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CONTENTS

PLANAHEAD What's Happening

Upcoming Brazos Valley events compiled by the Insite Magazine staff

BUSINESSSAVVY **Award Winning Renovation**

BV Decorative Center takes top honors by Ryan Frische

HOTSPOT Back Is the Future

Downtown Bryan enjoying the Sweet Taste of Success by Ryan Frische

YOURSOURCE 2010 Brazos Valley **Business Directory**

A to Z shopping, medical and services Special Advertising Section

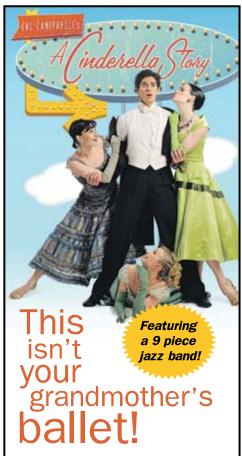
INSITE Magazine is published monthly by Insite Printing & Graphic Services, 123 E. Wm. J. Bryan Pkwy., Bryan, Texas 77803. (979) 823-5567 www.insitegroup.com Volume 26, Number 10. Publisher/Editor: Angelique Gammon; Account Executive: Cynthia Kauder; Graphic Designers: Alida Bedard; Karen Green. INSITE Magazine is a division of The Insite Group, LP. Reproduction of any part without written permission of the publisher is prohibited. Insite Printing & Graphic Services Managing Partners: Kyle DeWitt, Angelique Gammon, Greg Gammon. General Manager: Carl Dixon; Production Manager: Mike Hogeboom; Pre-Press Manager: Mari Brown; IT Manager: Glenn Richards; Office Manager: Wendy Seward; Editorial Intern: Ryan Frische; Sales & Customer Service: Molly Barton; Janice Hellman; Kim Hogeboom; Manda Jackson; Marie Lindley; Barbara Wyss; Production: Stephen Beatty; Joe Campise; Norris Carnes; Maria Constancio; Marilyn Carey; Don Coburn; Ricky Conchola; Armando Elguezabal; Margie Lowry; Albert Madison; Doug Madison; Ruth Madison; Arthur Maldonado; Thomas Paul; Frank Ramirez; Jimmy Welch; Henry Wilchek.



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Ice cream sundae courtesy of Corner of Time.





Set in the 1950s and whimsically choreographed to swinging jazzy show tunes by Rodgers and Hart, this wildly inventive telling of A CINDERELLA STORY energetically blends jazz and ballet and even features retro scenery and haute couture costumes. Introduce the voung ones in your life to the beauty and wonder of the ballet with this fresh, fun and energized telling of A CINDERELLA STORY.

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PUBLISHER'S DESK

I got a box of rocks in the mail last month, and they brought tears to my eyes. No, it wasn't an early shipment of coal from Santa, but the package did have a bit of the Ghost of Insite Past about it.

Twenty years ago, restaurateurs Don and Cheryl
Anz started recycling at their very popular College
Station eatery Café Eccel. AT A TIME
WHEN BEING A GREEN
BUSINESS SIMPLY
MEANT YOU WERE
PROFITABLE, the Anz not only recycled

the restaurant's beverage containers, they also let locals drop off their own glass and aluminum because there was no other recycling location in College Station. Yes, you read that correctly. The response was so overwhelming Café Eccel had to hire an employee just to manage all the recycling that citizens were bringing to the restaurant parking lot.

So of course the city responded by starting a recycling program ... only in Hollywood.

Actually, the city hassled Don and Cheryl to get a permit to handle everybody's trash and fence the lot and generally were recycling Scrooges to the Anz tiny effort to clean up the planet. Insite Magazine wrote an article about lots of ways to be green and INCLUDED THE STORY OF DON AND CHERYL'S GRASSROOTS RECYCLING EFFORT. Eventually,

College Station did get on board and today the city offers the only local curbside recycling program.

Back to my box of rocks – very special stacks of rocks – known as cairns. With the rocks was a note:

"SINCE WE FIRST ROAMED THE PLANET,

cairns — a manmade pile of stones — have been used as markers, whether on a summit, a path or a commemorative site ... You and your magazine brought attention to the side of our lives we wanted to express, good food, respect for the environment and giving back to the community

... MAY THESE STONES COMMEMORATE YOUR PATH ..." signed, Cheryl and Don.

It's been years since Don and Cheryl Anz sold Café Eccel and moved away from B/CS. They have touched countless people with the way they LIVE THEIR VALUES, including me. To receive their token when Insite turned 25 (and I turned 50) after all these years ... sorry, that moisture thing is happening again with my eyes.

I placed my rocks where they are physical reminders of my past path. More importantly, THEY'VE MARKED MY HEART always to be looking for the path forward. – Angelique Gammon

The City of College Station's **Recycling program** will host monthly free "Green" Mini-**Seminars** in the new Public Works Office located on the 2nd floor of the College Station Municipal Court (300 Krenek Tap Rd.) at 6 p.m. To sign up for classes, visit www.cstx.gov/ recycle and click on the Green Mini-Seminar link or call (979) 764-6228.

January 15 "Green" your home or dorm. How can I make my home or dorm eco-friendly?

February 12 Recycling Markets and Economics- Why don't we recycle green glass or other items?

March 12 Organic and Local Foods - What is the difference and why does it matter?

April 9 Green Living

May 14 **Environmental Volunteering** Opportunities

June 11 Visit with the area professionals in recycling, sustainability and water conservation.

January 5 from 5:45 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Hilton Hotel, Elizabeth New. Owner of French Affaires in Dallas will speak on "Three Days in **Paris: Getting the Most** out of the City of Light" for the monthly **ABWABCS** luncheon. Reservations are due by 12 noon on the Friday prior to the luncheon by emailing

hospitality@abwabcs.org. Cost is \$20 for members or quests.

January 10 and February 7 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., enjoy a free, authentic jazz jam session at **Downtown Uncorked**, 206 West 26th Street in historic Downtown Bryan, a new monthly tradition for musicians to join and listeners to hear and participate in a New Orleans style party.

January 19 beginning at 11:45

a.m., the B/CS Christian Women's Connection will host actress/speaker and author Jeannette Clift George of Houston as the luncheon speaker. George is the founder and Artistic Director of the A.D. Players, a Houston-based Christian Theater Company. Reservations for the \$15 luncheon at Pebble Creek Country Club must be confirmed by January 14 by calling Licia at (979) 676-2227 or e-mailing bcschristianwomensconnection@ suddenlink.net. CWC is affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries.

Through January 31, the Brazos **Valley Museum of Natural History** presents From Earth to the Universe. The exhibition, in conjunction with TAMU's George Mitchell Institute, will offer fantastic images of the universe captured by ground and space-based telescopes. For more information, call (979) 776-2195 or go to www. brazosvalleymuseum.org.

February 5 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m., Family Promise will host their Third Annual Cookoff fundraiser at Christ United

Methodist Church in College Station. Family Promise is a non-profit organization that works with is a nine area churches to furnish shelter, food and counseling for homeless families that are working to become self-sufficient again. Tickets for the cookoff are \$20 and will be available Christ UMC. For more information, call (979) 268-4309.

