



300 Abner Jackson Pkwy, Brazosport, TX 77566
979-285-2501 Fax 979-285-2505 Website: www.brazosport.org
E-Mail: chamber@brazosportchamber.org

Check us out on Facebook
for the most current
events!



February 2024

Awards Luncheon

The 3rd Annual Awards Luncheon will be held on
Wednesday, February 28th at 11:30 a.m. at the Dow
Academic Center at Brazosport College.

The Chamber will honor the Outstanding Man &
Woman of the Year, Business/Industry Partner of the
Year and the Ambassador of the Year.

If you would like to make a reservation, please visit
our website www.brazosport.org or email
chamber@brazosportchamber.org or call 979-285-
2501, as there are limited seats available



Inside This Issue:

2. Chairman's Message
3. New Members
4. Ribbon Cuttings
5. Ribbon Cuttings
6. Membership Luncheon
7. Tourism Update
8. 2024 Board of Directors
9. Committees & Task Forces
10. Committees & Task Forces
11. Congratulations Corner
12. Our Lady Queen of Peace



Chairman's Message.

As we enter 2024, I am honored to serve as the Chairman of the Board. I want to extend my sincere gratitude to Scott Daigle and the 2023 Board of Directors for their outstanding leadership throughout the past year.

Congratulations to the newly appointed 2024 Board of Directors. We are set to embark on an ambitious Strategic Plan, detailed in this newsletter. I want to encourage all of you to consider active participation this year by joining a committee or task force. Inside this newsletter, you'll find a committee selection form for your convenience. Volunteering usually requires an hour or less per month to serve. Your involvement is crucial, and together, we can make a significant impact on our community.

This year's chosen slogan is "We are in this together!" It reflects my belief that through collaborative efforts, we can achieve greater unity and success, both individually and corporately, for the benefit of the entire community. One impactful way to contribute is by supporting our local businesses. Let's make a conscious effort to shop locally for all purchases, big or small, and strengthen our local economy as our businesses flourish.

I invite you to mark your calendars for our upcoming Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, February 28th, at the Dow Academic Center at 11:30 a.m. Join us as we recognize the Outstanding Man & Woman of the Year, Business/Industry Partner of the Year and the Ambassador of the Year. Make reservations on our website (www.brazosport.org) or by contacting the Chamber office at 979-285-2501 or via e-mail at chamber@brazosportchamber.org. We hope you will make plans to join us in honoring these deserving recipients.

Exciting news! The Chamber is partnering with Community Matters on a new Brazosport area map. This detailed map will feature points of interest, such as parks, schools, public buildings, hospitals, shopping centers, and more. For the first time ever, the map will be available on our Chamber website as an interactive tool. This publication remains highly sought after, and we are thrilled to enhance its accessibility.

I want to thank you for being a valued member of the Brazosport Area Chamber. Together, let's continue working towards the future growth and economic prosperity of our area. If you have any questions or suggestions for this year, I welcome your input.

Donald "Dude" Payne
2024 Chairman of the Board
"We're in this Together!"

NEW MEMBERS

Ann's Party Place

202 N. Gulf Blvd., Freeport
Ann Johnston, 979-236-0393
Rental Event Facility

Brazoswood Apartment Homes

255 Brazoswood Drive, Clute
Sylvia Lindloff, 979-529-9792
<https://BrazoswoodApartments.com>
Apartment Complex

Casa Brazoria Homes

301 Verde Dr., Ofc, Clute
Susan Heathco, 979-529-9792
<https://casabrazoriacom>
Apartment Complex

Community Matters, Inc.

2979 Pack Saddle Way, Frisco, TX
Layne Mullin, 972-370-1778
<https://communitymattersinc.com/>
Advertising & Media/Publications

Costa Verde Apartment Homes

101 Verde Dr., Ofc.
Susan Heathco, 979-529-9792
<https://wilhoitliving.com/properties/costa-verde>
Apartment Complex

Deep Roots Salon

125 SH 332, Ste. G, Lake Jackson
Jillian Thomas, 979-316-3063
Hair Salon

Gilbraltar Senior

101 Verde Drive, Ofc., Clute
Susan Heathco, 979-529-9792
<https://GilbraltarSenior.com>
Apartment Complex

Lander Graphics

Mark Lander, 979-417-5550
<https://landergraphics.com>
Advertising & Media

Lone Star Tactical Services

James Beadel, 979-417-3318
jrbeadel@yahoo.com
Security, Fire Arm Training, LTC Classes, Active Assailant Training

Ms. Ophelia's Place, LLC

829 County Road 687, Angleton
Nicole Monroe, 979-331-3518
Home Health Care/Assisted Living

NCHI Services Group, LLC

Dr. Manias Tchamengo, 281-433-5858
www.nchiproperties.com, contact@nchiproperties.com
Real Estate/Corporate Housing

