



Bryant Business Chronicle



A Bryant Chamber of Commerce Publication

July, 2009

Welcome New Members

Mathews Insurance Company

Bill Mathews
402 Mills Park Road
Bryant, AR 72022
944-6421

bmathews02@comcast.net

*Independent representative
specializing in individual and
group long term care insurance.*

Andreas School of Dance

Andrea Clark
211 N.E. 2nd Street
Bryant, AR 72022
231-1383

andralina@msn.com

*Dance instruction for kids and
adults including tap, jazz, ballet,
pointe and basic tumbling.*

Beth Martin Photography

Beth Martin
304 N. Reynolds Road
Bryant, AR 72022
454-9154

bethmartinphoto@yahoo.com

www.bethmartinphoto.com

*Portrait studio specializing in
maternity, baby, child, senior &
family portraits. By appointment
Mon-Fri., 10 -5; Sat. by request.*

Springhill Storage Center

Olan Asbury
3515 Highway 5 North
Bryant, AR 72019
590-1604/FAX 666-1924
olan@asburyrealestate.net
Self Storage

Bryant Named to Top 100 Small Towns in America!

Bryant has been named number 86 in the top 100 Small Towns of America in CNN Money magazine. Bryant is the only town in Arkansas named to the list.

“This is a great honor for Bryant and we should capitalize on this opportunity to tell the world about our great town,” noted Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce President David Hannah.

“If you can add a line to your letterhead, invoices, business cards, mar-quees, websites, facebook pages please do that and gain some extra attention for your business and organization as well as for our town,” he added.

How we were selected:

Right size -- CnnMoney started with 2,466 U.S. towns with a population of 8,500 to 50,000.

Good Education Levels/Good Incomes/Low Crime/Diversity -- Step two was excluding places where incomes were more than 200% of the state median and those where incomes were less than 85% of the state median, those with poor education (not defined as to how determined) and bad crime scores. They also took out of running any who were 95% or more white.

Steady Growth/Airport/Job Gain/Good Schools and other Quality of Life -- They screened out retirement communities, towns with significant job or population loss or extreme growth, and those with no major airport within 60 miles. They ranked the remaining places on job growth, income increases, cost of living, housing affordability, school quality, arts and leisure, safety, healthcare, diversity, and several “ease of living” criteria.

Considered Economy, Jobs, Housing, Schools, Taxes -- More data from their own research firm, Onboard Informatics, was considered with greatest emphasis placed on economics.

“We want to be named to this list again next year,” said Rae Ann Fields, Executive Director. As long as we all work together and keep improving our town, we’ll be on the list again and again,” she predicted.

As towns approach the top 25 category, CNNMoney makes visits and asks residents what they think of the town. “We need to be cultivating our residents now to be ambassadors of the area. They need to be prepared to know what is actually available here and be able to tell visitors about it. That is why we have a Welcome Team that is working with the State and the hospitality industry on an educational effort called Welcome to Arkansas. I encourage you to come to the next meeting,” she said.

Posted on CNN MONEY

Pat Mote Jul 15 We moved to Bryant way back in 1985 because the schools had such a great reputation. We knew we could move after our son graduated if we didn't like it here. We're still in the area. I can tell you that some of the nicest folks you'll ever meet live here and in the surrounding county.

Candie Hill Jul 15 I moved to Bryant almost a decade ago after a lot of research on other local schools in Central Arkansas. Bryant's test scores, graduation rates, etc....drew me in. My son loves the school, I love the community! Way to go Bryant.

Shane Broadway Jul 15 As a life long resident of Bryant I am excited to see now everyone knows what I have known all of my life. I have been very blessed to grow up in Bryant and Saline County. Wonderful community, churches, parks, schools, family atmosphere I had it all growing up in Bryant. As the years have gone on certainly Bryant has changed, but to me it still has the same feel it always has. When I graduated Bryant High School in 1990 we only had around 2,000 people but it was beginning to grow and has continued to be a destination for people of all races, creeds and color and to the best of my knowledge has always been a welcoming community to all.

Leanne Blissett Jul 14 We moved to Bryant Arkansas 5 years ago from the Kansas City , Missouri area, and as a family feel very blessed to have located here. My sons have all been involved in the band program, which is A+. All 3 have excelled in their studies. My oldest son has just graduated with honors, and because of concurrent college classes, has one year of college completed. The other two boys are on the same path. Moving from a large metro area that had a lot of activities, Bryant also has the convenience of being close to everything that Little Rock has to offer, not to mention the closeness to the Airport. And we are close to the Lakes! This is truly a wonderful place to live. The people in Arkansas are some of the nicest people anywhere. This state is truly a well kept secret.

