

BRAZOS VALLEY

ANNUAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

JANUARY 2017

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**B/CS ROOTS & A RED TRUCK**

**B/CS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**ECONOMIC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE**



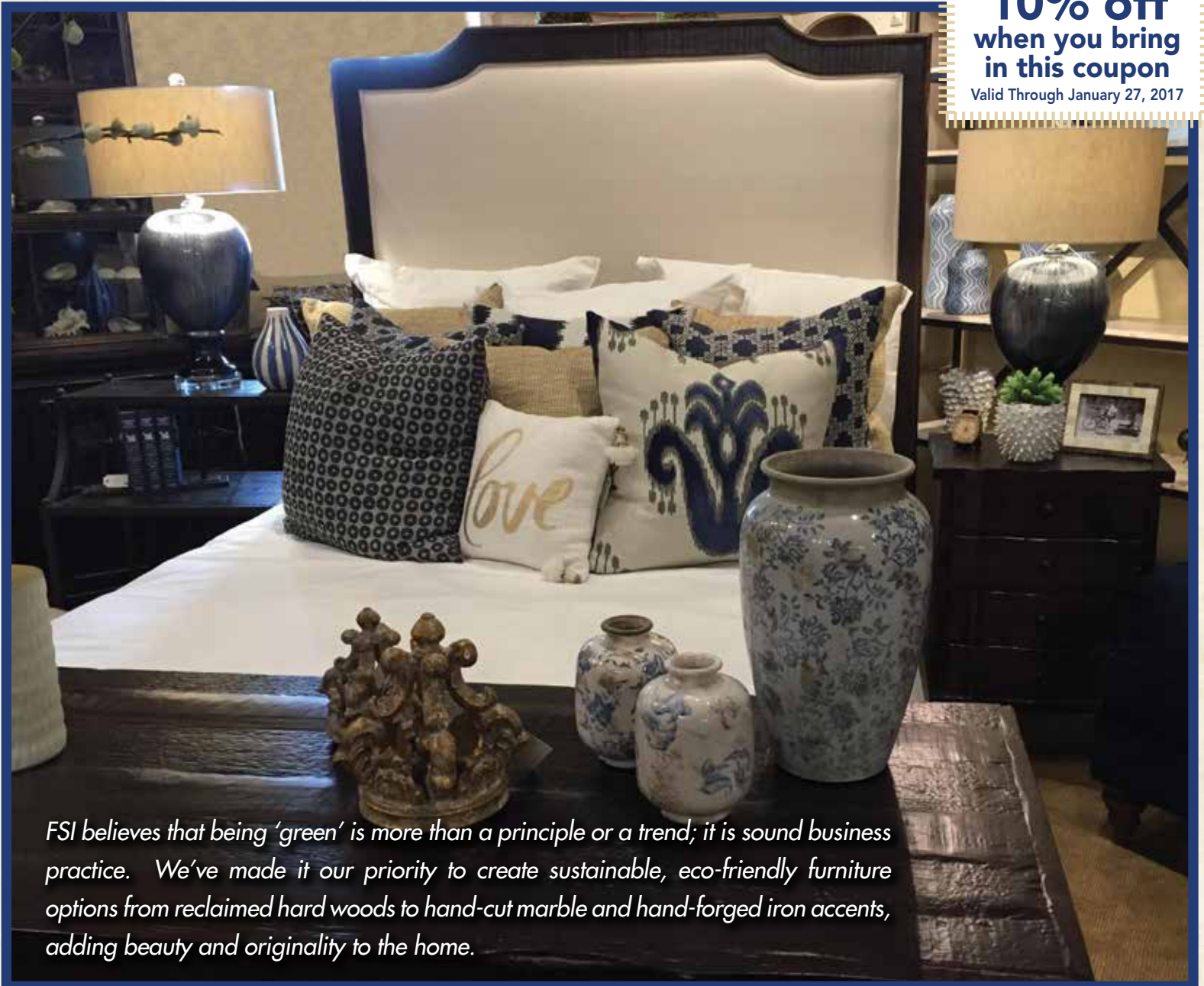
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DAVID O'NEILL AND BRAD WADE WITH WELLS FARGO SERVED UP SOME SPECIAL GOLD NUGGETS AT 50 MEN WHO CAN COOK

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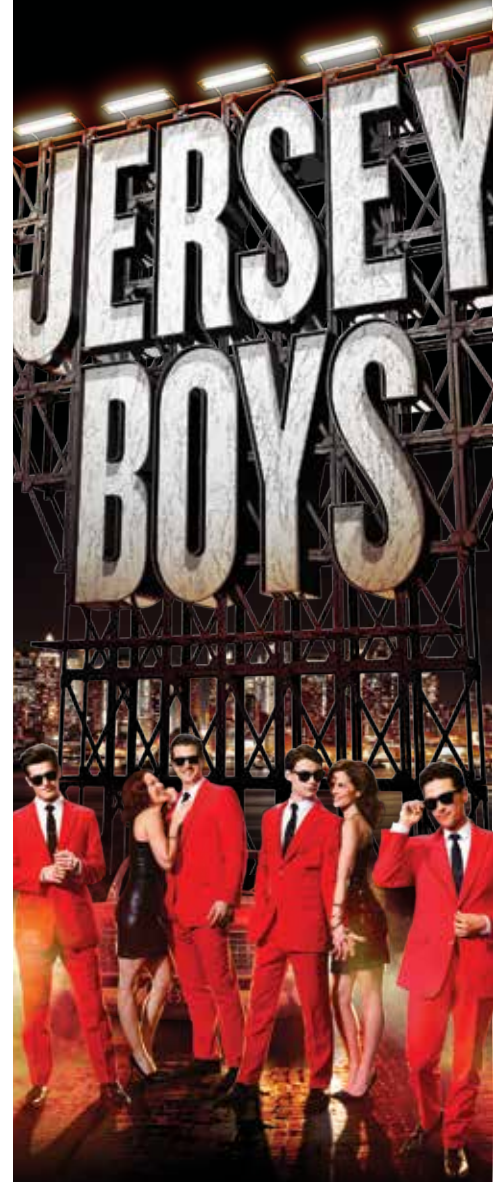
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*Cover Credits: Amie & Jolie Sikes, owners of Junk Gypsy. Photo by April Pizana.*

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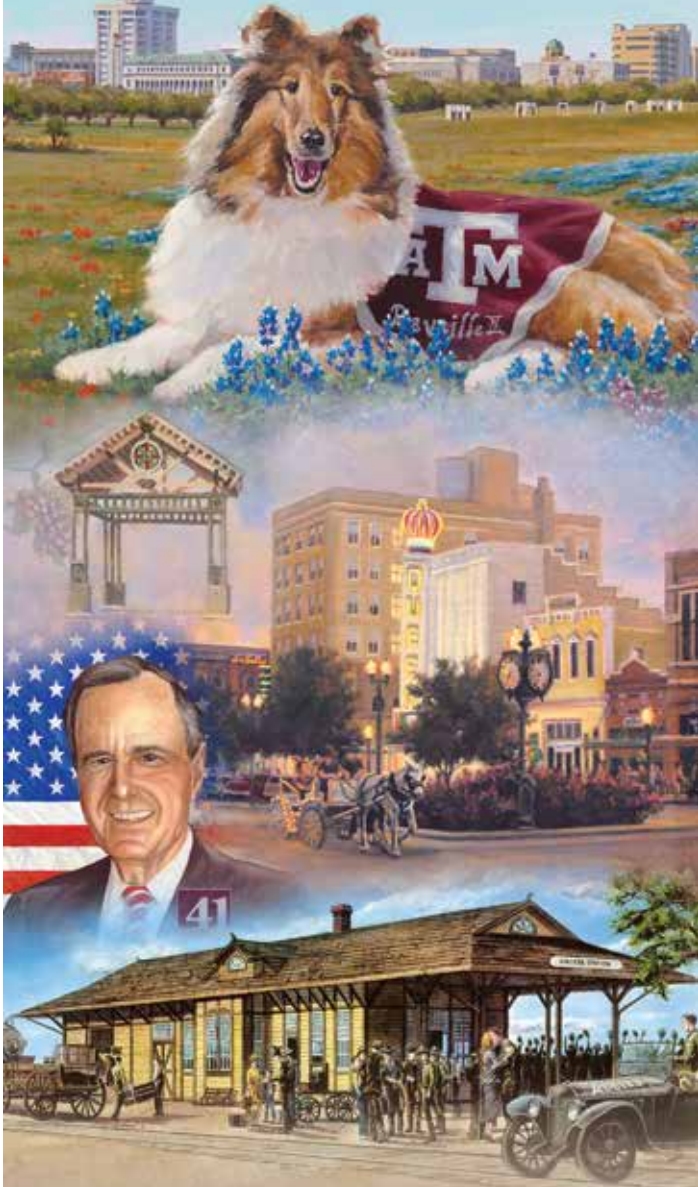
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# B/CS Chamber of Commerce Economic Outlook Conference UNITY IN COMMUNITY



BENJAMIN KNOX

## REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

The Economic Outlook Conference is open to the public. Advance registration is \$85 per person for B/CS Chamber of Commerce members; tickets are \$100 per person for non-members. Reserved tables of eight are available for \$750. Seating is limited. To reserve space, visit [bcschamber.org](http://bcschamber.org), call Kim at (979) 260-5200, or email [kim@bcschamber.org](mailto:kim@bcschamber.org).

**2017  
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Those looking for a glimpse into the economic forecast for 2017 may join the B/CS Chamber of Commerce when it gathers local and national experts at the annual Economic Outlook Conference in January. Through speakers and panels, the local business landscape will be discussed as the Brazos Valley looks to the future. The conference will be held Jan. 25 beginning with an informal Coffee With the Mayors at 7 a.m. The conference opens at 7:30 a.m. with registration and breakfast with the conference ending at 2 p.m. Glenn Hegar, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, will give the keynote address during lunch.

## Economic Outlook Conference: Unity in Community January 25, Hilton College Station

### Conference Schedule

Title Sponsor Wells Fargo

#### 7 a.m. | Coffee With the Mayors

Sponsored by Hilton College Station  
*Informal meet and greet with College Station Mayor Karl Mooney and Bryan Mayor Andrew Nelson*

#### 7:30 a.m. | Registration & Breakfast

Sponsored by Texas Commercial Waste

#### 8 a.m. | Welcome

Title Sponsor Wells Fargo  
**Glen Brewer, President & CEO  
B/CS Chamber of Commerce**

#### 8:15 a.m. | Session I

Sponsored by Texas A&M University  
We Are the Research Valley  
**Todd McDaniel, Research Valley Partnership**

#### ISD Update

*Joint presentation by College Station and Bryan Independent School Districts*  
**Clark Ealy, CSISD Superintendent  
Tim Rocka, BISD Interim Superintendent**

#### 9 a.m. | Break

Sponsored by CHI St. Joseph Health Systems

#### 9:15 a.m. | Session II

Sponsored by Bryan Texas Utilities

#### Views from the Cities

*Joint presentation by cities of Bryan and College Station*  
**Joey Dunn, Bryan Deputy City Manager  
Kelly Templin, College Station City Manager**

#### Other Community Voices

**Brazos County, Judge Duane Peters  
Texas A&M University, TBA**

#### 10:30 a.m. | Break

Sponsored by Aggieland Carpet One

#### 10:45 a.m. | Session III

Sponsored by The Law Office of Shane Phelps, P.C.

Rising Optimism — Awaiting Reality  
**Dr. James Gaines, Chief Economist for  
the Texas Real Estate Center, Texas A&M  
University**

#### 12 noon | Invocation followed by lunch

Sponsored by Guaranty Bank & Trust

#### 12:15 p.m. | Keynote Speaker

Texas' Chief Financial Officer  
**Glenn Hegar, Texas Comptroller  
of Public Accounts**

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# Come Early for Coffee with the Mayors



## Karl Mooney

College Station Mayor

In 1989, Karl Mooney moved to College Station from his home state of New Jersey, and he has been heavily involved in the community ever since. He has served on the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Transportation and Mobility committee, and the Economic Development committee, as well as serving for six years on the city council. In November, Mooney was elected mayor of College Station. Outside of city government, Mooney works with Texas A&M University as director of General Academic Programs Advising.

Coming from a background of urban planning, Mooney sees development and infrastructure as some of the biggest issues the city faces. College Station is expanding, and Mooney's goal is to try to limit its growing pains.

"We have traffic; everyone complains about the traffic," says Mooney. "Then we have infrastructure. Especially on Northgate and around that area, what you don't see underneath the road and the ground is the limited amount of piping and electric lines."

The community itself has changed over the years, says Mooney. In some neighborhoods where only two-bedroom houses existed there are now four-bedroom houses being built. This reflects both an expanding population and an increasing age range. Mooney says the

city is looking at developing a community center that appeals to all ages, as well as a new community pool since the last city pool was built in 1993.

The mayor's vision includes the city tackling public safety, particularly through a reinvigoration of neighborhood watches and citizen participation in keeping the city safe.

"One of the things we need to do is work with our police, and not only the police here, but also the university," says Mooney.



## Andrew Nelson

Bryan Mayor

Andrew Nelson has been a part of the Bryan College Station community for most of his life. He attended Texas A&M University and studied mechanical engineering, graduating Cum Laude in 1992. He's raised his family in Bryan and also built his business into a globe-spanning company.

Nelson has worn many hats in his time in Bryan. He is a board member of the Bryan Rotary Club, has spent five years on the Bryan Business Council, a year on the city's Comprehensive Planning Committee, volunteers at his church and with the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, among others. He is now also Bryan's mayor.

"I love serving; I have a passion for service," Nelson says. "I love Bryan, and feel bringing a business perspective to the strategy for the city with 900 employees and a \$400 million budget is very important to moving the city forward."

As mayor, Nelson wants to see the city become a place where recent graduates can come to start their lives and raise their families, much how he did. To do this, he

says that the city needs to work hard on renovating its infrastructure and expanding its workforce. Nelson's goal is to keep taxes low while invigorating Bryan.

"I want to be the mayor that helps Downtown Bryan to move from having a First Friday to just 'Friday,'" says Nelson. "I want every day in Bryan to be like First Friday."

Nelson says that Bryan is connected to Texas A&M much in the same way as College Station. In addition to supporting the university's growth, Nelson says he wants Bryan to support and expand its workforce through trade schools, encouraging education and entrepreneurship, and finding ways to create jobs.

"We want those entrepreneurs to stay here. We need to give them a community where the 22-32 age range can start their lives and find a sense of place."

## Speaker Preview



## Jim Gaines

Chief Economist, The Real Estate Center, Texas A&M University

Jim Gaines is well known for providing a torrent of statistics to back up the real estate economist's straight talk about trends in local, state, and national market growth. Making his eighth appearance at the Economic Outlook Conference, Gaines says one of the key things he will be talking about in the first quarter of 2017 is "rising optimism — awaiting reality."

Gaines explains: "The economy reflects the feelings and anticipation of the market. A number of economic indicators, such

as the stock market and manufacturing have been up, although manufacturing is still not a big thing. Main street anticipation is that the new administration is going to be more pro business with a decrease in regulatory burdens, lower corporate taxes, and otherwise be more helpful to business.