March 23 at 7 p.m. at the Blinn College campus in Brenham, the national touring group **CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES** will perform at the W.W. O'Donnell Performing Arts Center. For tickets or more information, call the box office at (979) 830-4024. The smash hit musical comedy originated at Plymouth Playhouse in Minneapolis, Minnesota and it has become a national phenomenon touring the country. Church Basement Ladies is universal and appeals to all ages.

April 14 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., the Woman's Club of Bryan will host the Annual House and Garden Tour. This year's tour, "Southern Hospitality – Texas Style" will include homes in both Bryan and College Station. Tickets will be available at the Woman's Club or from any Woman's Club member. i

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A CINDERELLA STORY

A CINDERELLA STORY

Royal Winnipeg Ballet February 3, 7 p.m., Rudder Auditorium

SIMPLY SINATRA

starring Steve Lippia and his big band February 8-11, 7:30 p.m. at Miramont Country Club

GROOVALOO

February 25, 7:30 p.m., Rudder Auditorium

Sleeping Beauty Wakes March 4, 7:30 p.m. Rudder Theatre

100 YEARS OF BROADWAY March 22 & 23, 7:30 p.m., Rudder Auditorium

> MAX & RUBY - a new musical TheatreWorks USA

Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano and Samuel Ramey, bass-baritone April 6, 7:30 p.m., Rudder Theatre

March 28, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., Rudder Theatre



SIMPLY SINATRA



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Theatre Company of B/CS

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100 YEARS OF **BROADWAY**

My Fair Lady February 26-28 and March 4-7

> **Taking Liberty** March 19-21

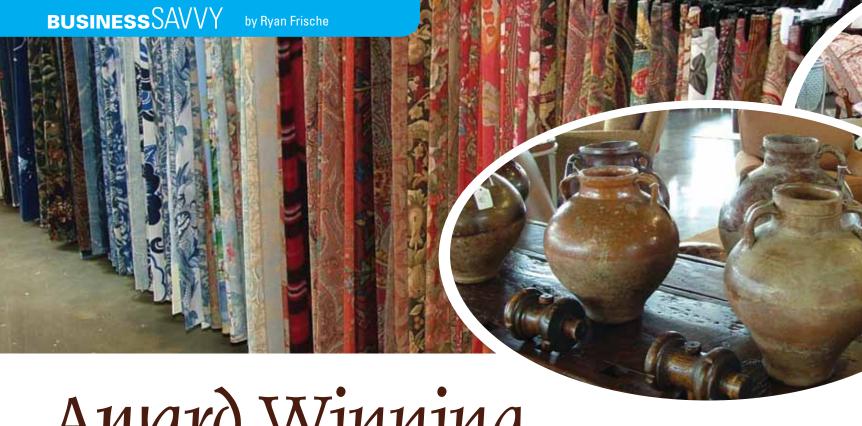
Willy Wonka April 30, May 1-2, May 7-9, May 14-16

> The Light in the Piazza June 18-20, June 25-27

> > Into the Woods August 6-8, 13-15



Frederica von Stade, mezzo-soprano and Samuel Ramey, bass-baritone



Award Winning Renovation

Brazos Valley Decorative Center Takes Top Honors

erving as the southern gateway to Downtown Bryan, The Brazos Valley Decorative Center is at the top of its class as both a model of superior renovation and as a successful business expansion. Owners Ray Jezisek and Joshua Ortiz

received the award for Best Renovation and Rehabilitation in November at the 2009 Texas Downtown Association Presidents Awards. The vision for the repurposing of the architecturally significant building springs from the same well of creativity that spurred them to look for a new location to expand the successful Ambrose Furniture Works. The move to Downtown Bryan also allowed

> space for other complimentary home-related businesses to join them under the same roof, creating an elegant twist on the one-stop, home

shopping experience.

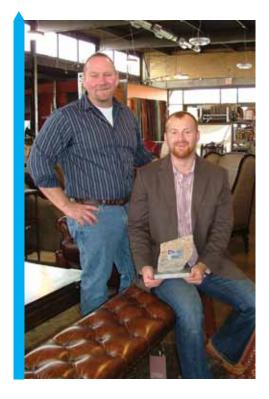
"We fell in love with this building," Ortiz. says didn't want compromise the original design." Constructed

1947 as an International Harvester Service Center, the building endures as a testament to the vision of its famed architect, the late Raymond Loewy. Designed to house tractors and machinery for the local farmers, it took a creative leap of faith to transform it into an elegant showroom for home furnishings and accessories. Loewy, known as the Father of Industrial Design, is renowned for his precise and imminently recognizable designs including the Coca Cola bottle, Air Force One, the Shell and Exxon logos and the Lucky Strike carton, to name a few. Loewy's work with International Harvester brought his enduring vision to the intersection at South Main Street in Downtown Bryan.

The renovation took almost 11 months to complete. With each update, Jezisek made sure attention to detail and the integrity of the building were his first priorities. What were once overhead garage doors are now immense windows and doors



the Texas Downtown Association Presidents Awards for Best Renovation and Rehabilitation.



providing sweeping views of the carefully placed furniture, artwork and other home accessories inside the decorative center.

"We did our research and instituted our design ideas for the exterior," says Ortiz. "We had a vision and it evolved." The façade highlights the original design, and while the interior is warm and inviting it's still true to its industrial design roots. For the city of Bryan and its residents, the building is no longer a deserted eyesore on the edge of a revitalized downtown. Today, it's a classic design that opens a fresh face to the city's historic business center.

Jezisek and Ortiz both view the renovation and the expansion of the businesses within The Decorative Center as adding to Downtown's attraction as a destination spot. The revitalized atmosphere surrounding the prime location was a key factor in the decision to move.

"We participate in Art Step and any other events we can to benefit Downtown Bryan," says Ortiz. "Without the local support, we wouldn't have been able to expand."

The renovation not brought critical attention to an architecturally significant structure, but increased foot traffic for the business as well.

With increased business, the plan is to continue the expansion in order to,

"give the customer what they really want and to be diversified," says Jezisek.

Housed inside The Decorative Center are Alyson Jon Interiors, Mia's on Main and Hob Knob Interior Hardware. Jezisek's future plans include expanding to offer more quality outdoor furniture and he is looking for just the right business to add a restaurant and outdoor eating area to The Decorative Center's business mix.

For now, the building stands as a decorative one-stop shop for people who, "want to come in and enjoy buying fine things for their home and have fun," says Ortiz. "Join us on any Friday after 4 p.m. for a glass of wine and great conversation." i







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BACK IS THE FUTURE

Downtown Bryan revitalization enjoying the Sweet Taste of Success



part of the master plan to revitalize Downtown, the City of Bryan has begun demolition on the seven blocks in the north end to clear the path for a mix of commercial and residential development. The city is planning to host focus groups and public meetings to give residents a say in exactly how the city should continue making its way back to the future.



The Bryan city council has accepted a proposal from Houston-based Stonehenge Development, and Deputy City Manager Joey Dunn is confident in their choice. "We're excited ... we have been very selective on what will work for the community." Stonehenge has experience in mixed-use projects for downtown areas in El Paso and Waco. "We saw tangible results in Waco, and we expect quality," says Dunn.