Debbie Knight Harrington Jul 14 Bryant is a great place to raise a family. It has the small town feel with city conveniences.

Mike Gross Jul 14 Bryant is a great place to live and raise a family. Great schools and, as my children have found out, the Journalism department at Bryant High School is respected at colleges across the state and the country.

Facebook User Jul 14 I am proud of our wonderful, small town! A life-long resident of Bryant as well as a Bryant High School alumnus, I left the state for a few years to attend college. I returned in 1992 and plan to retire here. I cannot imagine living anywhere else.

Facebook User Jul 13 It's so great that Bryant made this list! To the person who commented that the kids that choose the arts instead of athletics are left out... the Bryant band has nearly 600 kids in it and consistently wins most of the chairs in the All Region competition & always wins chairs at All State.

Pam Brown Crosswhite Jul 13 Proud of the small town that I call home!

Adam Parker Carson Jul 13

I grew up in Benton—one of the Saline County towns referenced in the article—and after getting some experience, came back to Saline County to open my physical therapy practice. I've watched this town grow. I remember when, as a Benton High School Senior, wondering what in the world Bryant, Arkansas needed with a McDonalds. 19 years later, the town is a commercial and residential paradise. Clean streets, new shopping centers, happy people working, living, learning, and worshipping. The Bryant Chamber of Commerce—specifically RaeAnn Fields—has made it THE place to be around here. When I first opened my practice 6 years ago, RaeAnn made a visit to me at my office and asked me what “the Chamber could do for me” In addition to Rae Ann, those responsible for our growth: Paul Calley (head football coach), Dr. Richard Abernathy (Superintendent), Dr Chris Skelley (internal medicine MD), and finally whoever it was in the highway department that decided to widen I-30.

Community Meetings

Bryant School Board

Monday, August 17 • 6:00 p.m.
Professional Development Room

Bryant Water Commission

Tuesday, August 11 • 5:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Planning Commission

Monday, August 10 • 6:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Parks Commission

Monday, August 17 • 6:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant City Council

Thursday, August 13 • 7:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

August Calendar



- 8-4.....Beautification Team meeting, noon, Chamber
- 8-5.....Arkansas Economic Development Commission Visit & Tour (2:30 p.m). Reception at 5:30 p.m.
- 8-6.....Five State 14 Year Old Tournament at Bryant High begins/
- 8-10.....Boys and Girls Club Hometown Heros Banquet, First Southern Baptist
- 8-11.....Fall Fest Committee, noon, Chamber
- 8-12.....Board meeting, noon, Chamber
- 8-13.....Ribbon Cuttings
- 8-18.....Christmas in Bryant meeting, noon, Chamber
- 8-18.....Monster Madness at Mill Committee, noon, Chamber
- 8-20.....Highlight Bryant Lunch
- 8-27.....Ribbon Cuttings to 7:30 p.m., Bryant High School Cafeteria, Building 5

Taste of Bryant Silent Auction Items

3-One Free Buffet & Drink
 2-10 Hours of Advertising consulting time
 Free Maintenance Agreement
 iPod Nano and accessories
 Focus PRO Programmable Thermostat
 1 year, Free Rent Safe Deposit Box
 Mo Gym Membership & Accessories
 Phone valued up to \$159.99
 3 Piece Cosmetic Case
 2 Child Life Vests

2 Weekend Rounds with Cart/Golf Towel
 Gift Card to PF Chang's
 BBQ Set with Tray
 King Size Heating Pad
 Big Horned Ram Signed Lithograph/Susan Morrison
 American Flag/Ark Flag/Goodie Basket
 2Season Sports Passes
 2Comprehensive Eye Exams
 Fiber Cervical Support Pillow, Cryoderm, Ice Pack
 1 Day Class
 Gift Certificate
 Gift Basket
 1/8 Page Color Ad
 Jewelry Set
 Overnight Bags and Accessories
 Executive Desk Set
 Southern Living at Home Décor
 Arbonne Beauty Products
 50% off one night stay
 10% off Transmission Service & Lube/Oil Change
 1 Free Nitrogen Tire Inflation OR Rotate & Balance Tires
 ENJOY Hair Products
 Squire Stratocaster Electric Guitar
 Air Conditioner Check & Fuel Injection Service
 Goodie Basket
 Gift Certificate
 Gift Certificate
 Gift Certificate & Goodie Bag
 Gift Certificate
 Sony headphones
 Color Ad
 Electric Smoker
 Margarita Basket
 Decorative Vase
 Razorback Gift Basket

