



Bryant Business Chronicle



A Bryant Chamber of Commerce Publication

April, 2009

Welcome New Members

Morning Glory Donuts

Christy Durham

4430 Highway 5 N ♦ Bryant, AR 72022

653-2829

cmdurham@baptist-health.org

Donut shop open 6 days a week, 5 to 11 a.m. Owners are Mike and Christy Durham who purchased from Strawns.

Abundant Life Assembly of God

Tim Boyett

P.O. Box 764 ♦ Bryant, AR 72089

847-4357/FAX 847-4357

abundantlifeaog@sbcglobal.net

An exciting church whose purpose is to love God, invest in others, feed on His word and engage our world.

CAMS (Containers & Mobile Storage)

Robert Cameron

150 W. Hillcrest Dr. ♦ Alexander, AR 72022

255-0800

robertcameron2@sbcglobal.net

www.getacams.com

Portable storage. This product makes storage and moving easy.

Saline County Health Unit

Eydie Abercrombie

1612 Edison Ave. ♦ Benton, AR 72015

303-5650/FAX 303-5602

edith.abercrombie@arkansas.gov

Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., offering clinic services at minimal/no cost - immunizations, breast/cervical cancer prevention; WIC; reproductive health; etc..

City Market

Neill Washburn

5914 Highway 5 N ♦ Bryant, AR 72022

847-900/FAX 847-9599

cm2010@citymarketfoodstore.com

A neighborhood grocery store. The freshest meat, freshest produce and freshest store.

Four Action Teams Working Projects

The Bryant 20/20 Action Teams have formed and are working on their projects. The teams are Recycling, Beautification and Revitalization, Youth Programs and Welcome Team.

Recycling Team, lead by Jim Erwin, has set a mission to “improve recycling efforts of the Bryant area community by fostering and sustaining quality living through a clean environment.” They have met with a representative from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality and with the manager of the Saline County Regional Waste Management District. Sixteen people have signed up for the team.

The Beautification and Revitalization Team has identified clean up at the commuter parking lot and a possible planting of flowers (if the Arkansas Highway Department will permit) as their starting project. The team has eight people on their list. The original list was 3 people. “Interest has grown but this team could still use helpers,” noted Rae Ann Fields, chamber director.

Youth Programs Team, lead by Derek Phillips with the Bryant Parks Department, is working on encouraging neighborhood parks and recognition for developers who put park spaces in their development. One thought is to have ribbon cuttings for neighborhood parks. Other projects and programs for youth are being discussed.

Welcome Team has identified a locator map for visitors to the town and training for front line employees as their first efforts. The locator maps will be done in conjunction with our Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce Education Committee to earn scholarship money through ad sales on the maps. The second project, giving restaurant, hotel, service station and other first contact people tools to help visitors is in the planning stages. Those tools might include information about what’s “going on” in the area and where families might go for entertainment or adventure.

These teams are the result of months of planning coordinated by the Chamber, city and school district. Town hall meetings, online input and surveys were used to get ideas for Bryant’s future then narrowed down to the most desired improvements. All projects are being pursued by citizen teams and are not projects of the Chamber, the City or the District.

One team that was recommended, the safety team, did not form as no one who attended the formation meeting was interested in pursuing this effort. “However, if anyone were to want to do this, we would help facilitate,” said Jim Garland, Chairperson for the Civic and Government Affairs Committee.

Finds of the Month

(A "find" is a service or product that a Chamber member offers that is not what they are known for -- or is a special value or brings recognition to Bryant and the area.)

Midtown Farmers' Market

Midtown Bryant will host a Farmers' Market Saturday mornings beginning May 2 at Midtown Market Square. They are now signing up vendors. If interested, contact carole@midtownbryant.com.

Funds Sought for DECA

To Whom It May Concern:

Bryant High School Deca is an organization that seeks to provide an interactive, hands-on learning environment for marketing students. It places students in positions of responsibility for management and operations. We provide an opportunity for student to learn entrepreneurial and retail skills, group problem solving and effective decision making. We encourage creativity and innovation and help students learn a broad range of academic and career-oriented skills. We provide an opportunity for students to learn about a member of aspects of the business, not just the specifics of a particular job within that business.

Several DECA students competed at the Arkansas State DECA competition in Automotive Services, Accounting Applications, Business Services, and Internet Marketing. They qualified to go to the nationals by placing in the top 3 of their division. Now, we have the opportunity to represent Bryant High School and the State of Arkansas at the ICDC (International Career Development Conference) in Anaheim, California from April 28 to May 2, 2009. We are attempting to raise money in order to compete at this conference.

Any funds would be greatly appreciated. Please make your mark by helping us make ours. Thank you for support of Bryant High School DECA!

Sincerely

Alena McNew

Bryant High School DECA

e-mail Alena at

amcnew@bryantschools.org

A Chamber logo is available to members for posting on your website or Facebook pages.

CodeRED

The City of Bryant has instituted the CodeRED Emergency Notification System, an ultra high speed telephone communication system for emergency notifications.