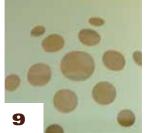


While it is the responsibility of the developer to create a concept, the city council wants those who have a stake in Downtown to have

> input. "We want to hear specifically from the businesses, art community, chamber of commerce and people interested in coming downtown," says City Manager David Watkins. "We're proud of the entrepreneurial spirit of Downtown Bryan; that's what makes it unique."

Downtown revitalization has been































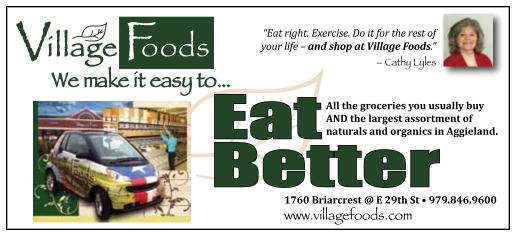
1 Longhorn Tavern 2 Variso Building 3 Flores Finance 4 Margie's Bar and Grill 5 Jones Studio 59

6 Burr's Unfinished Furniture 7 St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store 8 Caffé Capri 9 Agnitek 10 Bling It On

1 1 Daniel Stark, Attorney 12 Pivot Point Solution 13 MSC Forsyth Center Galleries 14 Must Be Heaven

15 River Bridge Bar & Grill 16 Acme Glass 17 Downtown Visitor Center 18 EarthArt







a topic of discussion for the past 25 years, and immense progress has been made in transforming the area into a destination spot. "These kind of projects are hard to put together, but the yield is higher," says David Watkins. "We are helping rebuild a historic part of the city."

Glenda Ross, owner of the River Bridge Bar & Grill, already had two other successful Koppe Bridge Bar & Grills in College Station when she opened her newest venture. This restaurant also serves award-winning burgers, she says, but it has a more upscale dining environment that she believes fits well with the location and appeal of Downtown. Since opening in February of 2008, she is "excited to be a part of the renovation and development process of downtown," and business continues to grow with the crowds sparked by the hugely successful First Friday events.

First Fridays are the brainchild of Greta Watkins, owner of the Frame Gallery in Downtown. The monthly events have been key to transforming the area into a budding art community and central hub for activity. In June of 2005 Watkins, Felice House and other artists held the first Art Step in two Downtown locations. The inaugural First Friday followed the next month and began with only her shop and about 50 people in attendance. Since the city began revamping the Downtown infrastructure, the atmosphere has changed dramatically. Greta Watkins estimates

22 City Barber Shop23 O'Conner& Associates24 Murphey's Law25 Brauhaus Restaurant



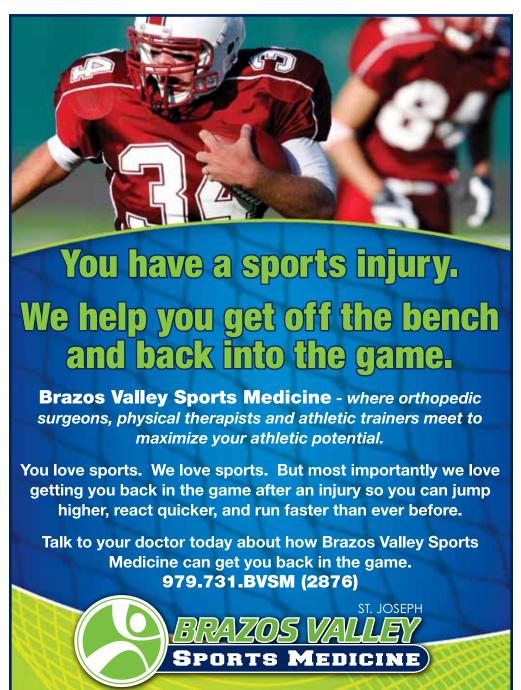
First Fridays attract as many as 3,000 people each month making them a staple in each Downtown business success story.

Back in 2001 the city made a commitment to the sustainability of Downtown by developing a comprehensive master plan with several stages and goals. What began with intersection improvements to help the flow of traffic and allow for more pedestrian access evolved to gateway and lighting enhancements to create a unique identity. To date, the city has invested around \$20 million in infrastructure improvements and façade grants. The current northern expansion is the next phase in the overall vision.

"With all the city updates, the environment is much more welcoming ... it has been a huge transformation," says Greta Watkins. What started small has evolved into what she calls a "Downtown Open House": businesses stay open late, they host artists and musicians and generally bring a fun, live-entertainment aspect to all of Downtown. A sense of community and general increase in traffic also has attracted individuals who want to live Downtown.

Cindy Peaslee, executive director of the Downtown Bryan Economic Development Association, believes the northern expansion will "almost double the size and bring a lot more opportunity for housing and retail" to Downtown.

The changes over the last 10 years have





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been dramatic. "It was a ghost town," recalls local real estate developer Zane Anderson describing his move into a Downtown loft in 1997. "Everything was boarded up and there were only a handful of us here." With one building renovation leading to another and the opening of the LaSalle Hotel, Downtown has turned into a desirable location.

"The loft apartments brought a lot of people, activity and more nightlife," says Anderson. He believes the north end will only enhance this effect. "It will add a residential aspect since people will be down here 24/7 and bring in a need for more restaurants and retail."

"We have calls daily from people wanting to move Downtown," says Peaslee. There are currently about 24 residential rental units that remain almost always occupied.

Dunn's goal for the development project is to make it possible to fill these types of demand. "We want to see high density with three stories, so more people can live there and build the value," says Dunn. In addition to the residential space, he hopes to see ground-floor retail, small courtyards or a park.

Total cost of the project has yet to be determined since it is in the beginning stages. To date, the city has invested \$14 million on land assembly, infrastructure and improvements for the north end development.

"You have to make investments to get something back," says David Watkins. He has confidence in the project even as questions remain about the national economy. "We are looking to see millions in return on taxable value," says Dunn. "Once the infrastructure goes in, the property value on privately owned buildings will go up also."

"The excitement comes from the individuals who want to have an urban experience," says David Watkins, noting that input from both

Bryan and College Station residents and the business community will be vital to the success of this latest phase of the Downtown master plan.