"My take on all of this — even with the administration and congress trying to move in these directions — it will probably take a year or two for real significant changes to take impact.

"My last take on it, no matter what, is the reality may not live up to the expectations for everyone," adds Gaines.

Locally, Gaines says he hopes a slowdown in growth won't greatly affect Texas A&M University's budget coming out of the legislature. "In Bryan College Station, growth for most of the past several years has been frenetic," says Gaines. "No market this size can go at that pace all the time."

Even statewide, the slowdown hasn't been as bad as what some thought it might be, adds Gaines. "Oil's collapse was bigger percentagewise than the drop during the Eighties. What we're seeing is a lot more resiliency around the state of being more diversified."

Overall, Gaines says 2017 is going to be a very good year in the Brazos Valley, maybe not quite as strong as 2014, 2015 and 2016, but strong nevertheless... assuming the university doesn't have draconian budget cuts.



## Glenn Hegar

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

In his role as Texas' chief financial officer — the state's treasurer, check writer, tax collector, procurement officer

and revenue estimator — Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Glenn Hegar has an overview of the economic drivers and challenges ahead in 2017. Hegar will be sharing insights from that perspective as the keynote speaker for the Bryan College Station Chamber of Commerce Economic Outlook Conference on Jan. 25.

Texas is the world's 10th largest economy, notes Hegar, and while last year's downturn in the mining and oil and gas industries has affected Texas' economy overall, Texas has continued to gain jobs overall. In particular, the economy in Bryan College Station has continued to perform well.

As Hegar's office prepares the revenue forecast for the upcoming Texas legislative session, Hegar says he will be able to address the expected growth rate overall over the next two-year cycle. Locally, he points to the presence of Texas A&M University as an economic stabilizer for the local economy, a resource of many "hidden gems" that contribute economic stimulus locally.

Hegar says the keynote address in January will be an opportunity to hear about not only local indicators, but also the ways that Texas, statewide, is a great economic opportunity.

Elected in November 2014, Hegar is a sixth-generation Texan, who grew up farming land that has been in his family since the mid-1800s. Before becoming Comptroller, Hegar served in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate, and also served as chair of the Sunset Advisory Commission, which works to eliminate inefficiency in government agencies. Hegar attended Texas A&M as an undergraduate, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts. He then attended St. Mary's University, earning a Master of Arts and his law degree. At the University of Arkansas, he earned a Master of Laws degree. Glenn and his wife Dara have three young children — Julia, Jonah and Claire.

Visit [bcschamber.org](http://bcschamber.org) for conference registration information.



# A MUSIC EXPERIENCE

## Conspirare's 'Considering Matthew Shepard'

Story and Photos Courtesy of **MSC OPAS**



CONSPIRARE



CONSPIRARE FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR CRAIG HELLA JOHNSON

Austin-based Conspirare, the 2014 Grammy® award-winning choral ensemble, will perform “Considering Matthew Shepard” on Jan. 29 and 30 at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theatre. The performances are presented by MSC OPAS and Leland T. and Jessie W. Jordan Institute for International Awareness. A limited number of free tickets are available for Texas A&M University students. (A valid student ID must be presented at MSC Box Office to claim free tickets). All other tickets are \$20 and are on sale now at [boxoffice.tamu.edu](http://boxoffice.tamu.edu) and (979) 845-1234.

Composed by Conspirare's Grammy® nominated Founding Artistic Director Craig Hella Johnson, “Considering Matthew Shepard” will provide students, staff, and the Texas A&M community

### A musical response to the tragic death of a young man

an opportunity to experience what Johnson refers to as “a musical response to the tragic death of a young man” that inspires hope, compassion, and ultimately empowerment. The powerful piece utilizes the impactful words of great thinkers such as Hafiz and Hildegard von Bingen to name a few.

OPAS Executive Director Anne Black says, “This is what the arts are all about for me. I was very lucky to see the world

premiere of this work last year with my colleagues. It blew us away. I'm so proud to partner with the Jordan Institute to present this to our community. We owe a huge debt of thanks to the numerous campus partners that came on-board as sponsors.”

Nathaniel Teplitskiy, chair of MSC LT Jordan Institute for International Awareness says, “Firstly, I would like to thank OPAS as well as the support around campus that have helped make this program happen. ‘Conspirare: Considering Matthew Shepard’ is unlike anything I have seen before. The truly heartfelt story, the incredible voices, the very important message and all things in between, make this performance an amazing once-in-a-lifetime experience.” *i*



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# HEATING UP THE KITCHEN

## 50 Men Who Can Cook

By CALEB VIERKANT



A&M CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS MIKE WILLIAMS AND JASON PRATT PREPARE THE DEVIL'S OWN DEVILISH HOT DEVILED EGGS



PEBBLE CREEK ELEMENTARY STAFF MEMBERS RYAN PACHER, JORDAN LANDRY AND KYLE WHILEYMAN PREPARE A YUMMY ETOUFFEE

What originally started as a small fundraiser has become a night of food and fun that brings the entire community together. This February marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 50 Men Who Can Cook, a charity event hosted by the College Station ISD Education Foundation.

"One of our board members, about 10 years ago, saw this done in a different state," says Teresa Benden, director of the CSISD Education Foundation for seven years. "My predecessor, Anne Ganter, and some board members came up with the idea [based on that event]."

The event has shown tremendous growth over the years. Originally, 50 Men Who Can Cook was a relatively intimate wine pairing event. The first event had about 300 people in attendance and 50 chefs. This year, however, 2,000 people are expected to attend and 70 chef booths will be presenting their meals.

As the name suggests, the chefs are all male. They are also local business owners and members of the community. Cooking for this event is typically invite-only, says Benden, but some people step forward to volunteer. Some of the chefs this year will be College Station Police Chief Scott McCollum, CSISD Superintendent Dr. Clark Ealy, Tom Turbiville of radio station

### Awards are given throughout the night and are highly sought after

WTAW, and former sports journalist for *The Eagle* Larry Bowen.

"It's a great organization," says Chief McCollum, who has been a participating chef for the past five years. "They do a lot for our kiddos, so we're happy to help out. It's always a fun night, a really great event."

"When the chefs sign up they choose their recipe; anything they want," says Benden. "What we ask them to do is bring 800 or more bite-sized samples of whatever they cook. It could be anything from a dessert, to an entrée, to an appetizer."

People attending the event will be encouraged to sample as much as they can, and to vote on their favorites.

Wine, beer, and margaritas will also be available and included in the ticket price. There will also be a photobooth, \$20 grab

bags, a silent auction, and a raffle. One of the big items up for grabs at the raffle is a diamond double halo pendant donated by David Gardner's Jewelers, valued at \$5,000.

"Last year we netted \$205,000," says Benden. "We would like to raise \$225,000 this year."

All proceeds raised by 50 Men Who Can Cook will be divided among several programs hosted by the CSISD Education Foundation, such as innovative teaching grants, student scholarships, the Success 24/7 instructional website, and a senior hall of fame banquet.

This event is considered private, and tickets will not be available at the door the night of the event. Those wishing to go must purchase their tickets ahead of time. Tickets are \$60 per person and are all-inclusive. VIP tickets are also available to special sponsors of the event, allowing them early access. While everybody is welcome, 50 Men Who Can Cook is considered an adults-only event. Held on Feb. 3 at the Brazos County Expo, doors open at 6:30 p.m., but VIPs will be able to get in a half-hour early. Tickets are available at [givetokids.csisd.org](http://givetokids.csisd.org) or by texting 50Men to 41444. Board members and celebrity chefs will also have tickets available to sell. *i*

# FUN FOR A CAUSE

## Play A Hand for Hospice

By **INSITE STAFF**



Hospice Auxiliary will present the 5th Annual Play A Hand for Hospice fundraiser Wednesday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Pebble Creek Country Club in College Station. The community is invited to join the fun and games. The \$65 entry fee includes lunch, coffee, tea, and dessert served with entertainment, door prizes, and more. Reservations for Play a Hand for Hospice must be received by Jan. 14, and a limited number of seats are available for the event.

This unique fundraiser offers the opportunity to enjoy coffee, friendship, games, and lunch. Participants are encouraged to bring friends and to reserve tables of four. Guests are encouraged to bring games to share and play such as bridge, canasta, dominoes, poker, rummy, Mahjong, and Shanghai. Reservations for tables of four must be reserved by Jan. 14. For more information or to make a reservation, call Judy Nash at (979) 777-5244 or email [jnash81100@aol.com](mailto:jnash81100@aol.com).

All proceeds benefit Hospice Brazos Valley, a non-profit, community based hospice organization. Pebble Creek Country Club and Hospice Auxiliary Brazos Valley sponsor the event. Hospice Auxiliary Brazos Valley is a non-profit organization with the primary mission of providing support and promoting community awareness of Hospice Brazos Valley.

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# LIGHTS OFF

## DINING IN THE DARK 2017

By ERIC MAGANA

Imagine dining where there is no light and you can only hear or feel what's around you.



In February, the Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living will host the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dining in the Dark event to raise awareness about low vision and blindness while promoting the full inclusion and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life. The dinner also serves as a reminder that individuals who have visual impairments are hard working members of society just like any other individual.

The event format includes dinner served in the dark by servers who are blind or have low vision. The meal is served and eaten in the dark, which presents both the servers and guests with a unique challenge. It also provides a journey for the other senses as the dinner is an opportunity for everyone, disabled or not, to come together and learn about one another without the ability to see their surroundings. During the event, no one will be seen; communication is accomplished through feeling, hearing, or speaking to one another. The multi-course menu (appetizer, main course, and dessert) will not be revealed to the guests until the end of the event.

The BVCIL first hosted this event in 2013 as a means of starting a major fundraiser. Shelby Catron, office assistant and volunteer coordinator of the BVCIL, says it was also a great way to get the community to start talking about blindness and the abilities of individuals with different levels of vision impairment. Since 2014, the event has been hosted at the College Station Hilton.

The dinner experience is provided by volunteers who have signed up and received training for their specific job assignments. Servers must be able to navigate in the dark and be willing to educate guests about their disability. Other volunteer opportunities include setup crew, raffle and silent auction, cart runners, seaters, and guest escorts.

While the people who participate in this event may have other disabilities, or in some cases none at all, all the servers who take part in the event are people who have some form of vision impairment. It's a way to show that these individuals can still do things just like anyone else, Catron explains.



The event starts at 6 p.m. and usually begins with a social hour. In addition to live music by Drew Womack, there is a silent auction, a chance to purchase raffle tickets for highly sought-after items, and a cash bar. There is also a sensory room hosted by Texas A&M Disability Services, which gives guests a chance to learn a place setting in the dark, learn how to identify money without vision, and other sensory tasks.

As the event continues, the guests will have an opportunity to utilize their other senses while getting to know their server. The servers are given the opportunity to tell their stories and talk with guests about how they navigate their daily life. Guests are given the opportunity to learn about disabilities and gain new perspective.

During an evening like no other, Catron says the guests are always surprised to learn of their server's abilities while having a vision impairment or blindness. The praise the servers receive is always positive. "It provokes people to be

excited and spread [awareness]," she says. The conversation continues as the dinner ends and the lights come on. The guests are then given time to ask more questions of the entire staff of servers about their experiences.

The event may be geared toward blindness awareness, but it is open to the public and anyone who wants to experience something different is invited to attend. Catron says to expect a full house. Buying tickets early is strongly recommended. The dinner is a great way of promoting the hardworking people of the Brazos Valley who may have disabilities and still get the job done, just like anyone else, Catron says, adding that the servers are appreciative because they get the opportunity to prove their abilities while educating others.

The dinner will take place on Feb. 18. For tickets, volunteer information, and more information about Dining in the Dark, visit [DiningInTheDarkBCS.org](http://DiningInTheDarkBCS.org). All proceeds go towards the programs and services at the BVCIL and other future awareness events. *i*



# HIGH SPIRITS

## Powersports Cheerleading

By **MAGGIE PRUITT**



MACIE COUNTRYMAN WITH HELPER REESE SIGLER



IZZY TOMALA WITH HELPER ELLIE WICKS



ALLISON DOHRMAN

Bows are straightened, skirts are adjusted, and pompoms are shaken out as the cheerleaders assume their places for the routine. As the music blares, Kristen Marez's mother pushes her across the blue mat with a poster board attached to her wheelchair that reads "Round Off Back Handspring Double Full."

"That was only our third time with the music!" says longtime gymnastics coach Julie Dujka of their practice.

Two years ago, Dujka started a cheerleading program for people with special needs at Powersports gym, a program that accepts people across the spectrum of special needs for a registration fee of \$30.

Initially, Dujka says she threw out the idea to coach both private gymnastics and cheerleading classes and would direct the kids to whichever program they wanted to join.

The class has grown from eight people to 11 over the last two years with girls ranging from ages 6 to 21 with all different kinds of personalities and needs.

Girls gain confidence and strength above all else when they join the program.

"I see confidence and joy in them [as they cheer]," says Dujka. "It's seeing them beam whenever they come into the gym and knowing they have a family here. I don't call it [physical] therapy, it's just an activity for these girls."

## Girls gain confidence and strength above all else when they join the program

The parents of the girls participating in the program bring them to practices every Friday and stay to watch.

Brandis Tomalá, mother of cheerleader Izzy Tomalá, gets emotional when she talks about what Powersports has done for her daughter.

"Three years ago she couldn't even talk, and now she's talking, laughing, and cheerleading," says Tomalá,

Kristen Marez is non-verbal and non-mobile, but her face lights up whenever her mother, Jennifer, mentions cheerleading. "[She] has gained so much more physical strength," says Jennifer.

The program has created a bridge between the cheerleading community and the special needs community as girls get to help show other girls how to do different moves and stunts.

"I am able to have helpers from other [Powersports cheer teams] come

in and volunteer and it brings unity to [Powersports] gym," Dujka says.

Helpers must be 9 years old or older; each girl has her own helper.

"My [daughters] have a heart and compassion for kids with special needs," says Monica Sigler, mother of three helpers. "They are just drawn to them and want to help and cheer with them; it's amazing. My daughter Reese even did a talent show with an autistic girl. She came up with routines and everything. That takes a lot of patience and maturity for a 10-year-old."

Dujka's two daughters, Kalyn and Nadia, have been helping with the program since it started along with participating in gymnastics and cheerleading.

"It's been really rewarding to go home with my girls and know we did this together," says Dujka.

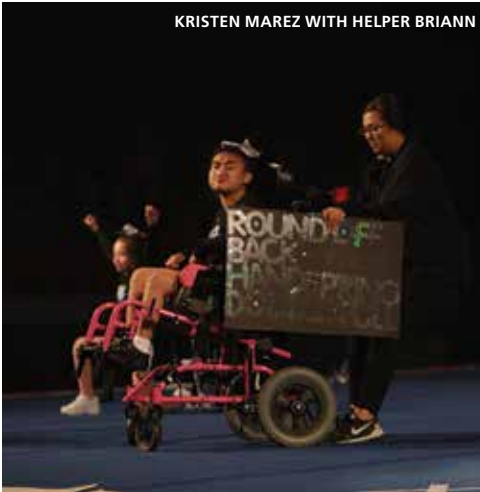
Both Nadia and Kalyn help every Friday practice with their mother and know the cheerleaders' little quirks and have watched them grow.