If you are within the City limits, you can register for the system by going on the Bryant Fire Department website, www.bryantfirerescue.net and selecting CodeRed along the left. Then you will be connected with the CodeRED website. You will need to click on the CodeRED logo and then follow the prompts to enter your information.

The systems will allow telephone alerts to the whole city or targeted areas. Some applications for calls are missing child, boil orders, evacuation notices and flood/fire/tornado warnings.

National Teacher Appreciation May 4-8

National teacher appreciation week is May 4-8th. Do something nice for a hard-working teacher.

Stimulus Money Hires Summer Help

The Central Arkansas Planning and Development District can help hire your company some summer help -- paid with stimulus money!

The Department of Workforce Services Summer Youth Stimulus program is available through the CAPDD.

The employee would be working from May 1 to Sept. 30 and must be full time workers -- 40 hours a week. Wages are paid, workers compensation is paid and any necessary safety equipment for the worker to do the job is paid.

The company must furnish a job description, safety items needed, supervise the employee, fill out a time sheet every other Friday and do a one page evaluation every month.

For more information, contact Mark Gillis, 1-501-860-3883.

Community Meetings

Bryant School Board

Monday, May 18 • 6:00 p.m.
Professional Development Room

Bryant Water Commission

Tuesday, May 12 • 5:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Planning Commission

Monday, May 11 • 6:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Parks Commission

Monday, May 18 • 6:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant City Council

Thursday, May 14 • 7:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

May Calendar



- 5-1.....Education Committee Scholarships awarded, 11a.m, Bryant High School
- 5-4.....Recycling Team, 6 p.m.Chamber
- 5-5.....Economic Development, noon, Chamber
- 5-7.....Civic & Government Affairs, 1:30 p.m., Chamber
- 5-8.....Pizza Party for Arkansas Scholars Seniors
- 5-12.....Fall Fest Committee, noon, Chamber
- 5-13.....Board Meeting, noon, Chamber
- 5-14.....Ribbon Cuttings
- 5-19.....Christmas Committee, noon, Chamber
- 5-21.....Highlight Bryant Lunch, noon
- 5-25.....Chamber office closed
Memorial Day
- 5-26.....Taste of Bryant Committee, 3 p.m. Chamber
- 5-28.....Ribbon Cuttings
- 5-28.....Taste of Bryant Committee, 3 p.m. Chamber
- 5-28.....Joint AFTER HOURS with the Bryant and Benton Young Professionals Networks hosting, St. Regis Event Center, 5:30 p.m.

Bryant 20/20 Teams

Recycling (16 on team)

FOCUS: Improve recycling efforts

LEADER: Jim Erwin

MEETING: First Mondays

PLACE: Chamber office

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

How communicate? E-mail

Welcome (8 on team)

FOCUS: Visitor Packets for Restaurants, Hotels, Service Stations, Spanish/English.

LEADER: David Hannah

MEETING:

PLACE:

TIME:

How communicate? E-mail

Youth Programs (10 on team)

FOCUS: Neighborhood parks

LEADER: Derek Phillips

MEETING: As Called

PLACE: Parks & Recreation

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

How communicate? E-mail

Beautification/ Revitalization (3 on team)

FOCUS: Clean up around commuter lot and overpasses.

LEADER: Carrie Roedel Facilitating

MEETING: As called

PLACE: Chamber office

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

How communicate? E-mail

Locator Map Ads Are Due



If you have purchased one of the business card ads on the Wally Hall/Babe Ruth tournament locator maps and we do not yet have your ad copy, please get that to the Chamber.

The Education Committee and Bryant 20/20 Welcome Team have worked together on the locator map project. The money from the ad sales will go toward scholarships for graduating seniors.

The Welcome Team had already set the goal of locator maps for the hotels to use during events.

Why be Active in the Chamber Now?

According to the 2008 Edelman Trust Barometer, peers are the most credible source of information about a company. Do your peers in business in Bryant know you? During a tight economy, this is one effort that pays dividends.

The Edelman study showed that 58% believe what "person like me" says about an organization. This study also concludes that 78% of those ages 35-64 and 83% of those ages 25-34 were "likely to trust what they have seen, read or heard about a company if someone they already know has mentioned it to them."

One way to be known to your peers is to attend Chamber functions. Our third Thursday Highlight Bryant lunches are designed to put you in the same room with other business people so you can network. At these lunches you are asked to introduce yourself and say a little about your company.

The main speaker will spend 10-15 minutes telling us about their business.

"We started this to get Chamber members to know each other better. It must be working because we are booked through October with speakers," said Jason Brown.

Working with other business people on projects or committees is another way to connect with your peers. Committees like Christmas Committee, Fall Fest, Golf Committee, Taste of Bryant, Monster Madness at Mills and Winter Banquet bond people together as they work on an event.

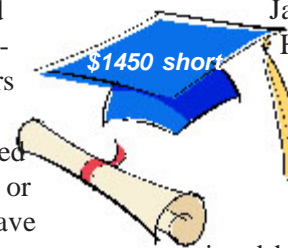
Other committees such as Ambassador/Membership, Civic & Government Affairs, Economic Development, Education Committee, Web Site Committee and Young Professionals Network put you in touch with leaders or soon-to-be leaders in our community.