Seeing the city of Bryan's plan come full circle and provide residents with an expanded, vibrant Downtown once again will be the sweetest measure of success. *i*









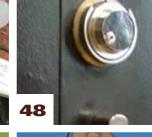
























30 Southern Grace 31 Casa Rodriguez 32 Superior Rent to Own 33 Frame Gallery 34 Discount Floors

35 Square One 36 Corner of Time 37 Parker Astin 38 Medical Center Pharmacy 39 Brazos Glassworks

40 Jim•n•i 41 Downtown Uncorked 42 Art 979 43 Mr. G's 44 Stage Center 45 The Attic Antiques

46 Madden's 47 Odds & Ends 48 Coin & Jewelry Exchange 49 Old Bryan Marketplace 50 Brazos Cotton Exchange

Brazos Valley

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DIRECTORY

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL	
Sideshow Creative	1/
Allstate Insurance-Jackie Voss	
Brazos County Expo	
Bryan 800 Communications	
Colonial Life-Patrick Baker	
Paramount Property Analysts	. 20
DINING AND LEISURE	
7F Lodge	
EccellGroup	
Party Time Rentals	
Royalty Pecan Farms	. 24
HEALTH AND FITNESS	
Brazos Spine	. 25
Brazos Co. Health Dept	. 26
Brazos Valley Dental Arts-Dr. Tamie Erratt .	. 27
Central Texas Orthotics & Prosthetics	. 28
Dermataloge	. 29
General & Bariatric Surgical Associates	
Home Instead Senior Care	. 31
Hope Cancer Center	
Hospice Brazos Valley	
Marr Eye Center	
Pharmacy Shop	
Dr. Michael Reece	
HOME AND GARDEN	
Binford Insect Control	. 37
Coufal-Prater Equipment, Ltd	
Dealers Lighting	
Forster Tile Company	
Holley's Window Fashions & Interiors	
Tioney o Trindett Facilities & Interior	
PET CARE	
Brazos Animal Shelter	43
BYD Ranch & Kennel	
Bib italion & Kellier	
REAL ESTATE	
John R. Clark & Associates	
	. 44
RE/MAX B-CS-Trish Havel	. 44
& Jennifer Scarmardo	45
& Jennier Scarmardo	40
SERVICE INDUSTRIES	
	40
Briarcrest Cleaners	
House of Tires	
Pete's Auto Care	
Sevcik's Service Center	. 45

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Who?

Sideshow Creative is a do-it-all-and-thensome marketing firm based in downtown Bryan. Liz Ylitalo is the Creative Director (a.ka. founder, owner, doer, designer, believer, writer, creator). Callie Kaiser, the 'live life in color' Senior Designer, is a font enthusiast who enjoys twirling around the dance floor. Glenda Hoon, Marketing Director, is the charismatic kickboxing guru who delights in eating sardines straight from the can. The door is always open so feel free to drop by and meet the rest of the crew!

What they do.

The Sideshow Creative team specializes in business development through strategic creativity. What, you may ask, does that even mean? Let's break it down. Businesses today are overloaded with marketing and advertising decisions. Need a logo? Go online or hire a friend, and you may end up with something 'pretty', but not necessarily a strong, technically designed foundation for an entire brand. Need to advertise? Consult your Magic 8 Ball about the overwhelming number of media venues or collaborate with an

unbiased source to consider both your budget and target demographics. Sideshow Creative creates, designs, and implements every detail with the business' interests and long-term needs in mind. They do make 'pretty pieces' and creative applications, but with a strategic and formulated approach. Strategic Creativity = Left AND Right Brain = Brand Management, Graphic Design & Visual Direction, Business Research & Development, Marketing, Advertising, Strategic Planning, Project Management, Multi-media Communications, Web Design, Event Coordination, and Copywriting.

Why they do what they do.

The team is passionate about creativity, growing business through innovation, and making the world more beautiful one design at a time. Basically, they get to know and love their clients. They believe in and support their businesses. Helping a new business build a brand or an existing business update its strategy is an honor and a privilege, and should not be taken lightly or treated as a number. Would you let a friend go to a party with his or shirt on inside out or wearing mismatched shoes? Of course not. Sideshow Creative wants each of their clients to look, feel, and BE amazing.

How they do what they do.

They create with enthusiasm. They serve their clients with integrity. They strive to WOW. The first step to this enthusiastically created wow result is an initial meet and greet. It usually takes about an hour and involves sitting



down to get to know each other. You'll discuss histories, futures, goals, current needs – yes, it's like a first date, but without the awkward silences. Sideshow will then send you a proposal outlining deliverables, processes, and a budget. The client can mix and match deliverables and/or set priorities until everyone is comfortable with the final outcome. Then away it goes!

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For more information or to get on their dance card, visit www.SideshowCreative.net or contact Liz directly at (979) 229-3148.





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term care, cancer and accident insurance," says Voss. When choosing Allstate and Voss you also benefit from her experienced staff and team that work with you to ensure you receive the level of service you desire.

In order to make a customer's experience convenient and hassle free, Allstate offers a wide variety of protection and financial services all in one location. Voss has enlisted the expertise of Phillip Miller, a financial specialist who consults with her clients as a service to them. Miller, along with Placida Ramirez, a bilingual associate, Britany Graham and Robin Jantzen, all sales producers, know everything about the insurance products the company offers and round out the team.

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Extraordinary Events

Since the Brazos County Expo first opened its doors in October 2007, it has proven to be the perfect venue for local, state and national events. Located on over 150 acres in the heart of the Brazos Valley, the Expo currently boasts three venues including an Exhibit Hall, Arena and Pavilion. However, with expansion currently in progress, that's all about to change.

On December 10, 2009, the Expo hosted a groundbreaking ceremony to kickoff construction of their \$12 million expansion project. Nearly doubling in capacity, the expansion includes a 14,000 square-foot addition to the Exhibit Hall with ballrooms, breakout meeting rooms, office space and storage, a second 70,000 square-foot covered Arena, a second 60,000 square-foot covered Pavilion, a covered warm-up Arena, a new outdoor warm-up Arena, additional RV and

parking spaces and covered walkways to connect the facilities.

Tom Quarles, Brazos County Director of Special Event Facilities, has been instrumental in making the expansion a reality for the Expo. Quarles brings to his position more than 20 years of event management experience with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, including assisting with the planning and construction of the 1.4 million square-foot Reliant Center.

"We've seen great success in our first two years of operation," said Quarles. "It is because of this success and growth that we are ready to move onto our next phase. Our expansion will help attract the larger state and national shows to the Expo that we have not been able to accommodate with our current facilities."

As the Expo continues to book larger events, the economic impact it has on the Brazos Valley community is greatly increased. In fact, the potential economic impact of the expanded Expo is \$34.5 million, while the current impact is \$13 million.



The Expo already has over 70 events booked for 2010, including 25 out-of-county events. "Our event calendar is filling up fast," said Quarles. "We are very excited to see what the future holds for the Expo."

For more information about booking your next event, call (979) 823-3976. Check out their calendar of events and watch an online video tour at BrazosCountyExpo.com.









NEW YET FAMILIAR. POLISHED YET BROKEN IN.







We're the event facility in Texas built just for you.

- 50,000 square-foot Exhibit Hall
- · Over 28,000 square feet of exhibit space
- Customized layout for each unique event
- Work closely with area hotels, transportation companies and the CVB to help you and your guests feel at home

Watch our video tour online at BrazosCountyExpo.com 5827 Leonard Road • Bryan, TX 77807 • (979) 823-3976



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Business Solutions Made Simple

Your source for communication needs in the Brazos Valley, **Bryan 800 Communications** offers multiple comprehensive services to simplify the user experience. Their goal is to streamline delivery communications for the personal or professional setting. Bryan 800 has a variety of services that strive to combine customer service with product knowledge.

They specialize in communications including a professional answering service, Verizon Wireless cellular phones, two-way radios and pagers. Their call center service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Established in the Brazos Valley in 1981, the call center has proven itself valuable when you are there and more importantly when you are not. Their clientele ranges from small business to large companies with multiple locations, and the call center serves as a user-friendly front desk manager.