\$50 off any purchase gift certificate
 2 Adults & 3 Kids Buffets
 2 nights stay at Hampton Inn
 2 Sun Tan Visits to the Super Sun Dash
 Gift Card to Wal Mart
 Cooler with Coffee Mug, Golf Balls, Tees & Towel
 Summer Fun Pack/Cooler, Cap, Ball, Frisbee
 ROCKAHOLIC Hair products
 LED Camo Pen/Mity Lite Camo Flashlight

Dorey Catfish Catering
 Plan B Media
 Middleton Heat & Air
 Best Buy
 Advantage Service
 Alcoa Community Federal Credit
 Express Fitness
 Cricket Communication
 B.Jaxx
 Bryant ATV & Water Sports
 Rineco Industrial Waste
 Longhills Golf Course
 Grace Healthcare
 Bryant Healthcare
 Medic Pharmacy
 Mid Ark Roofing
 Ann Clemmer, State Representative
 Bryant School District
 Bryant Eye Care Clinic
 Chiropractic Health Center
 Pulaski Technical College
 Pottery Worx
 Sports Clips
 Saline County Business Directory
 Just Jewelry
 Attitudes by Wendy
 Flake & Kelly Commercial/Landers Corp. Plaza
 Blenda Koder
 Blenda Koder
 America's Best Value Inn
 Benton Transmission
 Bryant Brake & Tire
 Bryant Hair Studio
 Bryant Music Center
 Bryant Exxon
 Cakery Affairs
 Colton's Steak House
 Taste of D'Light
 Sonic
 Chick Fil A
 Comfort Inn & Suites
 Courier
 Heartland Bank
 iBERIABANK
 Julie Roltsch Agency
 Metropolitan National Bank
 Life Line Chiropractic
 Kwik Kopy
 Larry's Pizza
 Hampton Inn
 EliteTanning
 Farmers Lance Pelton Insurance Agency
 State Farm Insurance
 Matthew Reginelli
 Summit Bank
 Maximum Image Salon
 Gladco



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 Certificate.....Express Graphics
 Eyewear.....Bright Eye Care
 Power Tool.....Griffin Leggett Forest
 Hill Memorial Park
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 People
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 & Coffee Mug.....The Gann Agency

There is still time to
 donate. Call 847-
 4702 and let us know
 what you want to
 place in the Silent
 Auction!

More Postings from CNNMONEY.COM about Bryant

Ann Clemmer Jul 13 I am so happy Bryant made the list of best places to live, though I don't live in the city limits, there is much to be proud of here. I chose Saline County 17 years ago for a more small town/rural way of life (compared to Little Rock) and because I had college friends here—thanks, Rae Ann and Jimmy! My children went through Bryant Schools, and all received good scholarships to college—thanks Salem Elementary, Bryant middle, junior and senior high teachers! While we are far from perfect, it is insulting to imply that “white flight” is our “raison d’etre.” Real property is more reasonably priced in Saline County and our taxes are also less than those in Pulaski. Yes, we can continue to make our community better; we have many good folks here dedicated to doing just that.

Billy Mountjoy Jul 13 My wife and I have lived in Bryant for approximately 23 years. We've raised two children who are now grown and I couldn't be happier and certainly wouldn't consider moving. We originally moved here for the school system giving our children the opportunity to experience a small town environment. Friday night football games are one of the many memorable highlights we've experienced here in Bryant. Though it might not suite everyone I enjoy the small town feel, our public schools, local churches and of course family and friends. We own a small business here and even though the current recession has adversely affected us, we are currently seeing an upswing not only in the job market but also in the housing market. I've really enjoyed watching Bryant grow these past 23 years and look forward to see what the future holds. If you are looking for a great place to raise a family I can't imagine it getting any better.

Calvin Daniels Jul 13 My wife and I moved to Bryant about two years ago...we've had nothing but a great time...can't find a reason to live and raise a family anywhere else.

Paul Loy Jul 13 Nice to see the community I was raised in finally have its day in the sun. Just spent a weeks vacation in the area, and though it has grown in the last 25 years, it retains much of the charm that so many found back then. I can remember the high school teachers who moved to Bryant who told us what a “utopia” it was to teach in a school where the students were respectful and classroom discipline was not their primary concern. I attended 12 years in the schools and they were and I understand still are second to none. Sure its a bedroom community, but with all the amenities in a 25 mile drive, its a place worthy of a top 100 mention!



Do You Have Your Taste Of Bryant Tickets? Call 847-4702!

Bryant Chamber of Commerce

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