OG Patagonia Solutions, LLC

Dr. Steven Mondragon, 979-331-5979
<https://ogpatagoniasolutions.com>
Engineering, Manufacturing & Petrochemical, Oil & Gas

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic School

1600 FM 2004, Richwood
Lauri Weigle, 979-265-3909
<https://www.olqpschool.org/>
Schools, Education, Non-Profit

Psychology Works

210 Lake Road, Lake Jackson
Dr. Dedra Frazier, 979-285-9242
<https://www.psychologyworkstx.com/>
Counseling

Tom's Sport Shop

349 E. Plantation, Ste. A, Clute
Brian Garrett, 979-480-1154
<https://tomssportshop.com>
Firearms, Knives, Accessories, Training Classes & Gunsmith Services

Triple R Plumbing

306 CR 655, Brazoria
Randall Norsworthy, 979-379-8484
<https://facebook.com/TripleRPlumbingTX>
Plumbing Contractor

The Chamber Brazosport Area

The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

Ribbon Cutting



Great American Title Company

212 That Way, Lake Jackson

Kim Taylor, 979-230-3900

www.greatamericantitle.com

Title Company



Homegrown Healthcare

207 That Way, Ste. C, Lake Jackson

Brandy Vandergriff, 979-615-0115

<https://homegrownhealthcaretx.com>

Healthcare



Candlewood Suites

506 E. Hwy. 332, Lake Jackson

Nitin Patel, 979-297-0011

www.candlewoodsuites.com

Hotel



Freeport Historical Museum

Grand Re-Opening & Newly Restructured
Museum

311 E. Park Avenue, Freeport

Wade Dillon, 979-233-0066

The Chamber Brazosport Area

The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

Ribbon Cutting



Deep Roots Salon

125 SH 332, Ste. G, Lake Jackson
Jillian Thomas, 979-316-3063
Hair Salon



Your Family Healthcare

229 Parking Way, Lake Jackson
Dr. Nikki Hodges, 979-297-4066
www.yourfamilyhealthcare.org
Physician—Family Practice



Triple R Plumbing

306 CR 655, Brazoria
Randall Norsworthy, 979-379-8484
<https://facebook.com/TripleRPlumbingTX>
Plumbing Contractor



Gateway Mortgage Group

112 S. Parking Place, Lake Jackson
Steve Thompson, 979-318-2889
www.gatewayloan.com
Mortgage Company

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON

Sponsored by: **FREEPORT LNG**

Pictured L to R: Judge Jack Brown;
Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport;
Commissioner Donald "Dude" Payne,
Brazosport Chamber Chairman of the
Board; Joe Ripple, Brazoria County
Flood Plain Director and Sandra Shaw,
Brazosport Chamber President & CEO.



Thank you to our Major Sponsor Freeport LNG and to all of our Table Sponsors: BASF Corp., Brazosport I.S.D., Cordoba Law Firm, PLLC, The Economic Development Alliance for Brazoria County, Grapevine Gifts, Neldal Insurance Agency, MEGlobal, Port Freeport & TBT Real Estate.



Commissioner Donald
"Dude" Payne, Brazosport
Chamber Chairman of the
Board.



Joe Ripple, Brazoria
County Flood Plain
Director.



Phyllis Saathoff, Port
Freeport, gave an
informative presentation
on Port Freeport.

TOURISM UPDATE

Edith Fischer, Director of Tourism, is the current board chair of the Texas Independence Trail Region, (TITR). This economic development initiative encourages communities, heritage regions, and the state to partner and promote Texas' historic and cultural resources. The TITR is comprised of 28 counties in southeast Texas that share the same heritage story. As board chair, she was invited to attend the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Heritage Trails Program Winter Statewide meeting last month. At the meeting, she was introduced to the agency's new executive director, Dr. Ed Lengel, learned about the Texas State Preservation Board and the Texas Historical Commission's Historic Highways Program, along with informative Texas Heritage Trail Regions updates.

She also attended the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Bringing Back Main Street Roundtable with the Freeport Main Street. She currently serves on the Freeport Historical Commission & Main Street Advisory Board. The Roundtable included H-GAC's Livable Centers, Resources and Strategies for Downtown Development, and the redevelopment of The Dirty South in Angleton.



Edith Fischer; Dr. Ed Lengel, THC Executive Director; Seneca McAdams, Texas Independence Trail Region Executive Director.



Teresa Caldwell, Texas Heritage Trails Program State Coordinator; Edith Fischer; Sarah Page, Texas Heritage Tourism Program Coordinator



Robert Johnson, Freeport EDC; Ana Silbas, Freeport Main Street; Edith Fischer; Betty Lopez, Freeport Main Street Board, Jose Lopez.