In order to better serve Verizon Wireless customers, Bryan 800 is an authorized agent that is able to focus on business customers more than the traditional retail sites. Through knowledge and superior customer service, they are able to effectively evaluate the needs of each individual customer or business and properly match them with the most suitable phones and data plans available. Utilizing Verizon Wireless means you can get the largest 3G Network, Friends & Family plus Unlimited Messaging with eligible plans, Mobile to Mobile calling within the Verizon Wireless network and much more.

The expert staff at their Leonard Road location is always friendly and helpful, asking questions and offering advice to aid you in troubleshooting or finding the right product or plan for your business or family. Your needs are the focus of the team, and their goal is customer satisfaction.

Walter Hinkle, President and CEO of Bryan 800, is sure about the company's continued success. "Our future success is assured in an ever increasing competitive environment," explains Hinkle, "due to our ability to retain a great



workforce in the Brazos Valley and have an ever increasing satisfied and profitable customer base."

Bryan 800 provides the necessary tools to help your business succeed in the technologically advanced world. For more information on how to upgrade to a professional communication environment, call Bryan 800 Communications at (979) 775-4800 or visit www.bryan800.com.



Personal Service Matters

For nearly 70 years, **Colonial Life** has perfected its ability to develop, communicate, enroll and administer voluntary benefits to support its mission of helping working Americans and their families lessen their financial risk – to help make their benefits counts. Since 1991, Patrick Baker has worked for this same goal here in the Brazos Valley.

This past June after being named District General Agent, Patrick opened the first Colonial Life office in the Brazos Valley. Patrick's goal of developing a local agency with local managers, local agents and local enrollers is a reality just six months after opening his agencies office in the Galleria Village.

As health insurance costs skyrocket, businesses are increasingly feeling that there is a huge gap between the benefits they would like to provide employees and those which they can afford. And since benefits can be complicated, it's hard for employees to understand what they have and what else they need; and appreciate the value of the benefits available to them at work. Colonial Life educates working Americans about the benefits they have and those they need to fit their individual lifestyles and budgets.

Colonial Life's benefits counselors come to the workplace and spend time with each employee providing personal, straightforward advice. This is done with no cost to the business or the employee and is invaluable in helping employees understand benefits their employers provide. Colonial Life believes all working Americans deserve to understand and appreciate the benefits they have available to them through the workplace. By doing so, Colonial Life enables businesses to build a more loyal and satisfied workforce and ultimately, a stronger business.

Developing benefit solutions to fit your particular needs is a full time process for your



local Colonial Life office. Patrick takes his 18 years in the local benefits market and tailors a custom solution for you and your employees. Patrick works with your broker during this process. Let your local benefit experts tailor your benefit solutions today. For more information about Colonial Life, contact Patrick or the local office today at (979) 731-1988 or (800) 605-5130.



Making benefits count.

Major Medical Gap Coverage • Limited Medical Coverage Disability • Life • Accident • Cancer • Critical Illness

Local Office • Local Management • Local Benefit Counselors • Local Enrollment

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Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company is a market leader in providing benefits solutions in one neat package: excellence in communications, enrollments, service, and personal insurance products and services that make benefits count for employers and their employees alike.

Your Property Tax Solution

In today's economy, it's more important than ever to streamline your business by cutting expenses. **Paramount Property Analysts** can help by providing quality property tax consulting and appraisal services to reduce property taxes and save you money. The company works on contingency fee basis, which means you don't pay them unless they reduce your taxes!

A licensed property tax consultant throughout Texas, Brian Stephen, owner of Paramount Property Analysts, combines his expertise in the real estate appraisal field with hands on property management and ownership experience to provide you the highest quality property tax consulting service offered today. Brian can protest your business valuation for substantial savings.

He has saved clients thousands of dollars in property taxes on investment properties and has

a high success rate in property tax reduction. His success stems from his passion for reducing tax liability for real estate owners and investors.

"I have worked with Brian at PPA for over 7 years," says Casey Oldham, Chairman and CEO of The Oldham Goodwin Group, LLC. "My firm exclusively uses their tax consulting service for over 50 different commercial properties covering most every genre of real estate. In 2009 alone, Brian saved our clients a total of \$385,781.79 in taxes"

I truly enjoy helping the owners," says Brian, "because I've worn their shoes and have a full understanding that a reduction in real estate taxes simply increases the bottom line of their operating statement."

The staff of Paramount Property Analysts also has the expertise to analyze all types of real property. Services include property tax consulting as well as commercial and residential appraisals, investment counseling, and feasibility studies for such purposes as mortgage loans, estate planning, investment analysis and condemnation.



Paramount Property Analysts is dedicated to the highest standards of professionalism and will continue to provide the highest quality, reliable service for which it is recognized while meeting the challenges of the ever-changing field of real estate tax consulting.

For more information about reducing your property taxes, please call (979) 485-8537 or visit www.ppabv.com.



Rustic Retreat

The **7F Lodge** is a unique and wonderful setting for business meetings, company outings, private parties, weddings and receptions. In the picturesque countryside near Wellborn and hidden carefully amidst 14 acres of live oaks and yaupon thickets, 7F Lodge is definitely a retreat from the ordinary.

For weddings, you can take over 7F with their premier 48-hour rental and cabin reservation. Decorate, rehearse, get married, celebrate, sleep and eat in privacy and the beauty of nature. From the rehearsal dinner to the afterevent brunch, 7F is ready. They also have 24-hour and 12-hour rental options for select dates. Or if a smaller wedding event is more to your liking, a 7F Intimate Wedding is perfect for weddings with 30 or fewer guests.

Old Brazos Biscuit Company, purveyors of fine cuisine, can provide catering complete with

authentic dutch ovens and open fire cooking—all served around an 1800s fully outfitted chuck wagon.

The 7F Antique Chapel is a quaint, turn-of-thecentury, bright white chapel, filled with vintage windows and stained glass accents. Nestled in a beautiful cluster of live oaks, yaupon and stone pathways, it is intimately small. The steeple's old-fashioned bell sings out in celebration of every marriage.

The event facility connects by stone pathway directly across the plaza lawn from the chapel. A covered porch faces the chapel and five sets of large French doors open into the reception facility. The old Texas dance hall style of the facility is perfect for dancing.

Romantic guest cabins are available for rental for you and your guests, Each is uniquely themed after countries that have flown a flag over Texas, such as Mexico, Spain, and France, or those innately Texas symbols, like a Hill Country cabin, a Western barn, or an Aggie saloon.



The 7F Lodge offers a welcome change from the everyday meeting room at a typical conference center or hotel. Perfect for company retreats, the Pavilion Complex at 7F Lodge can accommodate your next business function.

For more information or to save a date for your wedding or event, please call (979) 690-0073 or visit www.7flodge.com.



A Family Affair

The EccellGroup family of

restaurants is a true family business. Costa Dallis was only 19 when he became a pizza cook at Café Eccell in 1990. Andreas Dallis was 15 years old when he began work there as a busboy in 1995. The brothers were fortunate enough to purchase the restaurant from the former owner in June 1999, and thus begins their story.