"Abby loves aliens and she gives us all alien names like Blimpsy and Pimpsy," says Nadia. "Whenever the lights are too bright or the music is too loud, we get her to use her 'alien powers' to overcome it."

When asked about an upcoming competition, 18-year-old Allison Dohrman says, "We're going to kick some butt!" *i*



MOMS & DAUGHTERS, L TO R: MICHELLE DOHRMAN WITH ALLISON; JANATH SULLIVAN WITH MYKENZIE; LESLEA HOFFPAUIR WITH ABBY; RANDI MCALEESE WITH MADEE; CONNIE SWARINGON WITH LESLIE; JENNIFER MAREZ WITH KRISTEN



KRISTEN MAREZ WITH HELPER BRIANN



ABBY HOFFPAUIR WITH HELPER MADDIE JONES



LANA NOVOSAD WITH HELPER KENNEDY JENNINGS

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**Jungalbook**  
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**Glitter and Gold!**  
**50 Years of Theatre**  
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**A Far Mean Streak of Indepence [sic]**  
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**Student Showcase**  
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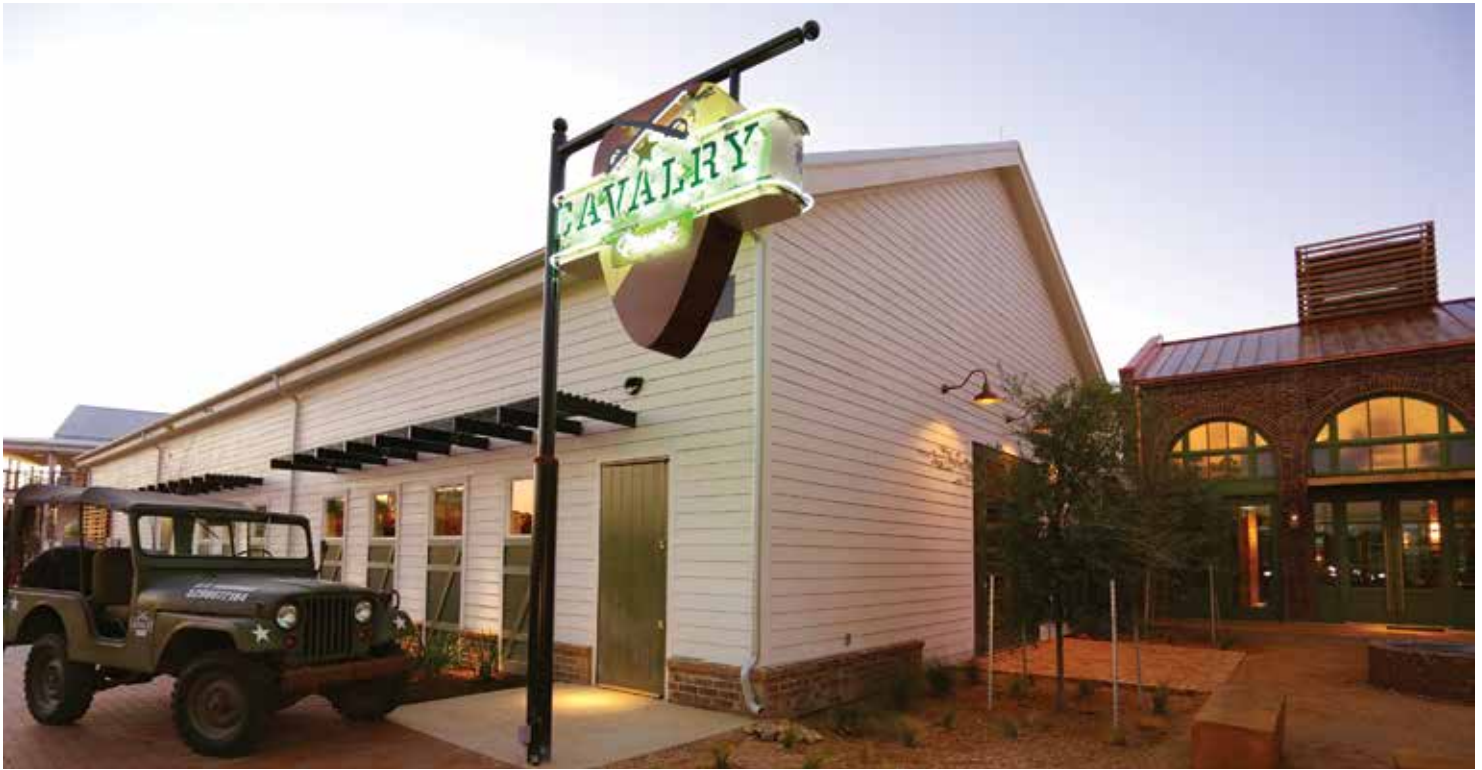
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# MILITARY & TRADITION

## Cavalry Court Hotel Offers New Old Experience

Story By **CALEB VIERKANT**  
Photos Courtesy of **CAVALRY COURT**



Jack the Australian Shepherd, mascot of the Cavalry Court Hotel, happily greets customers. He sits in the check-in lounge, AKA The Guardhouse. When Marcus Latner walks by, Jack quickly jumps up to follow him everywhere. The dog is far from the only attraction the new hotel has to offer.

Latner is Cavalry Court's general manager; he has been in the hotel business for 14 years. He started off in San Antonio with the Valencia Group as part of the group that got the city's Hotel Valencia off the ground. He came to College Station for Cavalry Court, which opened in November, and The George,<sup>™</sup> which will open in the spring.

Credit for the original design of a "retro-styled court brand" goes to the current Valencia president Doyle Graham, Jr., Latner explains. Graham's vision was a timeless retro military-style design featuring modern, luxury amenities. Like the motor courts of yesteryear, the goal is to capture a throwback to a time when travel was an adventure and to embrace a bit of Americana.

### Cavalry Court's unique design inspires tradition and camaraderie

Cavalry Court is spread out over four acres, and was built as two- and three-story buildings surrounding a large courtyard, which features a swimming pool, grills and tables, a fire pit, and several places for hotel guests to meet and relax.

The hotel has a unique style. Owned and developed by Midway and the Valencia Group, Cavalry Court was built with the history and flavor of the local community in mind. Cavalry Court was designed to create a sense of place that

inspires tradition and camaraderie and resembles an old military training camp. The hotel's carefully curated blend of colors, fabrics, textures, and materials were developed by designers Rottet Studio. Cavalry Court's retro military design from the '50s and '60s is in homage to Texas A&M University's history as a military school.

Cavalry Court ends the military metaphor at comfort. The hotel comes with the very best amenities, and is designed to have something for everyone. The rooms at Cavalry Court are not much bigger than the standard hotel room size, but several features make it feel big and luxurious. For one, unlike most chain hotels with the restroom near the front door, the bathroom is set at the far end of the room. The walk-in shower also feels much larger than the cramped conditions of a chain hotel. The bathroom is accessed via sliding barn doors, and large windows on both sides of the room let in lots of natural light. The main room also comes with a fully stocked 1950's style refrigerator and snack bar served out of a "refurbished"

ammunition crate. The prices of this mini bar are also lower than at other hotel chains, Latner says. They keep prices closer to what one would find in a grocery store or at a bar. The room also comes with free wifi, a sturdy writing desk, and a TV where Netflix, Hulu, and other forms of entertainment can be accessed.

“It’s great for the parents to come and visit the kids because now they’ve got somewhere fun to stay,” says Latner. “Once again, especially during the week, groups and business travelers are our biggest clientele, so we made sure to appeal to them as well.”

For those staying for business purposes, Cavalry Court offers large conference rooms and meeting places. Latner says they are perfect for almost any event, from meetings to weddings. These are designed to feel like repurposed barns, where horses may have once been kept. The ceilings are vaulted with lots of natural light. The wooden interior also fits in well with the retro, country feeling of the hotel.

The hotel offers a free continental breakfast every day at the canteen, a building that looks like a mix between an army mess hall and a modern coffee house. All this, plus the attractions in the central courtyard, are meant to make the hotel a fun and memorable part of customers’ trips.

“We really believe there is a demand for a unique, fun luxury hotel,” says Latner. “That’s what we’re providing. There’s a demand, but no one’s been able to capture the ambiance until now.”

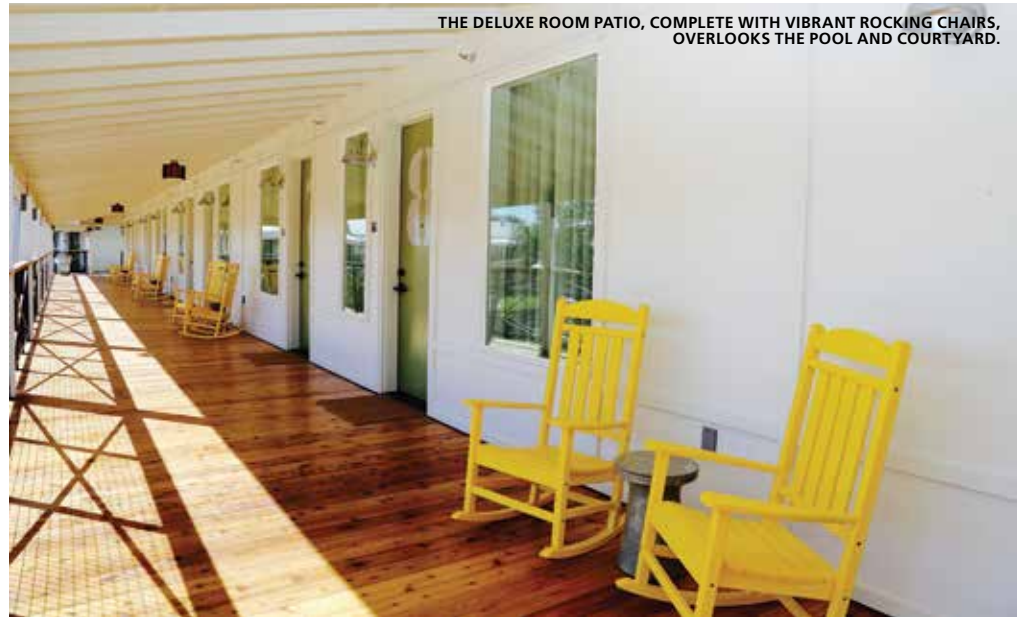
While prices will vary depending on time, party size, and even the football season, Latner says he wants to keep room rates from \$169 a night.

It’s located at the new regional destination, Century Square, under development by Midway in conjunction with Texas A&M University. Set on University Drive, Texas A&M is right across the street from the hotel.

Northgate is also only a few blocks away, though as more and more businesses move into the new area, restaurants and entertainment will be even closer.

Latner says many of the people involved with Cavalry Court are Texas A&M alumni. He sees it as a way of keeping business local, as well as a way to give back to the community.

Find Cavalry Court online at [cavalrycourt.com](http://cavalrycourt.com). *i*



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CAVALRY COURT’S POOLSIDE AMENITIES INCLUDE WELL-EQUIPPED PRIVATE CABANAS AND AN AIRY COURTYARD.



# GLITTER & GRIT

## The Junk Gypsies

Story By **SHELBI LEMEILLEUR**

Photos by **APRIL PIZANA**

*'We started this business with \$2,000 and an old pickup truck' -Amie*

Driving down State Highway 237 in Round Top, you may encounter a pink 1980 Chevy Suburban. There are horns on the grill, flames down the side, a chandelier in the back seat, and bumper stickers covering most of the back windows. Two words dance across the doors: "Junk Gypsy." You've just met Large Marge, a sort of unofficial mascot to the enterprise known as Junk Gypsy created by Texas A&M University graduates Jolie and Amie Sikes.

The Sikes sisters started Junk Gypsy more than 20 years ago. Fans know of their humble beginnings. "We started this business with \$2,000 and an old pickup truck," Amie says. "I sold my car and just had this hand-me-down truck from mom and dad that we started the business with."

Since then, Jolie and Amie's business empire has grown from flea market booths to an online store, headquarters in Round Top, a television show, and more. Through it all, the self-proclaimed "junkers" have remained true to themselves and their families.

AMIE AND JOLIE SIKES





### **Their Story**

The sisters had a different plan before stumbling upon the junking lifestyle. They grew up in East Texas, in a small town called Overton. Bryan/College Station also holds a special place in their heart.

Amie graduated from Texas A&M in 1995 with a degree in agriculture journalism. After graduating, Amie packed her bags and moved down the road to Austin, where she worked in the Texas State Capitol for three years and eventually applied for law school. However, she knew law school just wasn't for her, so she turned down her acceptance and moved back home. Amie worked part-time at the family pizza restaurant and slowly built what would one day become Junk Gypsy.

Jolie graduated from Texas A&M in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in biomedical sciences. She worked as a teacher in Houston for a couple of years before returning to College Station to work on a master's degree in health education, which she received in 2003. While earning her master's, she worked as an academic advisor for Sports Management.

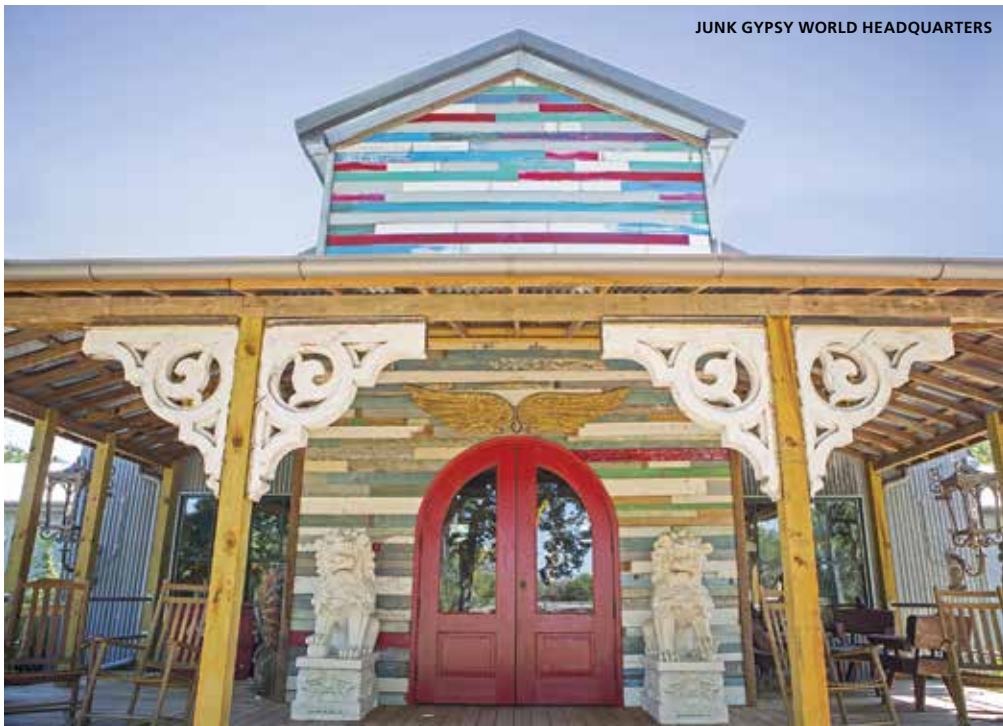
During this time, their father was diagnosed with leukemia. Jolie quit her job and would drive back and forth from College Station to Overton to help out part-time with the family business. Not long after, the entire Sikes family moved to College Station. They lived here around 10 years working and growing Junk Gypsy.

