aaron Bridwell, 979-480-9922  
[www.bwcchiropractic.com](http://www.bwcchiropractic.com)  
Chiropractic/Wellness/Massage Therapy /Physical Therapy

Gulf Coast Casa  
104 W. Myrtle Street, Ste. 226, Angleton  
Roslyn Jones, 979-308-4576  
[www.casa-mw.org](http://www.casa-mw.org)  
Non-Profit

Coastal Family Medicine  
230 Parking Way, Lake Jackson  
Samantha Gonzalez, 979-487-2135  
[www.coastalfamilymedicineLJ.com](http://www.coastalfamilymedicineLJ.com)  
Family Physician

Chicken Express—Lake Jackson  
105 Winding Way, Lake Jackson  
Cary McDade, 979-292-8563  
[www.chickene.com](http://www.chickene.com)  
Restaurant

Crescentwood Apartments  
100 Lakeview Drive, Clute  
Lindsey Richardson, 979-265-8799  
[www.crescentwoodapartments.com](http://www.crescentwoodapartments.com)  
Apartments

Felicia Austin's House of Beauty  
98 Parking Way, Lake Jackson  
Felicia Austin, 979-215-4297  
[www.feliciaaustinhouseofbeauty.com](http://www.feliciaaustinhouseofbeauty.com)  
Personal Services & Care/Beauty Salon/Weddings

Fresh and Fit  
100 Hwy. 332, #1328  
Tracy Page, 979-264-0442  
<https://www.facebook.com/freshandfitlakejackson>  
Health Food, Smoothies, Juice Bar

Help, Inc.  
127 Circle Way, Lake Jackson  
Fred Ortiz, 979-480-0197  
[www.helpinctexas.com](http://www.helpinctexas.com)  
Personal Care Assistance/Companion Care/DME  
Equipment/Mastectomy Emporium

Kid's Party Planet  
440 Plantation Drive, Lake Jackson  
Patrick Ratliff, 979-201-0435  
<https://www.facebook.com/kidspartyplanetlakejackson/>  
Indoor Playground/Party Venue

Krave'm Cakes  
113 N. Parking Place, Lake Jackson  
Krista Friemel, 979-236-4441  
<https://www.facebook.com/KravemCakes>  
Bakery/Party Catering/Classes

McDonald's—Clute  
1028 Dixie Drive, Clute  
David Torres, 979-297-3824  
<https://facebook.com/McDonalds1028DixieDrive/>  
Restaurant

Merry Maids of Southern Brazoria County  
1003 W. Plantation Drive, Clute  
Nathan Christopher, 979-236-8329  
Residential Cleaning Service

MPP Texas  
149 Wilson Crest Drive, Fort Worth, TX  
[www.mpptexas.com](http://www.mpptexas.com)  
Patrick Gorman, 210-758-0909  
Excavation/Construction/Home Repairs

Non-Destructive Inspection Corp.  
617 S. Lazy Lane, Clute  
Mark Rosebud, 979-265-9277  
[www.ndictexas.com](http://www.ndictexas.com)  
Industrial, Manufacturing/Petrochemical Inspections

R-C Ranch Texas Craft Beef  
P.O. Box 1989, Angleton 77516  
Michelle Homniok, 979-864-3540  
<https://r-cranch.com>  
Wagyu Beef Supplier

Stand Out Fashion  
22 Circle Way, Lake Jackson  
Kamisha Jackson, 979-709-0186  
Clothing & Accessories

# Welcome NEW MEMBERS

Stevens & Rau, P.C.  
2513 North Velasco, Angleton  
Stephanie T. Clem, 979-849-6484  
Law Firm

TAP Industrial Services  
626 Mockingbird Lane, Clute  
Thomas Friudenberg, 979-266-9085  
[www.tapindustrialservices.com](http://www.tapindustrialservices.com)  
Industrial, Manufacturing & Petrochemical/Scaffolding  
& Insulation/Contractors/Specialty Coating

