



Bryant Business Chronicle



A Bryant Chamber of Commerce Publication

May, 2009

Welcome New Members

Dorey Catfish Catering

Tony and Katie Dorey
1501 Boone Road ♦ Bryant, AR 72022
412-1580/FAX 501-225-0585
doreycatering@yahoo.com

A family-own business catering farm raised catfish, chicken, shrimp & BBQ & sides for all events for 50-750 people.

Sharp's Lawn Service, Inc.

Robert and Julie Sharp
P.O. Box 1756 ♦ Benton, AR 72018
317-8893/653-2226
sharp_julie@sbcglobal.net
Landscaping and lawn maintenance, residential and commercial.

Pro Builder Supply, LLC

Denise Patrick
10510 Interstate 30, Ste. 4
Little Rock, AR 72209
945-0113/FAX 945-2165
dapatrick@comcast.net
probuildersupplyllc.com
Providing fine door, bathroom & cabinet hardware & lighting in all price points for all size builders.

Diamond Sports

Pat Harrison
5191/2 W. Commerce ♦ Bryant, AR 72022
653-2287
jessica@diamondsportsbryant.com
www.diamondsportsbryant.com
State of the art indoor baseball/softball training/practice facility offering skilled instructors. Walk-ins welcome.

Spacewalk

Jason Crossland
206 N. Reynolds Road
Bryant, AR 72022
847-9325
spacewalk@herecomesfun.com
www.herecomesfun.com/sca
Inflatable ride rentals for any event

\$1 million hole in one

Landers' Sponsors Chamber Golf Tournament

Tuesday,
June 30



We've upped the ante. No, wait that's poker... this is golf.

We've upped the prize for the hole-in-one shoot out to \$1 million. That's right, the Lander's Auto Sales of Saline County hole-in-one prize for the 14th annual Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament is \$1,000,000.

Special guest at the tournament is World Champion Sean "The Beast" Fister.

The four-person scramble is limited to the first 30 teams and will be held Tuesday, June 30, at Hurricane Creek County Club. Entry fee is \$340 per team or \$85 per person. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. is provided by First Security Bank.

"We are making this the best ever tournament for the Chamber," said Jack Carney, co-chairman for the event.

Teams must be paid by June 15. All players on the team should be identified to the Chamber before the event.

Companies or individuals who wish to sponsor a hole for the tournament can do so for \$100. The entry form is included in this newsletter. Call the Chamber at 847-4702 for more information.

Bryant Area Chamber on Facebook

The Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce has taken the leap into social networking. We have a Facebook page. We are using this medium of communication to let more people know about Chamber events and activities.

You can expect to see ribbon cutting photos, committee activity photos (such as our recent Education Committee scholarships being awarded), and event information on the site. We welcome you as a fan and hope to hear your comments on the Chamber's activities. You will still need to communicate your intentions to attend events through the Chamber Master invite format.

Jack of All Trades

George Corbin
14718 Sweet Gum ♦ Alexander, AR 72002
529-8714/FAX 847-2392
corbingr@aol.com
Handyman doing minor construction, remodeling & repair including decks, fences, storage buildings, windows, etc

Advantage Service Company.

Jimmy Langston and Adam Sams
1797 N. Cypress
North Little Rock, AR 72114
758-2404/FAX 758-3583
www.advantageserviceco.com
Both residential and commercial heating and air, plumbing and electrical.

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.)

A Day at Hampton Inn

We dropped by the Hampton Inn on a recent Monday and found 14 different corporations/organizations listed on their welcome board.

It is nice to see a variety of people traveling for business staying in Bryant.

Courier has Motel Wrap

The Courier has begun a new paper specifically for the visitors in the hotels. The "wrap" is an eight page paper that talks about dining, shopping, children's activities, entertainment -- just whatever there is to do in the area. It is delivered along with the daily paper.

These papers are free to the hotel/motel visitors. Call 315-8228 for more information.

Salt Bowl Program Ads

The Bryant Band Boosters are selling ads for the Salt Bowl Program. The Salt Bowl will be September 4 at War Memorial Stadium and ad sales are expected to close by the end of May (because students will be out of school), so hurry to get your commitment in to the Band Boosters.

For more information or a form for the advertising, you can contact Jan Patrick at jpatrick@bryantschools.org or call 350-4924.



Bryant Rotary Yard Sale May 29/30

Now that the rain has stopped, it is time to clean out your closets and your garages. When you do, remember that the Bryant Rotary Club can use your sellable items for their Yard Sale on May 29 & 30. Proceeds go to the Boys and Girls Club of Bryant and the Kids Closet. Call Michelle at 529-3232, Steve at 352-1437 or Julie at 847-0105 to make arrangements.