Many of the early Junk Gypsy business meetings were held at the sisters' favorite locale, the Dixie Chicken. While they may not use their Aggie degrees for the intended purposes, the time they spent at Texas A&M has had a direct impact on their business.

"The skills you learn at A&M are such lifelong skills," says Jolie. "Loyalty and the traditions at A&M are so important. We were raised with that sense of community. To this day it's part







JUNK GYPSY WORLD HEADQUARTERS

of the life blood of Junk Gypsy ... it's more than a business; it's a community, a lifestyle. That's how A&M is. It's part of who you are. ... You live, eat, and breathe it. That's how Junk Gypsy is."

### The Business

Amie and Jolie started out selling t-shirts and junking wherever they went. Now, the sisters sell everything from clothes and jewelry to repurposed "junk" and household items. They also take on some bigger projects for celebrity friends, like Miranda Lambert, Billie Joe Armstrong, and Sadie Robertson.

The Sikes always have their hands in more than one project at a time, all while maintaining a hands-on approach to their business. "We never sit down and say, 'This is your job, and this is your job,'" says Amie. "We start working, and it just all works out. We both just work. We are both dedicated to the end goal for Junk Gypsy and our family to be successful and happy. If [Jolie] needs help on something, she will say so. Otherwise we are just forging on."

After five years setting up at flea markets, Amie and Jolie decided it was time to put down roots. Ultimately, their hearts led them to Round Top. "We needed to be in the country," Jolie says of the move. "A lot of people consider College Station a small town, but for us it was big. [Round Top] was kind of like home already with the antiques shows. It was calling to us. It felt like it was meant to be."

They bought the land, which is now a 60-acre compound, and broke ground on the Junk Gypsy HQ. The store opened in the fall of 2013 and has been thriving since.

Round Top is home to Texas Antiques Week twice a year. Junk Gypsy participates, and the sisters can be found at the store, at their tent, or junking themselves. During the week, they throw their legendary Junk-O-Rama Prom at Zapp Hall, where all walks of life come to drink, dance, and show off their unique vintage prom dresses and western wear. The next Antiques Week is March 22 through April 2.

### The Show

The first episode of Junk Gypsies premiered on HGTV on Nov. 11, 2011. In the first season, Amie and Jolie conquered Antiques Week, Dierks Bentley's Airstream, Junk-O-Rama Prom, and various home projects for families and friends across Texas.

Amie and Jolie were initially skeptical about starring in their own TV show.



ANTIQUES WEEK



ANTIQUES WEEK



JUNK GYPSY WORLD HEADQUARTERS



“Production companies started calling 12 years ago,” Jolie explains. “They all just wanted us to be the female version of American Choppers. ... Everyone wanted us to argue; it was something we had no interest in. Then about five years into everyone calling us, our current producer called us. We trusted her.”

Because it was more of a lifestyle show, season two and three were moved to GAC. They have taken a hiatus from filming while working on some of their other projects, but they haven't called it quits on the show. Jolie says they will keep everyone posted.

### The Book

Last year, Amie and Jolie released their first book, “Junk Gypsy: Designing a Life at the Crossroads of Wonder & Wander.” The seven-month project tells stories, gives DIY inspiration, and shares some of their favorite projects.

The book is divided up into three sections: “The road: where we get our inspiration. The flea market: where practical magic meets elbow grease. Home: where our hearts are.”

The book is also a love letter to their fans and supporters over the last 20 years.

“To the dedicated, true-blue, boot-stompin’ JG warriors who’ve been around since the beginning: Pull up a chair and stay awhile,” the introduction reads. “We could never thank you enough. We’ve worked hard to keep this book as authentic to our JG spirit as you would expect it to be. We want you to love it. Highlight, dog-ear, and doodle in the margins. Take notes and tuck them in your mirror frame. This book is for you.”

The 230-page passion project is packed with pictures, inspiration, and heart-warming tales, not to mention the DIY projects for dreamers who want to take a stab at it themselves. The book isn't just for long-time fans or DIY junkies. Anyone can pick up the book and feel like family by the end of it: “Now that you're part of our family, we look forward to the moment when our wandering paths cross yours again.”

### The Inn

The biggest project on the radar for the Junk Gypsies is The Wander Inn. Comprised of two buildings on the back of the property in Round Top, it is expected to open early this year.

“It's very special back there,” Jolie says. “You feel like you're in another world.” Adds Amie, “I wanted it to feel like big open space and big sky country. The way the land lays, you couldn't even see any of the store.”

The inspiration for the Inn came from the Chisholm Trail and the Texas Independence Trail, both of which run through or near the area. The interior is a mix of Americana, Rock 'n Roll, and Western. Each room has a different theme, but the space as a whole fits together cohesively to provide a warm and inviting environment. “It's going to be a place where people come for an experience,” Amie says. “People will come as strangers and leave as friends.”

The project has been particularly special for Amie. “What we always say about Junk Gypsy is that you're going to find that thing you never knew you needed. The Wander Inn feels like that for me,” she says. “I never realized how much I would love it. I really think when I'm 80 years old, I'll still be out there building fires for people. ... I can't imagine Junk Gypsy without it.”

Anyone can sign up for updates about the Inn and its opening at [gypsyville.com/wander-inn](http://gypsyville.com/wander-inn).

### The Cruise

In March, Amie and Jolie will set sail with Country Living on the Country Living Coast-to-Coast Caribbean Cruise.







DIERKS BENTLEY'S AIRSTREAM



PHOTO BY JOLIE SIKES

The cruise stops at Turks & Caicos Islands; San Juan, Puerto Rico; St Maarten; and the Bahamas. As the cruise's special guests, Amie and Jolie will hold DIY demonstrations and a Junk Gypsy Prom. Junking and antiquing expeditions are available at some of the stops.

The cruise will be a family affair, and they've made special preparations including Mason jar shaped pool floats.

Neither sister has been to any of the places the cruise will stop, but Amie sees the whole trip as a reflection on how far they have come. "To go from [\$2,000 and an old truck] to getting paid to go on a cruise with Country Living is kind of phenomenal and unbelievable," she says.

The cruise is March 12-19. For more information or registration, visit [countrylivingcruise.com](http://countrylivingcruise.com).

### The Road Goes on Forever...

The sisters don't have to live in College Station for Texas A&M and Bryan College Station to still be important parts of who they are.

"Number one is the Dixie Chicken – always and forever," Jolie says. "We love campus; every time we are in town, we go to the MSC and hang out in the flag room. I just love College Station."

Amie tries to come to one of her other favorite places at least once a year. "I like going and staying at the LaSalle in Bryan and going to do all the stuff in Downtown Bryan," she says. She also makes a point to visit campus with her daughter, Indie, whenever she can.

Neither can resist the traditions that are part of the Aggie family, including football.

"The fact that there are traditions is amazing," Jolie gushes. "I cannot help it, every time the Aggie Band is on the field, or talking about them, there is something about them... it is just so regal."

For Amie, midnight yell will always hold a special place in her heart. "I went Friday night to midnight yell, and I was sold," she explains. "That's when I became an Aggie, was midnight yell. I was in tears; I was over the moon. There are a lot of midnight yells I've forgotten, but I've never forgotten that one."

Amie and Jolie leave inspiration and a whole lot of glitter trailing behind them wherever they go. They are nowhere near hitting the brakes. As Robert Earl Keen says, "The road goes on forever, and the party never ends." *i*



AMIE'S AIRSTREAM



LARGE MARGE





# 2017 YOUR SOURCE

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- Autism
- ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Alcohol And Substance Abuse Addictions
- Anxiety Disorders
- Bipolar Disorder
- Depression: Major Depression & Unipolar Varieties
- Childhood Mental Disorders and Illnesses
- Eating Disorders
- Dissociative Disorders
- Impulse Control Disorders
- Internet Addiction And Media Issues
- Obsessive-Compulsive Spectrum
- Personality Disorders

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Schizophrenia
- Sexual Disorders
- Suicide
- Tourette's and other Tic Disorders

## Behavioral Health

Medical conditions listed under Behavioral Health often fall under the personal decisions individuals make. These decisions can be prompted by significant life events such as getting injured in a car accident, loss of a family member or friend, or being made fun of in social situations.

A person struggling with managing his or her personal emotions may encounter:

- Stress
- Depression
- Anxiety

- Relationship problems
- Grief
- Addiction
- Mood disorders

With time, mental health illnesses and disorders are becoming more widely understood and accepted in our society. As this continues, the need to change the classification to avoid negative stereotypes and stigmas will decrease.

The professionals at Rock Prairie Behavioral Health want people to know the most important aspect of recovery is to first understand the problem and then to be provided with proper treatment. **For more information, visit [RockPrairieBH.com](http://RockPrairieBH.com) or call (979) 703-8848.**





# ROCK PRAIRIE








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Depression  
Hopelessness  
Feelings of worthlessness  
Thoughts of harm to self or others

Hallucinations, delusions, or paranoia  
Thoughts of suicide  
Nervousness/Anxiety  
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Change in Mood  
Grief, loss, or abandonment  
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Dr. Reece uses dental implants to create new smiles that look completely natural and function just like real teeth. Imagine being able to eat the foods you want again. Corn on the cob, steak, apples, and more are instantly back on the menu. And, in addition to the functional benefits, the cosmetic results can make you look up to 10 years younger!

**Your teeth can be any age you want them to be.**

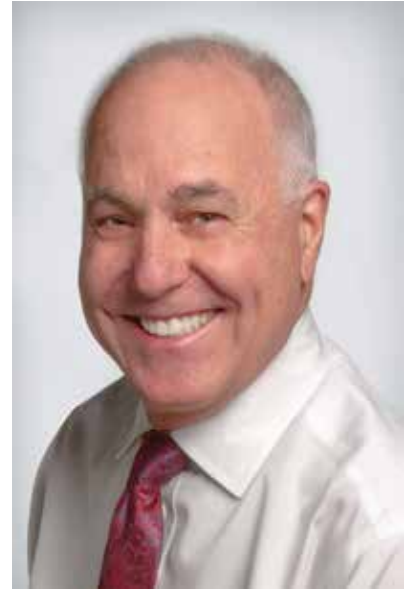
Our teeth give away our age — chips, gaps, missing teeth or

amalgam fillings are all visual clues. With implant retained teeth you truly get an ageless smile. Dr. Reece can design your new teeth to project any age of youthfulness you desire.

**Advanced implant dentistry provides a better solution.** Most people older than 50 have been taught it is best to keep repairing their teeth no matter what the condition, cost, or discomfort. Dr. Reece can extract failed teeth, place implants, and let you walk out of his office with a complete set of new teeth in as little as one day. Thanks to advances in sedation dentistry, the procedure can be comfortable and anxiety free.

**Dr. Michael K. Reece, DDS is one of only 25 LVI Master Dentists in the world** and has received specialized training in dental implant surgery, aesthetic dentistry, dentures, treatment of TMJ/TMD, and sedation dentistry. Patients, including other dentists, now come to Dr. Reece from across the state and country to benefit from his unique combination of talents.

**Dr. Reece's consultations are free; call today to schedule yours (979) 846-6515.**



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BRAZOS VALLEY MAGAZINE

# INSITE

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**Money Matters**

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Agri-Business &  
the Real Deal!*

*Money Matters  
Green Issue*



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**For pricing and space reservation, call**

BRAZOS VALLEY MAGAZINE

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**Do you experience challenges trying to accomplish routine daily tasks due to physical pain or mobility limitations? BetaMed Health & Wellness can help. The primary focus at BetaMed is to offer solutions to help individuals overcome these challenges.**

For nearly 15 years, patients have trusted BetaMed with their mobility equipment needs, including scooters, manual and power wheelchairs, lifts to carry this equipment on your vehicle, and seat lift recliner chairs. By



employing the Brazos Valley's only Assistive Technology Professional, BetaMed excels at analyzing a patient's needs and helping them select and use the appropriate equipment to improve their daily life.

BetaMed recently expanded their offerings to include more

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- Pain relief and recovery products, including non-prescription TENS units and Vionic shoes
- Footcare products by PediFix
- Safety equipment for your bathroom, where 1/3 of all

falls occur

- Stylish compression wear for all ages
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- Plus much, much more.

The professionals at BetaMed want people to know that solutions exist to help. They also have delivery service for your convenience.

Stop in or call BetaMed today. You'll experience their great service, now paired with even more to help you . . . Live Life!

**For more information, visit [BetaMedBCS.com](http://BetaMedBCS.com) or call (979) 268-6882.**



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## SIGNATURE SELECT SERVICES

# Helping You Maintain Your Quality of Life

**Aggie owned and operated, Signature Select Services is an In-Home care company servicing the Brazos Valley. They are committed to helping you maintain your quality of life, whether that means making your annual bridge tournament or having an extra hand around the house. Their services are designed to meet your specific needs.**

Inviting someone into your home is personal. Before you hire a caregiver or an agency, make sure you are well informed and check their credentials. Signature Select

Services is licensed with the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. The caregivers are well trained and vetted.

**Signature Select isn't like the franchises. They are locally owned and operated and set their own high standards.**

The administrators focus on making sure you feel comfortable and this starts with a perfect fit. They understand that it is more than just knowing what to do and all the experience in the world can't replace a one-on-one connection with your caregiver.

From the beginning when Nigel, Signature Select's administrator, personally brings your caregiver out for an introduction, you will

understand what makes Signature Select unique. They want to make a connection and add value to your family.

**Signature Select Services' team of caregivers and administrative staff are trained by clinicians to ensure the highest quality of care.** They are dedicated to meeting your lifestyle needs and coordinating a 'continuity of care' with your current medical providers. Not sure how it will all work? Give them a call today to start the discussion.

Signature Select partners with several of the best providers in the Brazos Valley and can guide you through all the many options (and budgets) across the post-acute spectrum

of care. Let them help you find a place that you feel at home and then together make sure you have the assistance you need to age in place safely and with confidence.

- Home Care Services include:
- Homemaking
- Bathing
- Dressing/personal hygiene
- Meal Prep and Feeding
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- Mobility assistance
- Social Outings/Doctor Visits
- Transportation
- Companionship
- Exercise
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- Vacation Companion
- Hospital Sitting
- Respite Care
- And more...

**Call (979) 691-7309 for more information on Signature Select Services.**





# SIGNATURE *Select* SERVICES

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## BRAZOS NATURAL FOODS

# Reclaim Your Vitality & Health

**With 28 years of service in the Brazos Valley, Brazos Natural Foods is THE place to shop for the highest quality natural foods and nutritional supplements.**

Struggling with pain and inflammation, food intolerances, digestive distress, fatigue, weight gain? Visit with the knowledgeable staff at Brazos Natural Foods to discover a healthy new world. It's everything you expect to find in an established, locally owned, natural foods store:

organic produce, meats, and dairy; foods for special dietary needs; bulk goods; supplements from top national brands; and the friendliest staff in town.