The Beginnning

"Starting out was pretty scary," says Costa of the early days of ownership. "I was 28 with no money, my wife was 23 and we had a three year old (Thanasi) and an infant (Sophia)". His wife April helped in the office and long hours were the norm. Pretty much everything Costa had was bet on the restaurant. It was a very stressful time in their lives.

They knew they had to do something with the old Rosalie's Pasta building across the street from Café Eccell and needed something that would complement it but not compete with it as Rosalie's did. After personal involvement in the remodel, and help from staff and friends, they were able to get La Bodega Baja taco bar up and running in October 2000.

It took a full two years for people to "get it."

La Bodega was so foreign to people, that many were disinterested because it wasn't Tex
Mex. Cal-Mex with Gulf fusion wasn't really a household term. However, when people got it,

they got it big time. To date, La Bodega is the family's busiest business per square foot.

Up and running....more family?

With La Bodega up and going, Café Eccell running well, and Andreas progressing rapidly in his knowledge of the business, it was time for another addition. On December 16th, 2003, Costa and April had their third child, Theo. Just when Costa thought he could relax a little, new motivation came in a little one.

"I wish it was just as easy as putting them on cruise control, but unique restaurants take incessant work," Costa said of running the restaurants. "We are not chain restaurants, with prime locations and name recognition, so we constantly have to evolve and reinvent ourselves." This mantra is one that Andreas and Costa try to live by in order to be successful.

Working with family and laughing it off

Ah, the old cliché...never work with family. It's true. Working with family can be very difficult. The brothers maintain that they both want to look fondly back on their lives. They have concluded that they will have open lines of communication and that they will do their best when it comes to taking criticism from each other. Easier said than done!

"We look at quarterly profit and loss statements.... we also scream at each other quarterly," Andreas has said of his work relationship with his brother. They absolutely fit into that stereotype of an Italian or Greek family screaming at each other and then hugging afterwards, but they wouldn't have it any other way.

The brothers say that they are grateful that their father is always there to consult them. Although



he is not involved in the business, he offers invaluable guidance and counseling. Mr. Dallis is a common fixture at the restaurants and is an integral part of the brothers' formula.

What? More of them??

In the summer of 2004, Sarah Ladd was working at Café Eccell as a standout waitress with a strong will while Andreas was the Executive Chef of Café Eccell. The battle of wills must have been magnetic. Andreas and Sarah started dating in December 2005. Sarah earned promotions, and it wasn't long before she became a manager and subsequently General Manager.

In July 2008, Sarah Ladd became Sarah Dallis. So now there is another Dallis working with the group. Andreas and Sarah have a new addition to the clan, baby Mea, born September 2009. With Sarah as the General Manager of Café Eccell, Andreas the Managing Partner of Eccell Steakhouse, and Costa trying to oversee it all, it's quite a family affair.



SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

Events to Remember

Party Time Rentals originated almost 35 years ago in Bryan, Texas and has been owned and operated by Patricia Scarmardo ever since. Her concept of a party rental business was instinctive since her parents Cullen and Patti Mancuso owned a successful equipment rental company for many years.

Today, Party Time Rentals is one of the oldest and largest tent and event companies in Texas.

Party Time Rentals' staff is a combination of highly trained specialists ranging from event consultants to the professional tent crew. In fact, there are several original employees that are still with the company today. The entire team pride themselves on years of experience to provide each client not only outstanding service but also invaluable experience. Within the past few years Party Time Rentals growth has lead the company to a larger facility in

College Station, complete with an ample showroom and warehouse capability.

The company has evolved from a small basic supplier into a major event provider. Party Time Rentals works with both corporate and individual clients for galas, receptions, fund raisers, recruiting parties, weddings and tailgate parties. Tents with all the trimmings for any size event are one of the company's specialties, and Party Time Rentals can provide structures for anywhere in the state. The College Station location is filled with items along with ideas. There is everything from beautiful table linens to fine china patterns and cut crystal stemware. Clients are encouraged to experiment by using the showroom's displays to "create" a visual idea that may help them with their decisions. This hands-on approach is one of the many ways that the company caters to its customer's needs. The consultants can also make recommendations and assist with events both large and small.

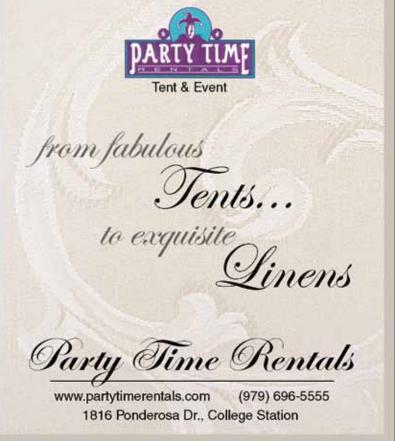
Party Time Rentals is a unique and specialized business that is proud to be a Certified HUB



vendor and a member of the American Rental Association. Its goal however is to continue to grow and remain a vital member of the Bryan/ College Station business community which it has been a part of for many years.

For more information, please contact Party Time Rentals at (979) 696-5555 or visit www. partytimerentals.com.





Savor the Flavor

Imagine the savory flavors of pecan pie baked fresh from the harvested orchard that serves as the backdrop to your lunch table. At **Royalty Pecans**, you not only experience a tradition of taste, but you are treated to a unique dining experience with picturesque views and natural beauty.

Located between Bryan and Caldwell near the Brazos River, what was once just an orchard has blossomed into an elegant and sophisticated destination for dining, special events and endless pecan specialties. Rich in history and flavor, Royalty Pecans is dedicated to providing customers with the highest quality pecans and impeccable service.

Owner Mike Adams purchased the land 24 years ago and has been cultivating the orchards to provide a delicious and healthy product ever since. Serving as a café, pecan shop and event

venue, Royalty Pecans combines quality product with experienced and professional staff.

Serving up fresh pecans with delectable Texas cuisine, Chef Denise Wood combines professional training with her favorite original recipes in the Royalty Pecans Café. Serving breakfast and lunch, the café provides a unique atmosphere with quality taste. For an afternoon out, daily Royalty tours include a guided exploration of what it takes to go from the orchard to the flavors of your favorite pecan recipe.

Enjoy cracking pecans and sampling the Texas staple while learning the history of the farm and inner workings of the industry. To take home the fruits of their labor, Royalty Pecans offers a variety of options. From individual sacks, corporate gifts and wholesale items, they provide multiple sizes and styles to choose from.

For a fun night out in a unique atmosphere, Royalty Pecan Farms is also proud to offer a variety of entertainment including concerts, specialty dinners, banquets and more. If you are looking for a warm environment with sweeping



views for your own event, Royalty Pecans will add sophisticated seclusion. For an indoor or outdoor event, views of the pecan orchard will make your next reception, wedding or dinner stand out.

To contact Royalty Pecans, to purchase tickets for their next event or to reserve a date for your own, call (979) 272-3904 or visit www.royaltypecans.com.





Pecans · Events · Cafe · Tours



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Spine Specialist

Back and neck pain can be debilitating conditions, especially when they escalate into chronic pain. The pain can be caused from a myriad of conditions including degenerative disc disease, herniated disc, osteoporosis and scoliosis, fractures or tumors, to name a few. In this scenario, **Brazos Spine** can help.