WORKish/Coworking and Business Lounge  
210 Lake Road, Ste. 100A, Lake Jackson  
Devin Randon, 979-529-2320  
Meeting & Event Management

## Groundbreaking CEREMONY



The Brazosport Area Chamber of Commerce conducted a ground breaking for:

**NCHI Homes**  
410 Magnolia Lane, Richwood  
Dr. Mathia Tchamento, 281-433-5858  
[www.nchihomes.com](http://www.nchihomes.com)  
High Quality Single Family Rental





# The Chamber Brazosport Area

The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

## Ribbon Cuttings



### **Brazoria County Dream Center**

792 S. Hwy. 288-B, Clute

Terri Willis, 979-388-0280

[www.bcdreamcenter.org](http://www.bcdreamcenter.org)

Non-Profit



### **Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches**

200 W. Hwy. 332, Lake Jackson

Kevin McGovern, 979-292-0253

[www.jimmyjohns.com](http://www.jimmyjohns.com)

Restaurant



### **McDonald's—Clute**

1028 Dixie Drive, Clute

David Torres, 979-297-3824

<https://www.facebook.com/mcdonalds1028dixiedr/>

Restaurant



### **Blue Water RV Resort**

11511 Bluewater Hwy., Freeport,

Mark Joffrion, 979-239-4301

[www.bluewaterrvpark.com](http://www.bluewaterrvpark.com)

RV Resort/Restaurant/Sports & Recreation ~9~



# The Chamber Brazosport Area

The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

## Ribbon Cuttings



### WORKish/Coworking and Business Lounge

210 Lake Road, Ste. 100A, Lake Jackson

Devin Randon, 979-529-2320

Meeting & Event Management



### TAP Industrial Services

626 Mockingbird Lane, Clute

Thomas Friudenberg, 979-266-9085

[www.tapindustrialservices.com](http://www.tapindustrialservices.com)

Contractors, Scaffolding, Insulation, Specialty Coatings



### Krave'm Cakes

113 N. Parking Place, Lake Jackson

Krista Friemel, 979-236-4441

<https://www.facebook.com/KravemCakes>

Bakery/Party Catering/Classes



### Brazoria County Library System

912 N. Velasco, Angleton TX

Tom West, 979-864-1505

[www.bcls.lib.tx.us](http://www.bcls.lib.tx.us)

New Administration Office



# PORT FREEPORT RELEASES UPDATED ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

**A**t the regularly scheduled meeting held May 16th, Port Commissioners voted to accept the 2019 Economic Impact Analysis performed by Texas A&M Transportation Institute. The study was based upon 2017 data and revealed a statewide economic impact of 150,651 jobs, federal tax revenues of \$3.2 billion, and a total economic output of \$98.8 billion, double the economic output reported in the last analysis performed in 2016.

“Brazoria County and the surrounding area have experienced a substantial amount of growth since the 2016 TTI study. Billions of dollars have been invested in the petrochemical industry which, coupled with the addition of new tenants and new infrastructure at Port Freeport, have expanded production capabilities and contributed to higher employment, sustaining the economic growth and competitiveness of Port Freeport and the Freeport Harbor Channel,” said Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport Executive Director/CEO.

The results of the study estimate the total economic impact that the Freeport Harbor Channel has on local, statewide, and national economies through the operation of and investment in leased and privately-owned terminals. The impacts of the study are provided as direct, indirect and induced effects of the operations along the Freeport Harbor Channel and are reported in terms of employment, production, income, and tax revenues. The economic impact of Port Freeport to the U.S. economy is 279,780 jobs, federal tax revenues of \$5.4 billion, and a total economic impact output of \$149 billion. Port Freeport 2017 exports exceeded \$1.48 billion, up by nearly 58 percent from the previous year.

“The Port Commission is pleased to see the results of the updated economic impact study which clearly shows the value of the Freeport Harbor Channel to the entire region,” said Port Commission Chairman Paul Kresta. “These results, combined with the future investments expected at the Port and in the region, it is safe to say we can look forward to many more years of prosperity for Port Freeport, Brazoria County, Texas and the nation.