Brazos Natural Foods has been serving Bryan and College Station and the

surrounding area since 1988. Because the store provides an alternative to the "sameness" of shopping at big-box supermarkets, they offer sales and promotions on groceries, nutritional supplements, and body care products each month.

Take advantage of

these specials, as well as other promotional and/or clearance sales throughout the store.

**Reclaim your health and vitality. Shop Brazos Natural Foods! Visit [BrazosNaturalFoods.com](http://BrazosNaturalFoods.com) or call (979) 846-4459 for more information about how Brazos Natural Foods can make your life healthier.**



## Celebrating 28 years in the Brazos Valley!

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# NEIGHBORS EMERGENCY CENTER

## Making Lives Better

**Founded in 2008 by a group of emergency room physicians, Neighbors Emergency Center operates as a freestanding emergency room, providing patients with the same level of service as a hospital-based emergency room.**

Our College Station location opened in October 2016 and is located on University Dr. across from the Texas A&M Bonfire Memorial. The center operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Neighbors Emergency Center takes pride in only hiring local board certified physicians to care for patients. Medical Director, Dr. Stuart Quartemont; along with Facility Director, Amanda Bailey; and staff physicians Dr. Joel Richards, Dr. Joseph Jones, Dr. Wally Kane, Dr. Tarek



Kousayer; and the entire College Station Neighbors team provide nothing less than the highest of quality patient care.

Neighbors Emergency Center is rooted in and driven by a purpose that sets us apart from the healthcare industry as a whole. Our purpose drives our vision which is inspired by our patients, culture, and community. Neighbors Emergency Center

believes in providing extraordinary care that is dedicated to making lives better every day. Neighbors Emergency Center operates around an unfaltering vision to be “The Best Neighbors Ever” – this means providing unparalleled medical care driven by compassion, respect, and dedication.

**For more information, visit [NEC24.com](http://NEC24.com) or call (979) 260-0032.**



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## SUPERSLOW ZONE

## Strong Bone Health

**SuperSlow Zone strives to help you build strong bones, joints, and muscles.**

SuperSlow Zone's newest Strong Bone Health program is ideal for seniors, people with osteopenia or osteoporosis, and everyone who wants to keep their bones strong and healthy now. The World Health Organization ranks osteoporosis 2nd only to heart disease as a global health care problem.

With the new two-step Strong Bone Health program, patients could see an increase in bone density from seven to 16 percent in year one.

The two-step program is quick and easy; your appointment



will take as little as 15 minutes, one time a week. You start with Power Plate, which activates the body for the next step. Then, using the new bioDensity machine, you will complete four exercises. The exercises act as a stimulus on the bone, and the body's natural response to that stimulus is to make your bones stronger. Working your core, arms, and legs, it only takes a few weeks to build stronger bones and prevent future injuries.

**For more information about the new Strong Bone Health program, call (979) 693-6100 or visit [sbhcollegestation.com](http://sbhcollegestation.com).**



**IMPROVE YOUR BONE STRENGTH [DENSITY] 7% TO 16% WITHIN A YEAR!**

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## Strength &amp; Conditioning

**Serving the Brazos Valley for 15 years, SuperSlow Zone can help you stay in shape for life in less time than you'd take changing your clothes at an ordinary facility.**

Since 1982, SuperSlow Zone has been working with patients nation-wide to increase mobility; build stronger, leaner muscles; and live life stronger, more confident, and more energized.

For two 20 to 30 minute workouts a week, you can have a stronger, leaner, healthier body.

A typical SuperSlow workout involves six weight machines



each targeting a specific muscle group. Independent studies have shown a 50 percent greater strength gain over the course of eight weeks when compared to a regular-speed identical regimen. The one-on-one training sessions are perfect for people who have failed at exercise programs in the past; want a healthy, strong body; suffer from chronic conditions such as cholesterol levels, diabetes, Parkinson's, or depression; or need a

specialized exercise program due to injury.

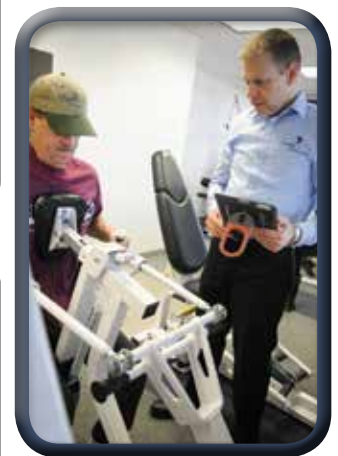
**For more information about SuperSlow Zone, visit [sszcsmedcenter.com](http://sszcsmedcenter.com) or call (979) 693-6100.**



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**SuperSlow Zone® System provides an accredited, high intensity, low force exercise strengthening protocol (method).**



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Exercise 1 to 2 times a week depending on your goals. Your knowledgeable, professional Instructor is, first and foremost, focused on your needs and results and the value this imparts to your life. Always on time, and always attentive, your Instructor helps you sustain maximum results and rewards in minimum time. Recapture valuable time to your life, peace of mind by taking care of yourself and greater enjoyment through increased strength, health and vitality. SuperSlow Zone® College Station.

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## COLLEGE STATION MEDICAL CENTER

# Nationally Recognized for Patient Safety

**College Station Medical Center traces its beginning to the city of Bryan where it began as Bryan Hospital in 1931. In 1987, the hospital moved to its current location on Rock Prairie Road.**

College Station Medical Center is a 167-bed acute care hospital that has introduced many first-time medical advancements in the region including neonatology, surgical robotics, and advanced interventional cardiology.

**New Leapfrog Hospital Safety Scores**, which assign A, B, C, D, and F letter grades to hospitals nationwide and

provide the most complete picture of patient safety in the U.S., were announced recently by **The Leapfrog Group**, a national patient safety watchdog. College Station Medical Center was one of 844 hospitals to receive an “A”, ranking among the safest hospitals in the United States.

“We continue to focus our efforts on providing safe, high quality care for our patients,” says Sherri Welch, chief nursing officer at College Station Medical Center. “Patient safety is our top priority and this honor comes as a result of the dedication and daily attention of our medical staff, nurses, and other caregivers.”

Developed under the guidance of an Expert Panel,

the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 30 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign A, B, C, D, and F grades to more than 2,600 U.S. hospitals twice per year. It is calculated by top patient safety experts, peer-reviewed, fully transparent, and free to the public.

“I am proud to lead a hospital that has such a high-level commitment to keeping our community safe during their time in the hospital,” says America Farrell, chief executive officer at College Station Medical Center.

College Station Medical Center continues to strive for excellence in healthcare, and along with the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Scores, has

received other accolades including certification as an Advanced Primary Stroke Center by The Joint Commission and is an Accredited Chest Pain Center recognized by the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care. The hospital also has the area’s first Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit with all private rooms and is home to the only program in the Brazos Valley certified in knee and hip replacement by The Joint Commission.

**For more information on College Station Medical Center, call (979) 764-5100 or visit [csmedcenter.com](http://csmedcenter.com).**



Don't let bone and joint pain keep you from the active life you love. Find out how the skilled surgeons at College Station Orthopaedics can help restore your freedom of movement. They offer comprehensive care in general orthopaedic and joint surgery, including total joint replacement, sports medicine, and trauma care to help you get back in action.

We're available right here, close to home, with appointments available at the Brenham Clinic and College Station Orthopaedics. **To schedule an appointment, call 979-696-3344.**

 College Station  
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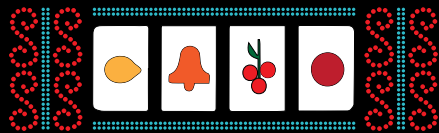




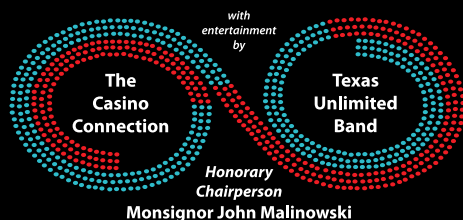
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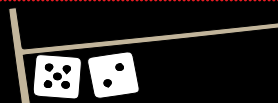
For more information:  
979.821.2266  
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## AEROFIT FITNESS CENTERS

# State-of-the-Art and 4 Locations

**Aerofit Fitness Centers have been serving the Brazos Valley for more than 30 years and currently have four locations. Aerofit also offers a 24-Hour Express location and a new premiere facility.**

With the new addition of the premiere Longmire facility, Aerofit is raising its service to a whole new level. The new facility features Technogym cardio and weight equipment, which will help



feature a lounge area for social and relaxation purposes.

The group exercise area offers classes on demand to help those with hectic schedules or who perhaps feel uncomfortable working out in front of large groups of people.

The new Aerofit features two indoor pools; one for lap swimming and the other for water classes. Additionally, the new facility employs great staff. Aerofit relies on its highly qualified, degreed and/or certified fitness instructors and personal training staff to work toward a vision of a happy, healthy community.

**For more information on Aerofit's facilities and programs, visit [aerofitclubs.com](http://aerofitclubs.com).**



members monitor their fitness progress. An expanded children's area, larger than any standard kids' play area, promotes activity and fitness.

The locker rooms are luxurious and

## HOSPICE BRAZOS VALLEY

# 27 Years of Caring

**In 27 years of service, Hospice Brazos Valley has become the regional provider of choice for hospice care.**

Their service area includes all or parts of 17 counties with offices located in Bryan, Brenham, and La Grange as well as the only hospice Inpatient Facility in the Brazos Valley located in Bryan. The inpatient facility has spacious private rooms to support short-term patient stays and embrace loved ones.

Patients receive 24-hour specialized care including active treatment, frequent assessment, and skilled interventions for all aspects of life.

Care is delivered by certified healthcare professionals in a peaceful family setting.

Hospice Brazos Valley also operates resale stores in Bryan and Brenham. As a non-profit, community-based, and community-supported hospice organization, the staff helps patients and their family members reclaim the hope and strength that

*(Continued on pg 42)*

# Tennis, racquetball, basketball, and swimming, plus so much more.



Aerofit is more than just a gym, and with training staff voted "Best of the Brazos", Aerofit can ensure you and your family reach your fitness goals. Call, click or come by today and see all that Aerofit has for you!

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## BRAZOS VALLEY FOOT CARE

## Putting Patients First

Putting patients first has been the cornerstone of Brazos Valley Foot Care since 1970.

Each day, every muscle, tendon, ligament, bone, and joint in your feet and ankles work together to give balance to your body. The six BVFC doctors are

specialized in providing comprehensive foot care from conservative care to the most complex surgeries when required. The friendly, caring, and efficient staff at BVFC will make your visit as convenient and pleasant as possible. "We always try to help each other to make sure that our



patients get the best care possible," says Dr. Abbey. BVFC is often acknowledged by patients as truly caring about their well-being.

The dedication of the doctors and staff has earned BVFC the accolades of being voted Best Podiatrist in the B/CS Eagle Reader's Choice poll and the Best of the Brazos 16 times in recent years.

Over the last 18 years, BVFC has expanded their services throughout the Brazos Valley to meet the needs for foot care in several communities. BVFC has full-time offices in College Station and Brenham. The practice also has satellite clinics in Caldwell, Bellville, Columbus, Navasota, Groesbeck, Marlin, and Mexia. In addition, BVFC provides foot care to most of the nursing homes and assisted living facilities in eight counties in the area.

**For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call (979) 776-6060 or visit [brazosvalleyfootcare.com](http://brazosvalleyfootcare.com).**

## HOSPICE BRAZOS VALLEY

(Continued from pg 40)

is hidden in fear and uncertainty.

Hospice Brazos Valley Inpatient Facility — **"Comfort is our specialty. Trust is our promise."**

Consider choosing Hospice Brazos Valley as a part of your charitable giving for 2017.

**For more information contact Hospice Brazos Valley at (979) 821-2266 or visit [HospiceBrazosValley.org](http://HospiceBrazosValley.org).**

We accept most insurance plans including Scott & White Health Plan & Medicare | Se Habla Español

# BRAZOS VALLEY FOOT CARE

"Serving the Brazos Valley Since 1970"

**BEST OF THE BRAZOS VALLEY 2008 WINNER**  
Best of the Brazos Valley 2008-2011, 2013-2016

**The Eagle's Choice AWARD 2015**  
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**We ♥ your feet.**

Our medical team believes in taking a systematic approach to cure your foot problems, starting with conservative treatment and providing surgical correction when needed. Brazos Valley Foot Care physicians are also experts in Diabetic Footwear.

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Satellite locations in Navasota, Bellville, Caldwell, Marlin, Mexia, Groesbeck and Columbus

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## DEALERS LIGHTING

# A Bright Spot for Service & Products

**A bright outlook and exceptional customer service are what you can expect when you visit Dealers Lighting. Whether you're stopping by to pick up a light bulb or are investing in a custom-made chandelier, the staff will help you with all your lighting needs.**

For more than 50 years, Dealers Lighting has carried some of the best lighting and accessory options in the Brazos Valley. However, the store holds more than a quick fix for a burned-out bulb.

Their friendly staff takes time to meet each customer's individual lighting need, providing knowledgeable lighting



information without high-pressure sales tactics or gimmicks. Their goal is to make you a lifelong customer.

The showroom displays a wide array of lighting choices to coordinate with your lifestyle. The right lighting can create a warm and inviting atmosphere in your home.

Now is the perfect time to visit Dealers Lighting as they are clearing out last year's models to make way for 2017's New Styles. Lots of great fixtures are on sale now so hurry in and take advantage of the savings!

**For more information about Dealers Lighting, visit [dealerselectrical.com](http://dealerselectrical.com) or call (979) 775-1697.**

## Jeremiah

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 an employee owned company  
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## ACME GLASS

# Transform Your Home for the New Year

## Make 2017 the year you transform your home with a home remodeling project that's sure to shine.

Acme Glass can take your shower from simple to spectacular with the beauty of glass and decorative shower doors. Or choose from a large selection of beveled glass and mirrors for your home. Acme Glass can install new or replace existing shower enclosures and mirrors; custom make tabletops for your furniture; or cut heavy glass shelving. Acme glass is the only local glass company with in-house beveling and polishing machines. The company, locally

owned and operated by the Morehead family, has been in business since 1946 (71 years) and is now registered as a Historic Business - Texas Treasure with the Texas Historical Commission. Acme Glass offers quality products, unsurpassed customer service and competitive pricing. Their expert staff can help you with home projects from start to finish.

Clearly, the best choice for shower glass is a custom glass option that resists hard water, heat, humidity, soap, and even cleaning agents to keep it from becoming dull over time. ShowerGuard glass is a patented technology

barrier that prevents glass from showing signs of age and locally available through Acme Glass, a Guardian ShowerGuard registered dealer.

The exact fit is just as important as the choice of glass. "Everything we make at Acme Glass is custom-made and manufactured to exact measurements from each location," says Donna Morehead, one of the officers of this family owned company. For an exact, custom fit, the craftsmen at Acme Glass won't measure for your custom shower surround until the tile work is finished, but Morehead urges clients to come in early in

the building or remodel process to discuss glass options like ShowerGuard, compare framed and frameless styles on display in their showroom, and discuss other glass options including bathroom mirrors.