Greatness Noted at Bryant Schools

Three different awards to folks connected with the Bryant Schools have caught our attention.

Bethel Middle School teacher Phyllis Bear was recently named the Outstanding Arkansas Mathematics Teacher.

Then we noticed the Bryant High School Engineering Olympics Team, taught by Mrs. Mita Joshi tied for first place in a competition at UALR. They will share the trophy with a Central High team.

Okay, that's a teacher and students.... now for administration.

Bryant High School Principal Randy Rutherford was named Administrator of the Year by the Arkansas Scholastic Press Association. He was nominated by teachers and students for his support of student journalism and establishing a literary magazine.

Knowing how good our schools are, we are certain there are a great deal more people employed by our schools that deserve recognition such as this. In case no one says it to you, personally... just let us say "thank you!"

Best Buy Grant

Mrs. Kelly Keene's 4th grade class at Bryant Elementary School received a \$4,000 grant, a "Teach Award" from Best Buy. Mrs. Keene wrote a winning essay on how she would use technology to help students learn in creative ways. Best Buy also gave other gifts and t-shirts to the students.



*Thanks,
James Ward,
COP Security, for our
new ribbon cutting*

Community Meetings

Bryant School Board

Monday, June 15 • 6:00 p.m.
Professional Development Room

Bryant Water Commission

Tuesday, June 9 • 5:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Planning Commission

Monday, June 8 • 6:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant Parks Commission

Monday, June 15 • 6:30 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

Bryant City Council

Thursday, June 11 • 7:00 p.m.
City Complex, 210 SW 3rd

June Calendar

- 6-1.....Recycling Team, 6 p.m. Chamber
- 6-2Economic Development, noon, Chamber
- 6-4.....Civic & Government Affairs, 1:30 p.m., Chamber
- 6-9.....Fall Fest Committee, noon, Chamber
- 6-10.....Board Meeting, noon, Chamber
- 6-10.....Deadline for registration for Job Fair
- 6-11.....Ribbon Cuttings
- 6-16.....Job Fair for Affiliated Foods, City Market displaced workers, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m, Pulaski Technical College, South
- 6-17.....Young Professionals Network Lunch & Learn
- 6-18.....Highlight Bryant Lunch/ Chamber Master training, noon, Prepaid Legal to speak
- 6-23.....Taste of Bryant Committee, 3 p.m. Chamber
- 6-25.....Ribbon Cuttings
- 6-25.....Taste of Bryant Committee, 3 p.m. Chamber
- 6-30.....14th Annual Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce GOLF TOURNAMENT, Hurricane Golf Club, 1 p.m.start, lunch at 11:30 a.m.

Travelers Workshop

Attention Gas Stations, Hotels, Restaurants, etc.



This weekend is the Wally Hall Tournament of Champions and August 6-10 is the Babe Ruth 5-state tournament for 14 year olds. "Our local businesses can take advantage of these

types of opportunities for increased business that travelers provide," noted Director Rae Ann Fields.

With the help of the State Department of Parks and Tourism and the Arkansas Hospitality Association, the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding a session on attracting business from travelers on Tuesday, May 26 at 10 a.m. at the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We will explore ways to get attention from the travelers and ways we can help each other," Fields said.

Scott Suddeth, coordinator of the "Welcome to Arkansas" hospitality cross-selling program will present that program at the meeting.



Highlight Bryant Lunch Now Advance Pay

After a review of the outstanding invoices, the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has mandated that all Highlight Bryant lunches must be paid for in advance or at the door. No more billing for lunches will be allowed.

More than \$450 is outstanding on Highlight Bryant lunches. "When that amount

is still due and more than 30 days out, action on a change of policy is called for," noted Executive Director Rae Ann Fields.

Upon registering for the event, the individual can call the Chamber with credit card information for payment or **MUST SHOW UP WITH PAYMENT** at the luncheon. "You will be turned away if you can not pay," she said.

Buyers Meet Small Businesses

The Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce will host the Arkansas Procurement Opportunities Conference on June 2nd at the Statehouse Convention Center. They are seeking 50 corporate and/or non-profit companies to participate in this event.

The Procurement Conference is being offered as a value-added opportunity for corporate buyers to meet with small business sellers in pre-scheduled one-on-one meetings.

The purpose is to match small and diverse businesses with federal, state and local government agencies, corporations and prime contractors that have actual contract opportunities.

The goal is to stimulate jobs and economic growth for Arkansas's small businesses. Small businesses are "matched" with public and private sector buyers that purchase what the small business sells or produces. The "matching"

small businesses and buyers then meet in scheduled 12-minute appointments the day of the event.