The Economic Impact Analysis Report in its entirety can be found at [www.portfreeport.com/about/economic-impact](http://www.portfreeport.com/about/economic-impact).



# *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. The following are the donations received since 2011 to date. We are so grateful to these members for their contributions to the Chamber as well as the community.

**\$2,500:**

Freeport LNG

**\$1150:**

Gordon & Nancy Wollam

**\$1,100:**

The Dow Chemical Company

Gulf Coast S&S

Leo Martin Chevrolet

**\$1,000:**

American Realty

**\$950:**

BASF Corp.

**\$850:**

CHI St. Luke's Health Brazosport

**\$650:**

Corky & Vicki Melass

**\$600:**

First National Bank

Dr. Perry Mueller

**\$550:**

Blue Water Dental Care

Kid's Way Clinic

MSR Houston, LLC

Art & Lynn Vandaveer

**\$500:**

Representative Dennis & Kim Bonnen

Brazosport CAER

CenterPoint Energy

K&S Restaurants

Nalco

Shintech

Bob & Lori Sipple

**\$451:**

Comfort Suites

**\$300:**

Dairy Bar

Killum Pest Control

Kitty's Purple Cow

Commissioner Dude & Debra Payne

**\$350:**

Dr. Alkesh Amin, M.D.P.A

**\$250:**

Angleton Decorating & Upholstery Center

Brazosport Leadership Class of 2015

Brown's Auto Sales

Great American Title

McDonough Engineering

Merrill Lynch

SI Group, Inc.

State Farm Insurance—George Franklin

David & Renee Winder

**\$210:**

Snap Fitness

**\$200:**

Dr. T.E. Allen

Clute Pawn & Jewelry

Freeport Welding & Fabrication, Inc.

iAD Architects

Luycx Plumbing

Sharon Rogers

TJ's Lube

Tom's Pawn

Wells Fargo Advisors—Gary Foose

**\$150:**

Mejia Industrial Supply

Judge Matt Sebesta

Texas Crewboats

**\$125:**

Sandlin Broadcasting Company

Servpro of Galveston & Lake Jackson

**\$100:**

Baymont Inn & Suites

Beach Front Properties

Blue Water Dental Center

Brazosport Pediatric Clinic, PA

Brevard Company

Tom Chaffin

D-Square Foundation Repair

Freeport-Lakewood Funeral Homes

Goodpaster's & Associates

Infinity Construction Services, LP

**\$100 Continued:**

Offshore Oil Services

On the River/River Point Restaurants

Port Freeport

Prather & Harlan A/C

Kat Roebuck

Patty Sayes

Sorrell Construction Equipment &

Materials

State Farm Insurance—Kalen Bailey

State Farm Insurance—Wayne

Reitmeyer

TDECU-Your Credit Union

The Facts

The Source Weekly

VCA Lake Jackson Animal Hospital

Victory Insurance Agency

Village of Jones Creek

U.S. Representative Randy Weber

Robert Worley

**\$75:**

Eubanks & Company 2

**\$50:**

ABC Realty

Brown Hearing Centers

Creskide Village Healthcare

Don Davis Delearships-LJ

Dottie Duby

Em-Print Company

McDonough Engineering Corporation

Payroll Vault

Red Wing Shoe Store

Spence's Medical Center Pharmacy

Total Safety U.S., Inc.

Wal-Mart Super Center

**\$40:**

Mayor Joe Rinehart

**\$25:**

Brazosport Corporate Housing

Judge Jack Brown

Red Snapper Inn





“TASTE” 2019

# WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF OUR 2019 TASTE OF THE TOWN SPONSORS!

*We Couldn't Do It  
Without You!*

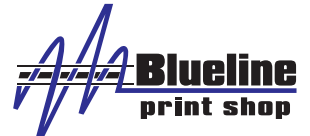


ALTUS  
EMERGENCY CENTERS



Ashley  
HOMESTORE

**BASF**  
We create chemistry



Health  
Angleton Danbury  
Campus