**Acme Glass has three convenient locations to serve Brazos Valley residents including a builder showroom in Bryan. They also offer auto glass and commercial glass services.**

**Visit [acmeglass.com](http://acmeglass.com), or call (979) 822-5871 for more information.**





# ACME Glass

Products & Services- Since 1946

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# Design-Install

Whether you are remodeling your existing bathroom or building your new dream home, let the professionals at ACME Glass assist you with your mirrors, table top glass, and shower enclosures. We will measure and fabricate our glass products to custom fit your home.

Quotes - Consultation  
Design - Installation





## SUNSPACE TEXAS

## Discover Fine Porch Living &amp; Outdoor Solutions

If you love outdoor porch living, but are ready to leave behind the rain, dust, and bugs, Sunspace Texas has the best solutions to expand your family's usable living space.

No more covering your outdoor furniture to protect it from the Texas heat and sun is just the beginning. From new rooms to covers for existing porches and pergolas, Sunspace Texas has the solution.

WeatherMaster Porch Windows are the latest innovation that allows you to maintain maximum view and maximum breeze on your porch without inviting in insects and dirt. Rugs, plants, window treatments – even TVs and fireplaces – are all options and all protected. Unlike a typical



window, the WeatherMaster Porch Windows can be opened to 75 percent of the window area!

Imagine the hours of enjoyment for your family while using your porch in all weather and in a beautiful room.

There is even a WeatherMaster Stacking Door system that provides ventilation from zero percent up to 100 percent. Both are fully warranted and customized to your individual outdoor living needs.

Not everyone wants to add a full room. Acrylic Covers for patios and pergolas block harmful UV rays and summer's heat while allowing natural light

through an attractive high-gloss sheen. With a 30-year warranty against yellowing, and 10-year warranties against hail damage and for light transmission, this beautiful solution for patios does not yellow or degrade like polycarbonate covers. Acrylic covers also include an Anti-Algae Coating that harnessed natural UV rays to keep the covers clean.

**Need to cover an existing pergola, gazebo or other wooden**

**structure? Call about Sunspace Texas' double-skinned Acrylite sheets that can be used as a covering system.** With a clamping bar system for a weather-tight seal, it can be attached to the existing aluminum or wood rafters. Sunspace Texas has the technology and custom fit to match your outdoor living need and budget.

**From simple solutions to Texas heat and sun with effective and affordable porch covers to home-enhancing screen rooms and even complete outdoor living areas, visit [SunspaceTexas.com](http://SunspaceTexas.com) for great ideas, photos, solutions and more. Or call 1-888-271-5810 to speak with a Sunspace Texas professional about how you can start loving outdoor porch living in any weather – today!**





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JEFFERSON CHRISTIAN CUSTOM HOMES, INC.

# High Quality Custom Homes

**Jefferson Christian Custom Homes, Inc. was created in 1997 by Dale and Jennifer Christian of College Station. Dale has been building in Bryan College Station and the surrounding areas since 1990 and is responsible for some of the most unique and detailed homes in the Brazos Valley.**

He studied at Texas A&M University for both a Bachelor's of Science in Building Construction and a Master's of Science in Land Development. Dale's ability to incorporate current technology and the highest quality materials uniquely sets him apart as a custom homebuilder.



In addition to building homes for the last 26 years, Dale and Jennifer have been heavily invested in the local community. Jennifer serves as the children's minister at their church and they both enjoy their time with their two teenage daughters.

**Call (979) 694-1272 or visit [jeffersonchristian.net](http://jeffersonchristian.net) to learn more about Jefferson Christian Custom Homes, Inc.**

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With more than 30 years combined experience, John R. Clark, Josh Isenhour, and their associates continue to build on their variety of experiences and tradition of constant honesty, integrity, and business innovation.

With numerous areas of expertise, quality support staff, and a convenient office located just north of Texas A&M University, Clark Isenhour stands ready to provide the best, most professional service in the Brazos Valley. **For more information, visit [clarkisenhour.com](http://clarkisenhour.com) or call (979) 268-6840.**





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## JEFFERSON CHRISTIAN CUSTOM HOMES, INC.

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Website: [www.jeffersonchristian.net](http://www.jeffersonchristian.net)



## BCR REALTORS

# Award-Winning Real Estate Firm with a Combined Hundreds of Years' Experience in the Bryan College Station Community

**BCR REALTORS is a full-service real estate brokerage offering Residential and Commercial Sales, Property Management and Leasing, along with full-service Home Owners Association Management. Earlier this year BCR deepened their roots even more by adding two full-time REALTOR, Auctioneers and a Relocation Department that will help handle all the growth in B/CS.**

With a combined hundreds of years' experience in the B/CS Community, BCR has the

knowledge, expertise, and tools necessary to help their clients achieve profitable and timely real estate goals.

**Real Estate Sales:** BCR sales department now includes Residential, Commercial, and Auction Sales. They handle Land, Farm, and Ranches. With more than 45 Professional agents, BCR is well equipped with a history of successful agents to assist in purchasing and selling residential properties for new and experienced homebuyers. BCR commercial REALTORS are well versed in commercial land, office buildings, warehouses, retail locations, management, and investment property purchases. Years of experience purchasing, selling, and locating agricultural, recreational, and investment-

grade rural properties are at your disposal with BCR's team of REALTORS.

**Property Management and Leasing:** BCR features an expert team of staff and leasing agents to insure your valued investments continue to remain profitable with some of the best occupancy levels in town. Tenants have the opportunity to choose from a wide range of residential properties in Bryan and College Station, while landlords can be assured of receiving prompt maintenance services and detailed monthly reports.

**Home Owners Association Management Services:** BCR's HOA management team serve more than 40 communities in the B/

CS area. Communities include subdivisions, condominiums, and townhomes, as well as commercial office complex associations. BCR's HOA teams strive to provide knowledge and understanding to all HOA members. HOAs are small business corporations and BCR's team works behind the scenes to manage the daily financials, board meetings, and communications for the communities they manage.

**Visit [BCRBCS.com](http://BCRBCS.com) and click on Auctions or Relocation to learn more about both of these departments. BCR REALTORS are growing now to help B/CS grow even bigger later.**



Joshua Rush, REALTOR, Auctioneer; Lance Swigert, REALTOR, Auctioneer

**BCR REALTORS Is Proud to Be Part of This Community!  
We Believe in Upholding Values, Educating Clients,  
Volunteering, & Giving Back.**



**Because We Live Here, Too!**



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**HOA Management 979-703-1819**

**Relocation Department 979-255-7033**

**If you want to help make a difference in B/CS community come join the BCR team!**

**700 University Drive E. , Suite 108 • College Station, TX 77840**

**[bcrbcs.com](http://bcrbcs.com)**





# VENUS PEST COMPANY



**ATTENTION: “3 SURPRISING QUESTIONS** you can ask to **ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEE** you are working with a **PEST CONTROL** company you can **TRUST TO DO THE JOB RIGHT!”**

— **Dr. Scott Lingren, Entomologist**

If you're like most homeowners, you want to make sure the pest control company you use provides a safe and effective service at a fair price. You'll also want to know how often your house will be serviced, what pests are included, and if there is a warranty. But, if you want to be sure you're working with a **TRULY EXCEPTIONAL COMPANY**, all you have to do is ask these **3 questions**:

- 1. “How much liability insurance do you have?”** EXPERIENCED AND TRUSTWORTHY companies will carry MORE THAN the Texas minimum of \$300,000.
- 2. “Do you have a degreed Entomologist on staff?”** Surprisingly, it's quite rare for a pest control company to have a degreed Entomologist on staff. Those that do **VALUE EDUCATION** and will **PROVIDE SOLUTIONS** other companies can't. You want a company that **HAS THEIR VERY OWN EXPERT**, not one that relies on internet searches to get answers to your pest problems.
- 3. “Is your company involved in the community?”** Community involvement gives people a feeling of **GREATER PURPOSE**. Companies and employees with a **GREATER PURPOSE** will do more to make their clients happy!

Visit [www.venuspest.com](http://www.venuspest.com) for more pest information and tips like:

- “How to figure out **what's in your attic** without actually going up there”
- “**6 mistakes** to avoid when **hiring** a pest control company”
- “How to survive a **killer bee** attack”
- “College station's **worst neighborhoods** for **scorpions**”



**(979) 774-0486**  
[www.venuspest.com](http://www.venuspest.com)

BV TRASH VALET & RECYCLING

# Local, Green & Giving Back

**BV Trash Valet & Recycling is a local, Aggie-owned company offering trash and recycling services to homes, businesses, and apartments in the Bryan and College Station areas.**

Customers appreciate the excellent service provided and the convenient recycling program without having to sort materials. "We pride ourselves on excellent service that is easy on the customer, while saving them money and helping them to go-green all at the same time," says owner Ricky Hux.

The company has been honored with several awards: the 2011 Growing Green Communities Award sponsored by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) and the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development.

In addition, BVTVR received the 2012 Community Stewardship Award from Keep Brazos Beautiful.

Since 2009, BV Trash Valet & Recycling has been serving the community and now they are proud to be giving back to the community with a college scholarship program for local area high school seniors awarding them \$2,000.

**To learn more about the scholarship program visit [bvtrashvalet.com/resources](http://bvtrashvalet.com/resources). Call (979) 777-8968 to learn how you may benefit from BV Trash**



**Valet's single-streamed recycling programs offered to apartments, businesses, and residents.**

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JACQUELINE VOSS ALLSTATE INSURANCE

## New Year Update from Jackie Voss: The Importance of Life Insurance

**Life insurance. It can buy loved ones time to grieve. It can pay off debts. It can keep families in their homes. It can keep a family business in the family. It can provide a stream of income for a family to live on. There's just one small catch. You need to own life insurance.**

Here's the bottom line: A majority of families either have no life insurance or not enough, leaving them one accident or terminal illness away from a financial catastrophe for their loved ones. It's a growing crisis and that's why we make such a big deal about it. Over the years, Jackie has witnessed the consequences of families who've chosen not to own coverage. It's heartbreaking.

**When was the last time you sat down with someone and discussed your life insurance program? If you've never done this, call Jackie Voss. Contact her at (979) 846-5758 or [jvoss@allstate.com](mailto:jvoss@allstate.com).**



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DOWNTOWN EVENT SERVICES

# Lighting, Videography & DJ Services

**Downtown Event Services** has been serving the Brazos Valley since 2006. They help plan events like wedding receptions, corporate functions, dances, mitzvahs, birthdays, quinceañeras, tailgates and more. They offer decor lighting, videography services, and a talented team of emcee/DJs to help create or capture your next event.

**DJ Services:** When it comes to selecting a DJ for your event, music is only



one component to consider. Downtown Event Services will provide a DJ who is good at blending your tastes with your guests to create a fun atmosphere, but also while keeping the event on track by managing the flow of the timeline (which they can help you create if you don't have a coordinator!).

**Videography:** Downtown

Event Services specializes in wedding videos and enjoys capturing the essence of your day. The goal is to create a video that lets you feel as though you are reliving the original experience every time. It is filmed in HD and they use professional editing software to create a video of the highest quality to preserve your memories.

**Lighting:** Lighting is a great way to change the look of your venue whether you choose a subtle champagne wash light



package, or go all out with vividly colored up-lighting, and a customized monogram fixture shining on the dance floor.

**For more information on Downtown Event Services, visit [AggielandWeddings.com](http://AggielandWeddings.com) or call (979) 822-1999.**

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**Locally owned and operated, Ground Shuttle has been serving Bryan College Station transportation needs for more than 10 years. They provide safe, frequent, and reliable shared rides to Houston airports. In addition, they offer in town, out of town, and special event private transportation services.**

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Ground Shuttle offers 10 daily shuttles to George Bush Intercontinental airport (IAH) and four to Houston Hobby airport (HOU). The frequent departures, home pick



up/drop off option, and vehicle amenities allow you to be productive during the ride and make commuting with Ground Shuttle between Bryan College Station and the Houston airports the way to go.

**Reservations for airport shuttle or private car services can be made online up to 90 days in advance at [groundshuttle.com](http://groundshuttle.com) or at (855) 303-4415.**

Safety is the most important aspect of their business. Vehicles have a stringent maintenance schedule. Ground Shuttle commits to keeping vehicles safe and reliable. They perform extensive background checks and provide continuous safety education to the staff.

Traveling can be stressful. Use Ground Shuttle's service to make getting to the airport or returning home the easy part of your trip! Let them do the driving!

BLACK SWAN RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS

# Planning Ahead for Your Future

**The new year is here and many people can enjoy friends and family in special ways. Bryan College Station is a wonderful area to live and retire to in Texas, but it is important to factor in financial planning this new year.**

For retirees, the beginning of a new year is a good time of year to relax and prepare for the future with retirement education. Your retirement plan not only affects yourself, but your spouse and at least the next two generations of your family. Consider taking a fun and informative Black Swan Retirement Readiness Class early in 2017.

**For more information, call (979) 820-4281 or visit [BlackSwanClasses.com](http://BlackSwanClasses.com)**

*How do you find out "when" and "how well" you can expect to retire?*

*How do you blend all future income and expenses together and get good answers?*

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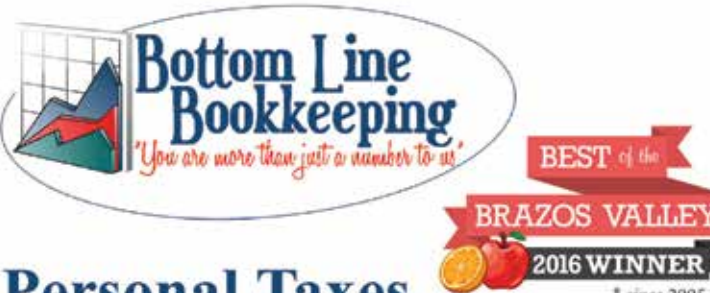
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**For more information or to schedule an appointment with Bottom Line Bookkeeping, call (979) 691-2343 or visit [bottomline.biz](http://bottomline.biz).**



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**Call (979) 472-7812 to schedule your tour or visit [csstoragedepot.com](http://csstoragedepot.com) for more information.**

D. WADE VANDERBOOM, NEW YORK LIFE

# Serving You – The Business Owner

## Wade VanDerBoom is an agent with the New York Life Insurance Company.

Being a business owner for more than 29 years, he understands the challenges faced in today's ever-changing business environment. Helping you, the business owner, with risk management, asset retention, and retirement planning is his key focus.

### Helping you solve the problems of:

- How can our business best be prepared if my partner or I suddenly died?
- What can I do to help retain my best employees?
- How can I minimize taxes?
- How can my retirement plan work to compliment my business plan?
- How can I add some cost-effective benefits for my employees?
- How can I ensure the continuity of my

business if something happened to one of my key people?

- What's the best way to ensure a smooth transition of my business?
- How can I maximize what I leave to my heirs?

Helping you minimize risk, minimize taxes, maximize your savings, and maximize your returns is the goal of Wade & the New York Life Team.

### Why New York Life for Your Needs

An insurance policy is only as good as the company behind it. To help consumers make intelligent decisions, independent services rate insurers. While the same services use the same criteria to make their judgments, each focuses on a separate aspect of a company. New York Life Insurance Company and its subsidiary New York Life Insurance and Annuity Corporation have received the highest

ratings currently awarded to any insurer by all four major ratings agencies:

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Fitch  
AAA for Financial Strength

Source: Individual Third Party. Rating Reports as of 8/1/2013.