Safety and Personalized Care

Brazos Spine was established in 2005 by Dr. Mukund I. Gundanna to bring the latest and safest spine surgical techniques to the Brazos Valley. He offers state-of-the-art surgical care in spinal disorders including spinal cord/nerve root compression, arthritis, degenerative disc disease and spinal injuries. Based on what is needed, he can offer a variety of treatments, ranging from minimally invasive techniques to the more traditional open procedures. He offers complete spinal surgical care, including the cervical, thoracic, lumbar and sacral spine.

Dealing with spinal problems can be very stressful. Brazos Spine prides itself on treating patients with dignity and respect. Prior to surgery, Dr. Gundanna and his highly experienced staff will guide you through the preoperative process. Successful outcomes are a result of thorough investigation of the problem and the development of a clear surgical plan. Brazos Spine will make every effort to ensure that you understand your surgery, including the surgical approach, the rationale, the goals, and

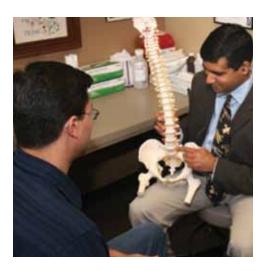
the typical recovery process. We take pride in getting your spine back into shape using the least invasive method, and ensuring that you have a pleasant surgical experience.

Credentials

Dr. Gundanna completed a fellowship in spinal surgery at the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to that, he completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at the New York University Medical Center / Hospital for Joint Diseases. Over the years, he has been certified in various disc replacement techniques for both the cervical and lumbar spine. Dr. Gundanna has pioneered minimally invasive lumbar techniques and has developed a novel lumbar stabilization system. He is a nationally recognized expert in lumbar trans-sacral fixation techniques. Additionally, Dr. Gundanna has been recognized internationally as an expert in the development of autologous cell technology. During spine surgery, a patient's own cells can be extracted from one part of the body, purified, and used in that same surgery to heal the bone and disc in their own spine. Dr. Gundanna is currently on the faculty at Texas A&M Medical School as Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery.

The Modern Spine Surgeon

There are few areas in medicine that are advancing as rapidly as the surgical treatment of spinal problems. As recently as 15 year ago, there were only two to three ways to surgically address spinal disorders such as herniated discs causing nerve irritation (sciatica, radiculopathy), spinal arthritis, and spinal tumors and trauma. That is absolutely not the case these days.



The modern spine surgeon should be skilled in these new and superior techniques, tailoring the surgical experience to fit each person's individual problems, goals, and anatomy. We at Brazos Spine are leaders in the techniques of cervical and lumbar disc replacement, minimally invasive surgery, and minimal access techniques such as XLIF, AxiaLIF, and MIS TLIF.

Health Solutions

Dr. Gundanna believes in educating his patients about the specifics of their particular condition. Then he can help readily explore treatment or surgical options. These steps are important on the road to recovery and rehabilitation.

Brazos Spine is located with the Center for Orthopaedic Specialties at The Physicians Centre, 3201 University Drive, Suite 255. For more information about Dr. Gundanna or Brazos Spine, please call (979) 774-0411 or visit www. brazosspine.com.

innovative dedicated caring



You and The Flu - H1N1 Prevention

From elementary schools teaching our children good coughing habits to the media's coverage of alarming statistics, the flu is a topic on everyone's mind this year. With both the seasonal flu and the **H1N1 virus**, people are asking, "Why do we need both shots and what is the difference between the two?"

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS), the seasonal flu viruses have been circulating in human populations for years, allowing people to build immunities. The H1N1 flu, however, is a new strain of the virus and though not necessarily more deadly than other flu strains, it is likely to infect more people because of a lack of immunity. While the seasonal flu typically targets the elderly population, the TDSHS identifies the following high risk segments for H1N1: people six months through 24 years of

age, pregnant women, healthcare personnel, and persons who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza disease. Both the seasonal flu and the H1N1 symptoms consist of a high fever, painful body aches, dry cough, diarrhea, and severe fatigue. Without testing, it is difficult to tell the difference between the seasonal and H1N1 flu.

It truly is up to you to prevent the spread of the flu. Follow these simple tips to have a happy and healthy holiday season. Keep your immune system healthy. Eat well, get enough sleep, and exercise daily. Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer - especially after you cough or sneeze. Cover your cough with the inside of your elbow, not your hands. And finally...stay at home if you are sick or suspect you might be.

Immunization clinics are held at the Brazos County Health Department. Anyone 6 months old or older is eligible to receive the flu vaccine. The health department continues to encourage those individuals included in the



high risk priority groups to get vaccinated. Preventing the flu is up to you. Contact the Brazos County Health Department for more information on preventing and treating both the H1N1 and season flu at (979) 361-4440 or visit www.BrazosHealth.org.



What you can't see CAN hurt you! • COVER YOUR COUGH! • STAY HOME SICK! • Brazos County Health Department • 979.361.4440

Artistry in Motion

Gentle, caring, honest—these are just a few words that patients have used to describe Dr. Tamie Erratt of **Brazos Valley Dental Arts**. Dr. Erratt has been meeting the dental needs of residents in Bryan-College Station since 1988, and she's come to view her patients as extended family.

"My favorite part of practicing Dentistry is the people," says Dr. Erratt. "I look forward to seeing patients periodically to catch up on what's going on in their lives."

Dr. Erratt not only has a wonderful "chairside" manner, she also offers the latest in technology for dental care and comfort. She and her staff strive to make dental visits pleasant and comfortable, even offering nitrous oxide (laughing gas) if needed. Dr. Erratt is extremely gentle. In fact, many patients have professed that they couldn't even feel the injection.

Brazos Valley Dental Arts utilizes the latest technology available in Dentistry, including digital x-rays, and obtains extensive training in progressive dental techniques. One breakthrough instrument, CEREC, allows Dr. Erratt to quickly restore damaged teeth with natural-colored porcelain restorations, saving patients time and inconvenience. A patient's treatment can be done in one visit by scanning the affected tooth and using 3-dimensional computer graphics to design the restoration to her exact specifications and bonded in place the same day.

Dr. Erratt was one of the first dentists in Bryan-College Station to offer this service. She loves having the ability to conserve tooth structure that would have been sacrificed with a conventional crown and the challenge of the artistic computer graphic design.

In addition to CEREC training, Dr. Erratt has obtained the second level certification in Invisalign. Dr. Erratt is always excited to offer the newest cosmetic options including bleaching, bonding, composites, veneers, implants, Captek, and Empress.



If you're seeking a dentist with a gentle hand, artistic touch andd a caring staff, you've found the right place. Dr. Erratt and her staff at Brazos Valley Dental Arts are currently welcoming new patients. For more information, or to schedule and appointment, please call (979) 846-3101 or visit www.bvdentalarts.com. They look forward to you and your family becoming the newest members of their family.



Regaining Independence

As a member of the allied health professions. Central Texas Orthotics & Prosthetics, LP (CTOP) helps individuals maintain an active lifestyle with confidence through professional care.