Edith Fischer, Betty Lopez, Jose Lopez, Ana Silbas, Freeport Main Street Coordinator

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chairman of the BoardDonald “Dude” Payne, Brazoria County Commissioner
Chair-Elect, V.C., Organizational Division.Heather Rimato, Rimato Insurance
VICE CHAIRMEN: Secretary/Treasurer.....Preston Phillips, Third Coast Bank
Community Issues DivisionDavid Winder, BASF Corp.
Convention & Tourism DivisionNancy Wollam, Rep. Cody Vasut's Office
Economic Development Division.....Joe Ripple, Brazoria County Flood Plain Director.
Membership Division.....Jeff Fischels, H-E-B
Public Affairs DivisionJason Cordoba, Cordoba Law Firm, P.L.L.C.
Past Chairman.....Scott Daigle, MEGlobal
President/CEO.....Sandra Shaw

DIRECTORS:

Terms Expire 12/31/24:

Brent Bowles, iAD Architects
Nitin Patel, Candlewood/Staybridge Suites
Josh Brian—TDECU
Gabriella Cone, The Dow Chemical Company
Judge Jack Brown, Pct. 1, Place 1

Terms Expire 12/31/25:

Tammie Bell, TBT Real Estate
Danny Massey, Brazosport I.S.D.
Stacy Stanley, Offshore Oil Services
Neldia Ahlquist, Neldal Insurance
Dr. Vincent Solis, Brazosport College

Terms Expire 12/31/26:

Julie Edwards, Elaine's Fashions
Mark Holian, Gulf Coast Auto
Kenneth K. Vernor, Vernor Materials & Equipment
Paul Spinks, Shintech
Jordan Strother, First State Bank



The Economic Engine of Brazoria County

2024 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.

- **Awards Luncheon**—Coordinate the Awards Luncheon scheduled on February 28, 2024. The Luncheon will honor the Outstanding Man & Woman of the Year, Ambassador of the Year & Industry Partner of the Year.
- **The Ambassadors**--Serve as the public relations arm of the Chamber at ribbon cutting ceremonies and various Chamber events throughout the year.
- **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 Branch Park Pavilion on February 25, 2025.
- **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.
- **Dinner & Auction**--Conduct a Dinner & Auction on August 8, 2024.
- **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 on December 8, 2024.
- **Leadership Task Force**—Conduct the 2025 Leadership Brazosport Class designed to develop the future leaders of the community.
- **Lodging & Attractions Committee**--Gather and exchange information to cross-promote attractions.
- **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 local ministers to implement prayer sessions on National Day of Prayer on May 2, 2024.
- **Safetytown Coordinating Committee**--Provide an organized, educational safety program for children having completed kindergarten.

- **Shop Local Weekend**—Conduct a three-day fun-filled event to promote shopping locally with Chamber members. Held June 21st-23rd, 2024, participants get to enjoy a free continental breakfast, a free shopping bag and a chance to win \$1,000 cash.
- **State of the Community**—Host a luncheon in September or October 2024, providing reports on various sectors of the Brazosport economy.
- **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.

2024 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: Chamber@brazosportchamber.org

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

- ☐ Awards Luncheon
- ☐ The Ambassador's
- ☐ Brazosport Professional Network
- ☐ Dinner & Auction
- ☐ Government Affairs Committee
- ☐ Holiday Tour of Homes
- ☐ Leadership Task Force

- ☐ Membership Luncheons
- ☐ National Prayer Day
- ☐ Safetytown Coordinating Committee
- ☐ Shop Local Weekend
- ☐ State of the Community
- ☐ Transportation Committee

CONGRATULATIONS CORNER

PORT FREEPORT RECEIVES 34th CONSECUTIVE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

For the 34th consecutive year, Port Freeport received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

“This award personifies the attitude and approach the port takes toward financial reporting. I am extremely thankful of the leadership efforts demonstrated by the Finance Department as well as the support provided by the entire port staff in maintaining the high standards required of this award,” Rob Lowe, CFO, said.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

“The Port's accounting and financial reporting system is maintained at the highest national standard possible demonstrated by this award. The Accounting and Finance Department continues to demonstrate excellence in their practices and this award reflects the work they do year after year,” Port Commission Chairman Ravi Singhania said.

The ACFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the ACFR. The GFOA is a major professional association serving more than 23,000 governmental finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, D.C.



The GFOA Award is presented to members of the Accounting and Finance Department by Port Freeport Commissioners and Executive Staff.

ANNUAL
HOME & SCHOOL



GOLF

TOURNAMENT

2024

FOOD – FUN – PRIZES

MARCH 4, 2024

TEE TIME 10A.M.



The Wilderness Golf Course
501 HWY 332 W
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

REGISTER NOW

Email:

homeandschool@olqpschool.org

Individual \$125, Team of 4 - \$450

Register before December 31, 2023 for an
early bird discount!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!