**For more information, contact D. Wade VanDerBoom with New York Life Insurance at (979) 219-9560, [dwwanderboom@ft.newyorklife.com](mailto:dwwanderboom@ft.newyorklife.com), or [WadeVanDerBoom.nylagents.com](http://WadeVanDerBoom.nylagents.com).**



**Douglas "Wade" VanDerBoom**  
Agent, New York Life Insurance Company  
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- HIPAA compliant
- Appointment scheduling
- After-hours and lunch coverage
- Property maintenance coverage
- Office call messages dispatched by email, text, fax, or patching
- Plans for less than \$3 a day
- No long-term contract required

Laser Answering Service is accredited with the BBB and a Member of B/CS Apartment Association, B/CS Chamber of Commerce and supports The Bryan Rotary Club and The Junior League of B/CS.

**For more information about Laser Answering service, visit [laseranswering.com](http://laseranswering.com) or call (979) 775-4800. They are located at 2405 Texas Ave South, Suite 306 in College Station.**

**BRAZOS ESTATE SALES**

**Here When You Need Help**

**The staff at Brazos Estate Sales knows that clearing out an entire home can seem overwhelming.**

Their services allow you to walk away from the mystery boxes, dark attics, overflowing garages, and packed cabinets and leave the work to them. Brazos Estate Sales is not an auction company. They conduct household estate sales (all items are priced) and handle all phases of the process, including appraisal, cleaning, staging, marketing, and the sale itself. Brazos Estate Sales will find a new home for everything in your house. With an extensive mailing list of dealers, designers, and individuals, Brazos Estate Sales guarantees a great turnout at your sale.

**For more information, call (979) 587-1923 or email [GRichards42@gmail.com](mailto:GRichards42@gmail.com).**

**Brazos Estate Sales**

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- eBay Listings
- Consignment Sales
- Auction Placements

We are a full service estate liquidator. From a house full of antiques, to a garage full of tools we will find great homes and great prices for any and everything. And if you are just looking to downsize we can sell single items or large collections. Give us a call or drop us a line today. You’ll be amazed at how easy it is when you let us take care of everything.



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## CHOATE MONUMENT

# Leaving a Lasting Legacy

Rocky and Barbara Choate started Choate Monument Company in Bryan in 1978, believing that “Every customer deserves individual attention at no extra charge.”

Their legacy continues today under the management of their daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly and Chris Ross (Texas A&M University Class of '94). They provide the Brazos County and surrounding areas with quality, custom granite, and marble memorials, designed and installed at a fair price — from small, simple grass markers to elaborate mausoleums.

For more information about Choate monument, call (979) 755-7907.



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carved in stone  
become a  
long-lasting  
tribute.*





## WARD FURNITURE &amp; FLOORING

## Where Personal Service is a Tradition

**Ward Furniture & Flooring is a fourth-generation, family owned business dating back to 1944. “Back then, a handshake was a contract,” owner Jackie Ward says. “Our motto is ‘where personal service is a tradition.’ In my opinion, our personal service can’t be beat.”**

Years ago, Ward began replacing flooring in some buildings at Texas A&M University. Customers in the area began making the

short drive to Huntsville to do business with the Ward family.

“As always, efficient, on-time, and the job is perfect,” reads one Angie’s List review. “Ward Furniture also has an excellent record with the Better Business Bureau,” owner David Ward says.

Today, Ward offers a remarkable variety of flooring, but haven’t forgotten their roots are in the furniture business offering competitive prices on a wide selection of quality furniture. “We want to sell furniture and know it’s going to last a long time,” said David.

Wardfurniture.com, their website, showcases manufacturer lines but

because fabrics are sometimes difficult to select online, Ward showroom has hundreds of fabric samples available for customers to see, touch, and feel.

Staff designers have created beautiful vignettes in the store’s showroom where customers glean ideas for their homes. Our designers are available to help with tasks ranging from arranging new furniture purchases to assisting with remodels and new construction. “They are really good, helpful, and fun. Paint selections for walls, countertops, window treatments, flooring—everything inside the home,”

Jackie says, “even making suggestions the customer hasn’t thought about yet.”

In addition to beautiful accessories and accents, Ward can order custom window treatments or help with re-upholstery work.

With in-house financing and a level of customer service unheard of at big-city stores, the Wards say it’s a way of life. They’re proud to offer the same personal service that remains the standard at Ward Furniture & Flooring.

**For more information about Ward Furniture, call (936) 295-2514 or visit [wardfurniture.com](http://wardfurniture.com).**





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# Signature Spa Services for Man's Best Friend

**At Fabulous Fur Pet Salon, you will find professional grooming services performed by an experienced team of groomers that are animal lovers too!**

All pets are treated gently with positive training methods and rewards, never harsh words or punishment. With a certified groomer on staff, Fabulous Fur only performs grooming and styling procedures that do not place undue stress or cause discomfort to your pet.

Fabulous Fur Pet Salon offers a variety of grooming services to accommodate just about any breed of dog. No matter the age, size, or breed of your four-legged friend, your satisfaction is guaranteed. Your furry friend will be greeted by name and ensured a comfortable and happy experience through the entire grooming process. All housing, grooming stations, and equipment are disinfected between every pet. Your pet will be treated with love and respect, as if he or she were our own.

Your most trusted companion deserves to be pampered. Treat your furry friend to a little bit of spoiling and pampering by scheduling an appointment for them to enjoy Fabulous Fur's grooming and spa services!

"Cindy and her team at Fabulous Fur did a great job on my fur babies! The staff was super friendly and sweet to my pups, so I felt completely comfortable leaving them there. An overall excellent experience for both the fur babies and me." Lynn R. Campbell

**For more information, visit [fabulousfurlpetsalon.com](http://fabulousfurlpetsalon.com) or call (979) 436-2790.**



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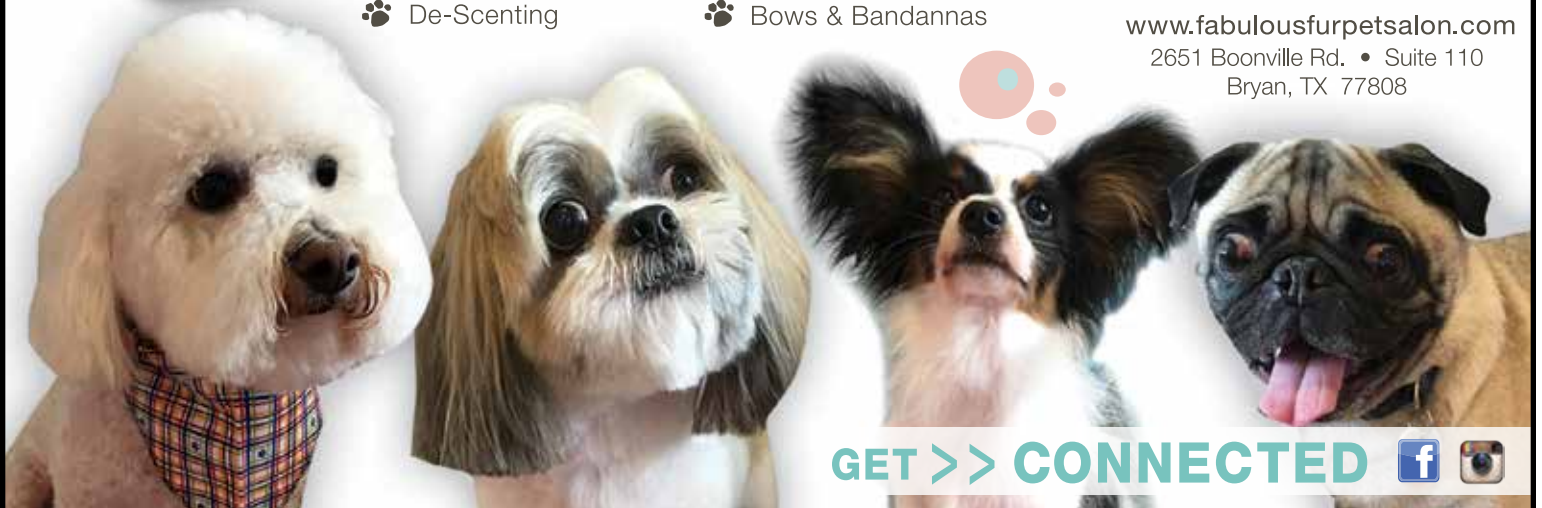


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**GET >> CONNECTED**

## MATTRESS SLEEPCENTERS

## Great Sleep for Good Health

**How well you sleep is tied to your health – and to the mattress you sleep on. Health studies have linked a lack of quality, deep sleep to high blood pressure, heart disease, and even depression. The CDC reports insufficient sleep as a national epidemic.**

It's time to look at what a bed can do for your sleep and your health. Adjustable bed frames to raise your head during sleep may improve breathing for allergy or sleep apnea sufferers. Hypoallergenic mattresses such as the Tempur-Pedic also offer relief from pressure points, motion transfer, and support that adapts to curves of your body. These

latest developments in sleep technology and new mattress innovations can be part of ensuring a healthy night's sleep, says Murray Carstens, who opened Mattress SleepCenters in 2005.

One innovation is the TEMPUR-Up™ Foundation, which is the perfect upgrade from a flat foundation. It allows you to raise the head of the foundation for reading, working on a laptop, or watching TV.

"With the constant innovations in bedding technology creating so many choices, it's hard to stay in the loop and pick the best bed for you," explains Carstens. "We simplify that process by keeping an up-to-date inventory and by educating our customers."

The experts at family-owned Mattress SleepCenters aren't

just in it for the sales – they make education a priority. The atmosphere, the honesty, the fair prices, and, of course, the mattresses themselves, all make a no-stress, furniture-shopping experience.

With more than 80 years of combined experience in the business of sleep, the professionals at Mattress SleepCenters know the best brands, the most reliable materials, and which mattresses stand the test of time. With a huge in-store inventory, these knowledgeable experts will introduce you to the benefits of quality brands including Tempur-Pedic, Posh+Lavish, Stearns & Foster, Serta, Restonic, and Sealy Posturepedic.

Luxurious comfort isn't limited to the bedroom. Mattress SleepCenters is the

exclusive retailer for Stressless Chairs and recliners and Ekorness sofas and seating systems. Each is custom-fitted to your comfort and needs.

Achieving comfort at home is where health begins, whether it's choosing the best sleep system or learning about custom seating options for your family's home. "It's just like finding a mattress here – it's all about you," says Carstens.

**To find your personal best sleep choice or to experience the custom comfort of Stressless Chairs and the entire line of Ekorness seating systems, visit Mattress SleepCenters at 1402 Harvey Road near the entrance to Post Oak Mall, call (979) 696-3900, or visit [mattressleepcenters.net](http://mattressleepcenters.net).**





## SQUARE ONE

# Downtown Bryan Event Center & Loft

Located in the Historic Downtown Bryan District, Square One Downtown Bryan Event Center & Loft is conveniently located at 211 W. Wm. J Bryan Pkwy, across the street from the Downtown Bryan Post Office. Downtown Bryan is among the state's newest Cultural Districts, a distinction awarded to selected cities by the Texas Commission of the Arts.

Cultural districts are special community areas that stimulate economic development and community revitalization as well as harness the power of cultural resources.

After a lengthy and thorough renovation with attention to every detail and honoring the historical nature of the building, Square One is excited to open the doors and proudly serve the growing Bryan College Station community.

The ground floor of this quaint building, built in the early 1900s, is perfect for any of your special event needs and can accommodate up to 75 of your guests.



Square One is proud to feature just about any event accommodation needed to host your dream event including a catering prep kitchen complete with commercial refrigerator, freezer, and catering holding cabinet.

In addition, Square One features a separate bar entertainment area complete with handicap accessible bar, tapped kegerator, and refrigerated storage.

The second floor of Square One features a fully appointed three-bedroom,

two-bath loft with its own private outdoor entrance. Rent this beautiful loft as a retreat for your Wedding Party or as a Bridal Suite. The Loft space is also perfect to rent for any game getaway weekend. The Loft is just a short walk to the Downtown Parking Garage to meet up with the Shuttle to ride to Kyle Field.

**Check out the Square One webpage for more information at [SquareOneDowntownBryan.com](http://SquareOneDowntownBryan.com), or email for pricing and booking information at [bookings@squareonedowntownbryan.com](mailto:bookings@squareonedowntownbryan.com)**

The staff of Square One is looking forward to hearing from you and providing you with the event space of your dreams.





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DOWNTOWN BRYAN

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**Contact us for rates at [c.king@sq1bryan.com](mailto:c.king@sq1bryan.com)**





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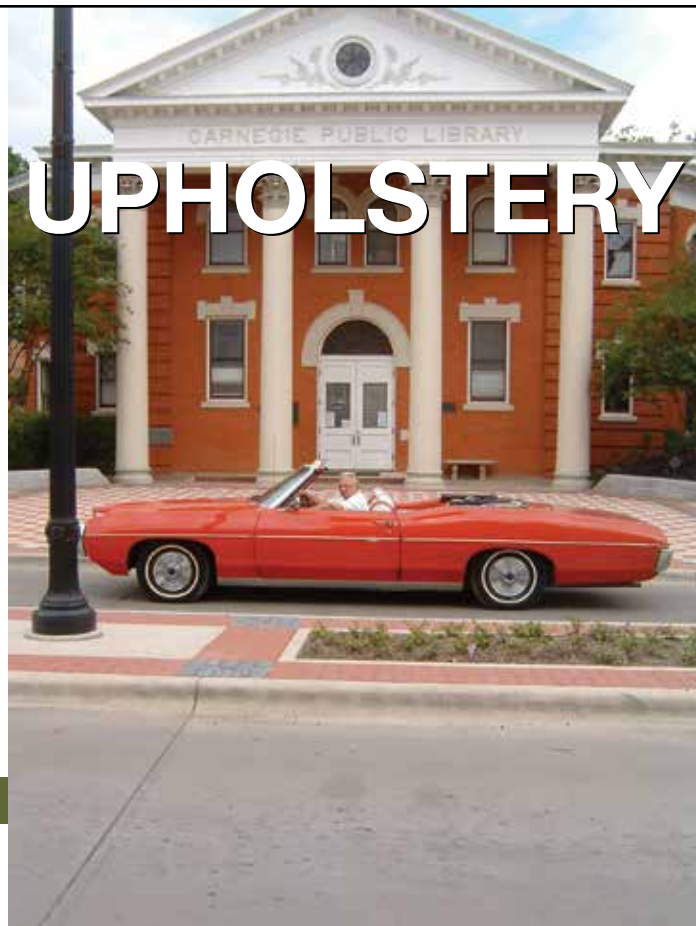
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## SAFEWAY DRIVING

## It's Time to Take Driver Training Seriously

**Old-School Driver's Education as we have known it the last 50 years is rapidly becoming a thing of the past. The days of underfunded driving schools using stale old classrooms to show worn out movies followed by overworked instructors no longer provide optimal learning conditions for the 21st Century teenager.**

SafeWay Driving understands that today's young drivers require a more engaging training platform and most teens overwhelmingly prefer a digital learning environment that fits in with their varied learning styles and hectic schedules. They want to maneuver their learning experience and training



time between their high school classroom commitments, homework, extra-curricular activities, and family vacations.