Scholarship Drive Ending

The Chamber is still \$1,450 short of the needed amount to fund 15 scholarships for graduating seniors to be presented May 1.

Businesses are asked to support at the \$50, \$250 or \$500 level. Those who have committed to date are:

- Wally Hall Tournament -- \$2,500
- Everett Buick Pontiac -- \$500
- Rineco -- \$500
- Granite Mountain Quarry -- \$500
- Saline Memorial Hospital -- \$500
- First Security -- \$500
- Fleming Electric -- \$250
- Bryant Storage Center -- \$250
- Heartland Community Bank -- \$100
- Edmonson Screen Printing -- \$50
- ProCare -- \$50
- Just for Cruisin -- \$50
- bryantdaily.com -- \$50
- Stress Free Graphics -- \$50



Bank of the Ozarks -- \$50

Janet Watson -- \$50

Humane Society of Saline County -- \$50

Gladco -- \$50

Chamber scholarship are selected by a three member committee which is appointed by the Education Committee.

The selection criteria is a 2.75 grade point average, financial need, evidence of community service, a desire to further their education in Arkansas and residency in the Bryant School District.

Those who sponsor the scholarships will be invited to the award the scholarships at Bryant High School on Friday, May 1. If you are unable to attend, Rae Ann Fields will present for your company.

Call 847-4702 to learn more.

Membership Drive

The Ambassador/Membership Committee is conducting an additional membership drive during the last week of April.

The drive will focus on new businesses and businesses in town that have not been members of the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce. As with the traditional fall membership drive, the companies who join during this drive will qualify for a 10% discount on their membership dues. "If you know of anyone who is trying to decide whether to join the Chamber, let them know now is the time," said Jason Brown of Farmers Insurance, chairperson.

Hwy. 5 Sets 3rd Market

The Highway 5 Baptist Church will begin their 3rd Annual Bryant Farmers market on June 1. The market will be open each Monday & Thursday from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. Lunch is served from 11 to 1 p.m. Call 231-8183 or visit www.highway5baptistchurch.com for more information.



Postal Survey Coming

Continuing concern about the Post Office in Bryant and the Postal Services' recent announcement that they will not be doing the renovation promised last year (at least at this time) has prompted the Chamber to create a survey to see if there is a desire among members for the Chamber to take other steps.

We will be e-mailing our members and invitation to go online and take the survey. Your honestly shared information will help us devise the proper strategy. The survey is 15 short answer questions. Most are mark one box responses. A couple are open-ended.

Please take a moment of your time to consider your answers so we may serve you better.

Bryant Chamber of Commerce

109 Roya Lane
P.O. Box 261
Bryant, AR 72089

FALL FEST EXHIBIT BOOTH REGISTRATION

Saturday, September 26, 2009 • Mills Park in Bryant • 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Fun for the entire family!!
CAR SHOW IS BACK! • Free Admission and Parking
Live Music & Entertainment • Games • Arts & Crafts • Parade
Business Booths • 14,000 Attendance • Food Court • Kidzland

10 x 10 booth spaces - bring your own table or equipment

Please order more than one booth if your set-up will take any additional space. (Example: a truck)

**If you are selling or serving food or drink of any kind you will need the Food Vendor Form!!
NOT THIS FORM!**

Chamber Members: \$60.00 for first 10 x 10 space (half price on additional spaces after 1st)
Non-Chamber Members: \$85.00 for first 10 x 10 space (half price on additional spaces after 1st)
Spaces with electricity - add additional \$15.00 for each 10 x 10 space (no discounts)
includes vendor parking pass (return to Chamber booth for \$5 refund)
PARKING PERMITS REQUIRED TO PARK IN VENDOR PARKING AREA

Set UP BY 8 A.M. NO CORDS RUN ACROSS CORRIDORS.

THE FALL FEST COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY APPLICANT AT ANY TIME. YOU **WILL** BE REFUSED IF YOU TRY LATE SET-UP. **ALL ITEMS REMOVED BY 6. P.M. Sat., Sept. 26, OR WE WILL CLAIM THEM.**
Anyone passing out fliers, literature, buttons, displaying logo signs in vehicles etc., will be billed a booth fee.

NO RAINOUT DATE/NO REFUNDS

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone #: _____ Cell # _____ Fax #: _____

Business Name: _____ Items for Sale ^(must be filled out!) or Nature of Business _____

Booth with Electricity? No ___ Yes ___ How many? 110 ___ 220 ___ Amps ___

Booth Space Preference: 1st choice ___ 2nd ___ 3rd ___

How many 10x10 spaces are needed? _____



- Yes! I will furnish a door prize for drawings
- Yes! Send me a Car Show Application
-

NO RAINOUT DATE/ NO REFUNDS
CALL 847-4702 FOR RECORDED INFORMATION IF RAINOUT LIKELY

Returned checks will be turned over to the prosecutor

Mail to:
Bryant Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 261
Bryant, AR 72089
501-847-4702

* Note: Newletters recipients can go to www.bryant-ar.com to view a map.