The entire day is spent in 12 minute business appointments, so buyers and sellers maximize their time and exposure to new clients or vendors. The "matching" is done by a customized computer application based, in part, by the NAICS codes provided by buyers and sellers during registration.

If your company is seeking a new, diverse group of suppliers, we encourage you to register to be a buyer at this event. Registration is **FREE** at www.arkansasprocurement.org.

This conference is brought to you by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, Aerojet, Entergy, Tyson, Verizon Wireless, Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center, Arkansas Employees Federal Credit Union, Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield, and Bank of the Ozarks.

Fall Fest Outdoor Adventure Area Shaping Up

The 22nd Annual Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce Fall Fest at Mills Park on September 26 will feature an outdoor Adventure Area and possibly a Biggest, Baddest ATV contest.

"We are looking for a sponsor for the ATV contest. We hope to make it a people's choice vote so that all who attend Fall Fest can have a say-so in who wins," noted Fall Fest chairperson Joe Wishard. Folks who have done extra work to their ATVs or who decorate for the event will be invited to bring their ATVs and display. ATVs would need to be in place by 8 a.m., no exceptions.

In addition to the ATV contest, a fishing contest for children, a zip line by the Boy Scouts, and a Game and Fish Commission aquarium will be at Fall Fest in the new outdoor area. An archery display and possible archery shoot or contest are being worked on. Others whose businesses cater to outdoor activities are invited to rent booth space under the pavilion or around the pavilion.

Aside from the Outdoor Area, the committee is planning a Sports Pen in the tennis court area with four possible sponsors each using one quadrant of the tennis courts for contests and displays.

The KidZland area is checking into some new entertainment options, as well.

Best Buy is planning to bring a Volkswagon "bug" equipped with gaming options for the event.

For more information on booths at Fall Fest, call the Chamber at 847-4702 or go onto the Website at www.bryant-ar.com and select from the top right hand corner "Newsletters/Registration Forms."

Taste of Bryant Coming in July

Dining in the Bryant area offers more choices than ever and the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce will help celebrate and showcase that variety with the Annual Taste of Bryant on July 28 at 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 in the Bryant High School South Cafeteria. This year's theme is "Tasty Treats and Summer Eats".

"We plan more features to bring value to the restaurants that participate this year," noted Beth Smith of Heartland Community Bank, chair-person for the event. "With a growing number of options for dining we want to showcase those who participate in an even bigger way," she added.

In past years the event has drawn as many as 700 people. The event also includes a silent auction for adults and a special drawing of prizes for children. The room will be decorated to the theme and the kids area will offer an art area with paper on the floor and crayons, markers and chalk to draw on the paper.



"This is one of the most family friendly, fun things we do. The idea is to come when you want, eat what you want and leave when you want," noted Rae Ann Fields, executive director of the Chamber. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 if purchased at the door.

The Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce, the Benton Area Chamber of Commerce, the Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Governor's Task Force on Dislocated Workers will hold a job fair Tuesday, June 16 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Pulaski Technical College South for Affiliated Foods and City Market workers who were laid off. Only companies with job openings may attend. Call the Chamber at 847-4702 to register.

Bryant Chamber of Commerce

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

14th Annual Golf Tour

Tuesday — June 30, 2009

Hurricane Creek Country Club — Benton, Arkansas

Entry Fee: \$340 per team (\$85.00 per person)

Limited to the first 30 teams!!!

1:00 p.m. — Shot Gun Start

11:30 — Lunch Provided by **First Security Bank**

\$1,000,000

Hole-In-One Shoot Out!

**World Champion
Sean "The
Beast" Fister**



Auto Sales of Saline County

All prizes and door prizes will be awarded following the tournament

Hole Sponsorship Available

Registration Information

Company Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Team Captain _____ Email _____ Phone _____

* Team Participants/*Phone Numbers _____

***This information MUST be provided to The Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce before the tournament to be eligible for the \$1,000,000 Shoot-Out; Professional Golfers do not qualify to win the \$1,000,000 Shoot-Out.**

I would like to be a Hole Sponsor (add \$100.00 to total fee)

Please mail completed registration form and fee to (do not mail Hurricane Creek CC):

The Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 261, Bryant, AR 72089

Registration and Hole Sponsor fees MUST be paid by June 15, 2009

(Please make checks payable to Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce)

Proceeds benefit the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce

For additional information you may contact Jack Carney at First Security Bank, 315-0163 or the Bryant Area Chamber of Commerce, 847-4702

No DENIM is allowed on the course (applies to golfers only).