**Convenience Without Sacrificing Quality.**

SafeWay Driving continues to set the pace for the driver training industry to follow. The disciplined, integrated online curriculum and certified

professional instructors teach and practice the value of good habits and choices when behind the wheel of a car.

**Safe. Convenient.**

**Effective.** SafeWay Driving has the industry's only totally integrated online curriculum, meaning there is absolutely no "gap" in the preparation for their behind-the-wheel training

with their certified professional instructors. Additionally, state-approved online course saves parents 32 trips to the driving school!

**Not a Rite of Passage.**

Getting your license is not an automatic rite of passage for any 16-year-old. The truth is that driving is a skill set that can only be developed through hours of professional instruction. A car is a 3,500-pound missile loaded with rocket fuel — make sure your teen has the proper training before handing them the keys. Take your teen's driver training seriously, and take it with SafeWay Driving.

No matter where you are in the process of obtaining your license SafeWay Driving is here to help. **For more information, visit [safewaydriving.com](http://safewaydriving.com) or call 844.DRIVESAFE.**



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## TEXAS BLUEBONNET WINE TRAIL

# Seven Wineries in the Brazos Valley

The Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail is a group of seven independently owned wineries located around the Brazos Valley area. Each winery is open year-round with individual tasting rooms hours. Several of the wineries have vineyards on property and all seven of the wineries make award-winning Texas Wine on premise. Guests visiting wineries on the Texas Bluebonnet wine trail may taste, tour, purchase, relax, and learn more about Texas wine.

Together the Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail offers a ticketed event five times throughout the year with different themes and offerings. These events are held for two or three weekends in February, March/April, July, October, and December. Trail goers blaze their own way by starting at their winery of choice and going to as many of the seven wineries that they choose. Tickets must be purchased in advance online. Ticket holders are welcomed by the wineries staff and receive one food pairing and two wine tastings at each of the



seven wineries on the trail. In addition, participants receive gift(s) along the way.

**To learn more about each of the individual wineries and the five Texas Bluebonnet Wine Trail annual ticketed events, visit [texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com](http://texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com).**



# 7 Great Texas Wineries

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All Within An Hour of Bryan/College Station

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Open Year Round

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Bernhardt Winery

Cork This! Winery

Messina Hof Winery & Resort

Peach Creek Vineyards

Pleasant Hill Winery

Saddlehorn Winery

Texas Star Winery



[texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com](http://texasbluebonnetwinetrail.com)



## LIVE OAK RESORT

# Discover the Joy of Natural Living

At Live Oak Resort, you will experience relaxation and release from stress that is unavailable at any conventional resort. Why? Because Live Oak Resort rewards you with the experience of clothing optional recreation. This private world for your enjoyment is nestled in the rolling hills between Navasota and Brenham, about 80 miles northwest of Houston.

Live Oak Resort is one of the finest clothing-optional 21 and older resorts in America with all the amenities you could want at a price that makes it affordable for anyone. **The facilities include:**

- Full-service restaurant open on weekends and holidays
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- Full-sized conversation pool
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- Dry sauna
- Indoor and outdoor hot water showers
- Lighted, regulation size volleyball court
- Air conditioned rental cabins with private restrooms
- Full RV hookups



- Campsites for weekend tenters
- Long Term RV sites for members
- Long Term Mobile Home sites for members
- Fully-equipped laundromats
- Acres of natural greenspace
- Covered pavilion for picnicking groups, and social activities that include outdoor dances with live bands, campfire sing-alongs, and wiener roasts
- And more!

**For more information on Live Oak Resort, call (936) 878-2216.**

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**BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION****CAFÉ ECCELL & LA BODEGA CATERING**

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**CAFFE CAPRI ITALIAN RESTAURANT**

www.theplaceforitalian.com, 222 N Main St, Bryan (979) 822-2675. This award winning downtown restaurant has been serving creative and reasonably priced Italian dishes for 20 years. Enjoy their art deco interior, local art display and upbeat atmosphere. Lunch M-F 11am-2pm; Dinner M-Th 6pm-9pm; F-Sa 5pm-9pm.

**CENARE RESTAURANT**

www.gotocenare.com, 404 University Dr E, CS (979) 696-7311. Cenare offers a variety of authentic Italian cuisine and beautifully presented dishes. Whether you are looking for an intimate evening, a nice place for the entire family or a place to host your next event, Cenare is a great choice. Lunch M-F 11am-2pm; Dinner M-Th 5-9pm; F-Sa 5-10pm.

**CHEF TAI'S MOBILE BISTRO**

www.cheftai.com, check website for daily locations and hours (979) 268-3251. Chef Tai's Mobile Bistro is America's Favorite Food Truck serving a blend of globally inspired cuisine.

**DOWNTOWN UNCORKED WINE BAR**

206 West 26th St, Bryan (979) 823-4837. Voted Best Wine By The Glass, Downtown Uncorked Wine Bar is where the adults go. Choose from more than 100 bottles! Special nights include Women Gone Wine Wednesdays, Half Price Bottle Thursdays, and Friday Night Flights.

**DOUBLE DAVE'S PIZZA**

www.DoubleDaves.com, 3505 Longmire Dr, CS (979) 696-3283; 1410 S. Texas Ave, CS (979) 764-3283; or 2305 Boonville Rd Ste 900, Bryan (979) 822-3283. A real pizza joint combining great atmosphere and mouth-watering eats, complete with hand-tossed dough, from-scratch sauce, and fresh vegetables. Open Su-Th 11am-11pm, F-Sa 11am-12pm; Daily lunch buffet 11am-2pm.

**GRUB BURGER BAR**

www.grubburgerbar.com, 980 University Dr, CS (979) 268-1041. Grub Burger Bar believes in fresh ingredients and big flavors, delivered by caring, friendly people. Dine in, or order online for pick-up or delivery. Open 11am-10pm; Happy Hour M-F 3-6pm.

**THE HONEYBAKED HAM CO. & CAFÉ**

Order catering online at MyHoneyBakedStore.com, 3975 Hwy 6 S and Rock Prairie Road, CS (979) 314-1229. Visit for specialty foods, catering and Café. One size gifts all! HoneyBaked gift cards available in any denomination. M-F 11am-6pm Sa 11am-5pm

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Located in College Station (979) 997-

4760. For your next event, consider K&J for your catering needs. Food for all occasions and events including fine dining, southern food, desserts.

**KREUZ MARKET**

www.kreuzmarket.com, 768 N Earl Rudder Fwy, Bryan (979) 704-6147. Established in 1900, Kruez Market is the perfect place for Texas original barbeque, daily specials, beer and wine, and more. Open Su-Th 10:30am-8pm, F-Sat 10:30am-9pm.

**LASALLE HOTEL**

www.lasalle-hotel.com, 120 S. Main St, Bryan (979) 822-2000. Located in the heart of historic downtown Bryan, LaSalle Hotel, Café and Bar has corporate and group rates, conference and meeting rooms, and an executive chef on staff.

**LUIGI'S PATIO RISTORANTE**

www.luigispatorioristorante.com, 3975 SH-6 S, CS (979) 693-2742. Luigi's Patio Ristorante offers genuine Italian cuisine in a cozy atmosphere that transports you straight to the heart of Italy. You can choose to dine in the villa-style home interior or "outside" in the piazza town center, an indoor patio outfitted to embody all the excitement of a traditional Italian market square. Live music, check website for schedule. Open for lunch Tu-Fri 11:30am-2pm. Open for dinner Tu-Su 5:30pm, call for closing times. Brunch Su 11:30am-2pm.

**MADDEN'S CASUAL GOURMET**

www.maddencasualgourmet.com, 202 S Bryan Ave, Bryan (979) 779-2558. For catering and private party planning, call (979) 450-5354. Madden's Casual Gourmet is the perfect place for lunch or dinner, celebrations, and catering any event! Open M-W 11am-2pm, Th-Sa 11am-9pm.

**MOLLY'S MAGNIFICENT EATERY**

201-A Main St, Bryan (979) 823-6655. Molly's Magnificent Eatery offers a different hot lunch special served every day, or you can try homemade pies, sandwiches, soups, salads, baked potatoes, and more! Open for Lunch M-Sa 11am-2pm and Dinner Th-Sa 5:30pm-8:30pm.

**MR. G'S PIZZERIA**

www.gotomrqs.com, 201 W 26th St, Bryan (979) 822-6747; 404 E University Dr, CS (979) 693-6747. At Mr. G's, every slice is served with family pride, the freshest ingredients, original recipes, and only the finest imported Italian cheeses. Now serving Gluten Free pizza. Bryan location: M-F 11am-2pm & 5pm-9pm, Sa 5pm-9pm. College Station location: M-Th 11am-2pm & 5pm-9pm, F 11am-2pm & 5pm-10pm, Sa 5pm-10pm.

**MUST BE HEAVEN**

www.mustbeheaven.com, 1700 Rock Prairie Rd, CS (979) 764-9222. Reminisce the good ole' days of Ice Cream Shoppes and hand-crafted sandwiches at Must Be Heaven. Bryan locations' hours: M-F 8am-6pm, Sa 8am-3pm. College Station hours: M-F 8am-8pm, Sa 8am-3pm.

**PAOLO'S ITALIAN KITCHEN**

www.PaolosItalianKitchen.com, 809 University Dr #100, CS (979) 485-2704. Life is too short not to eat well. Signature dishes include Baked Clams seasoned

with garlic, Veal Marsala with sautéed mushrooms, Chicken Scarpariello – oven roasted with bell pepper, onion & garlic. Lunch M-Sa 11am-2pm, Dinner M-Sa 5-9:30pm.

**PEACH CREEK VINEYARDS**

www.PeachCreekVineyards.com, 2029 Peach Creek Rd, CS (936) 825-3669. There's plenty of parking at this picturesque operation nestled in the beautiful countryside near College Station. Visit this winery and novelty gift shop in the heart of a Texas vineyard. While there, be sure to view the antique grape press from the late 1800s and ask about the Adopt-A-Vine program. Open F-Sa 12pm-6pm, Su 1-5pm.

**READFIELD MEATS & DELI**

www.readfieldmeats.com, 2701 S Texas Ave, Bryan (979) 822-1594. Your summer solution to meal planning and great BBQs, choose UDA Choice & Prime beef, Midwest Grain-fed Pork, Fresh Poultry, Lamb, Smoked Sausage, Cajun Boudin, and Honey Glazed Hams. Open M-F 8am-6pm, Sa 8am-4pm.

**THE REPUBLIC**

www.therepublic1836.com, 701 University Dr. E #406, CS (979) 260-4120. Recently receiving the designation of AAA four diamond steak house, The Republic offers a variety of gourmet steak options, seafood, wine, and whiskey. Their focus is on the use of fine, locally grown foods and simple Texas cooking in an elegant setting. Open M-Sa 5-10pm.

**SENA BEE'S FOOD DELIVERY**

www.senabees.com, sena\_bees@outlook.com (979) 450-0037. Sena Bee's Food Delivery offers catering services from baby shower brunch to wedding parties or tailgates. The Southern style Home-cooking with fresh produce and herbs make you feel like you're back at grandma's! Catering services for lunch or dinner can include menu items and more.

**THE TAP**

www.tapbcs.com, 815 Harvey Rd, CS (979) 696-7396. The Tap is a former train depot transformed into a sports bar and restaurant. This local favorite has more than 30 TVs, darts, pool tables, NTN trivia, dominoes, two huge porches, occasional live music specials, burgers, sandwiches, and free peanuts. M-Sa 11am-2pm.

**TRUMAN CHOCOLATES**

www.trumanchocolates.com, 4407 S Texas Ave, Bryan (979) 260-4519. Choose from signature series boxes or customize your own. Numerous flavors to choose from. Made on site by well-trained staff. Perfect to leave a lasting impression for any event! Open M-F 10am-6pm; Sa 10am-3pm; Closed on Sunday.

**VERITAS WINE & BISTRO**

www.veritaswineandbistro.com, 830 University Dr. E, Ste 400, CS (979) 268-3251. Classically trained chefs offer creative cuisine in a casual, contemporary setting. Veritas embraces usage of organic and local produce, wild caught seafood flown in directly from the source, as well as poultry and meat raised naturally. Highly-trained associates and wine stewards can guide you through an award-winning wine list, which has garnered Wine Spectator's

Award of Excellence (2007-2010). Lunch M-Sa 11am-2pm; Dinner Sun-Th 5:30pm-9:30pm, F-Sa 5:30pm-10pm.

**VILLAGE CAFE**

www.theVillageDowntown.com, 210 W 26th St, Bryan (979) 703-8514. Lined with local art, this upbeat coffeehouse offers locally sourced bites and brews with live music. Sun & M 8am-5pm, Tu 8am-10pm, W-Fr 8am-12am, Sa 8am-2am

**ENTERTAINMENT & ATTRACTION****TEXAS RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL**

www.TexRenFest.com, 21778 FM 1774, Todd Mission (281) 356-2178. The Texas Renaissance Festival is one of the largest, most acclaimed renaissance fairs in Texas and offers themed festival events for 8 weekends every fall. Visit website for schedule.

**BURLESON COUNTY****MAD HATTER'S TEA ROOM**

www.madhatterstearoom.com, 210 S Echols, Caldwell (979) 567-3504. The Mad Hatter's cozy eatery provides tantalizing treats and generous portions bursting with flavor, a unique selection of gift items, gourmet coffees, and specialty teas. Open for breakfast and lunch and special events by appointment. Three course English Afternoon Tea every 4th Sat; call for reservations. W-Sa 8am-5pm

**GRIMES COUNTY****CLASSIC ROCK COFFEE CO.**

www.facebook.com/crcnnavasotatx, 129 E. Washington Ave., Navasota, (936) 727-5613. Great coffee, great music! Stop by to hear some classic rock and try coffee from around the world. Su-Th 6am-8pm, F-Sa 6am-10pm.

**MARTHA'S BLOOMERS**

www.marthasbloomers.com, 8101 Hwy 6 Bypass, Navasota, café@marthasbloomer.com (936) 825-7400. Escape to sights, scents, and delightful treasures you'll discover. At Martha's Bloomers, you can take a stroll through beautiful gardens, home décor, and a boutique. While you are there, stop by Café M. Bloomers for a relaxing and delicious lunch. Lunch Tu-Su 11am-3pm, Desert until 4pm, High Tea 2pm-4pm by reservation.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY****FUNKY ART CAFÉ & COFFEE BAR**

202 W Commerce St, Brenham (979) 836-5220. Delicious and different, Funky Art Café in Brenham offers enticing entrees to please the palate before shopping in its companion retail shop, The Pomegranate M-Fr 11am-2pm; Sa 11am-3pm

**TEXAS STAR WINERY**

www.texasstarwinery.com, 10587 Old Chappell Hill Road, Chappell Hill (979) 251-7282. Enjoy the award winning wines and Texas hospitality in the comfort of the tasting room, winery deck, or under the canopy of huge oak and pecan trees. Soaking up Texas in Chappell Hill never tasted so great! Tasting Room hour: F-S 11am-6pm. Special events by appointment.

*Listings provided as a service. Insite is not responsible for errors or omissions.*



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