Running, playing sports, and walking the dog remain possible for many individuals thanks to owner Jonathan Cassens and his team. Jonathan explains his motivation: "I feel truly blessed to meet so many fascinating people every day. I could never envision myself doing anything else."

Established in 1989 as Central Texas Orthotics, the company offered patients independence through custom bracing and orthopedic appliances. These devices improve the function of a specific body part, provide immobilization to an injured body part, and reduce pain during normal daily activities. In 1997, Jonathan expanded his orthotics practice to include custom prosthetics. This allowed patients requiring orthotic and prosthetic services to be cared for at one facility. With this expansion,

the company was renamed Central Texas Orthotics & Prosthetics, LP. (CTOP) in 1997.

CTOP has grown to occupy a 5,600 sq. ft. facility, housing patient fitting rooms, administrative offices and an on-site fabrication lab. Because the company is able to develop and fabricate custom orthotic and prosthetic devices onsite, it ensures personalized service and guick turnaround in the event that any adjustments or modifications are required. In addition, a recent expansion of services now includes Mobile Prosthetic Services for patients with transportation issues. A CTOP licensed practitioner will come to a facility or the patient's home to provide prosthetic care.

Jonathan and his team of practitioners have over 45 years of combined experience working in the fields of orthotics and prosthetics. Each of the practitioners are uniquely trained as well as licensed and/or certified in order to provide the best possible care and service to Brazos Valley area residents. They also work with area physicians, physical therapists, and occupational therapists to ensure optimal benefits for each



patient. CTOP appreciates the confidence and trust that area physicians and health care providers have bestowed upon the company through their continued referrals.

For more information on CTOP visit our website www.ctoplp.com or call (979) 731-1985. Prescriptions are required and appointments are recommended.



Central Texas Orthotics & Prosthetics, LP

Serving the Brazos Valley for over 17 years.

"Helping people regain their independence, one step at a time."

Specializing In –

Prosthetic Limbs

Custom and Standard Braces and Splints:

- Spinal
- Extremities

Diabetic Footwear

(979) 731-1985 2112 E. Villa Maria • Bryan www.ctoplp.com



Most insurance plans accepted. Prescriptions are required and appointments are recommended.





The Science of Beauty

Who knows more about skin than a dermatologist? After years of being asked by patients which beauty products and treatments would help their skin stay healthy looking, Dr. Terry Jones opened **Dermataloge Medical Spa**. His 30 years of experience helping develop pharmaceuticals for everything from acne to psoriasis led Dr. Jones to formulate his own line of skin care products.

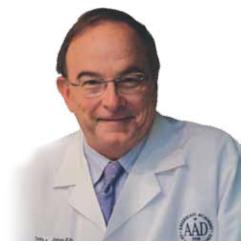
"The science, and the ingredients, behind a product have to be good," says Dr. Jones about Dermataloge's full line of lotions and body scrubs, acne wash and sunscreens, even skin lightening pads for sun and age spots.

Dermataloge offers the latest and most effective medical spa treatments including no down-time laser peels, Botox and derma fillers, microdermabrasion and more. Dr. Jones continues to listen to what his patients are seeking in the health and beauty.

Start the new year with a new you. Some of the most exciting products available reduce cellulite and tighten skin in those problem areas. Firmer, toned skin is younger looking and healthier skin.

Who are Dermataloge clients? Teens who need microdermabrasion or photo therapy to help manage acne. Busy moms who want value and trust in their skin care and makeup products. Men and women who want the best care available for younger looking skin. Anyone who wants to know that the medical spa product or service they are purchasing is backed by Dr. Jone's 30 years of dermatalogy experience.

Also new for the new year is The Spa at Dermataloge. This new, expanded spa setting is just for clients who desire a little well-deserved pampering for an hour – or an afternoon. Group packages and gift



certificates are available for birthdays or other celebrations.

For health and beauty products and medical spa treatments backed by experience and scientific research, call or visit Dermatloge.

"It's about value," says Dr. Jones. It's where beautiful skin begins. Visit www.dermataloge. com or call (979) 776-SKIN.



Life-Changing Measures

For most people, good health is one of the key factors to a long, happy life. The quest for a healthy lifestyle has prompted use of surgical methods to improve the health and prolong the life of obese individuals. For this, the Brazos Valley has turned to doctors, Richard D. Alford, Bryan D. Parrent, and Michael W. Steines. Together they are your local team of specialized physicians at **General & Bariatric Surgical Associates**.

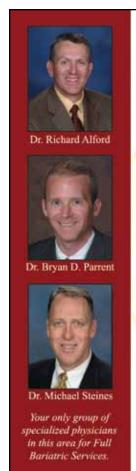
For excellent care, highly trained professionals and results, GBSA is the premier choice for your medical needs. Serving the Brazos Valley for over 12 years, the physicians and staff at GBSA always has the patient and their families' best interest at heart. It is their goal to provide the best possible treatment in a comfortable environment during the entire process.

In the past four years, the practice has taken a special focus of tackling the disease of obesity by offering Gastric Bypass, Gastric Sleeve and Gastric Banding services, all with very low complication rates. Their goals are to identify patients who will benefit from bariatric surgery, provide consistent error free application of surgical techniques, and encourage effective postoperative care, all with outstanding outcomes.

With three specialized surgeons and a team of trained professional staff members, GBSA provides comprehensive care in a welcoming environment. Not only do Drs. Alford, Parrent and Steines provide their patients with skill, dedication and sincerity, but they also serve the community by taking part in the Texas A&M Resident program, training future doctors. GBSA has been able to obtain a long-standing reputation in the medical community for providing the latest and best surgical care. They strive to make the health and quality of life better for obese patients.



There are benefits and risks associated with weight loss surgery. However, the best way to get a full assessment of an individual's condition is to attend a FREE seminar and schedule a consultation to determine if weight loss surgery could be the right option for you. If you have any questions or would like to register for a free bariatric seminar call (979) 776-5631 or visit www.GBSABCS.com.







Happiness at Home

Living at home can be one of the most important comforts in a senior's life. **Home Instead Senior Care** has built its reputation in the Brazos Valley with experienced CAREGivers that help make those wishes possible. A wide range of non-medical services, companionship and ready smiles makes all the difference.

Home Instead Senior Care has been helping seniors in the Brazos Valley since 2002. Providing services throughout the area, the company is conveniently structured to be able to offer the very best in home care for seniors in a six-county area that runs form Brenham to Bremond and from Caldwell to Madisonville.

Owned and operated by local residents David Gest and Chris Handlin, Home Instead Senior Care offers a wide variety of services that allow seniors to remain in the comfort and security of their own homes. Studies show that seniors tend to thrive when they are in comfortable surroundings.

CAREGivers offer light housework, meal preparation, errands and shopping, personal care and medication reminders. The highly trained staff work diligently to assure that those they care for have the most compassionate and loving assistance available. They not only help seniors but also develop friendships and special bonds with those in their care.

Why not choose the best for your loved ones? Home Instead has been recognized by the Brazos Valley Area Agency on Aging in recognition of "Outstanding Service that has Contributed Significantly to the Quality of Life of Seniors in the Brazos Valley" and is a past Eagle Reader's Choice Award winner for the top Home Care Agency—the first non-medical company to receive that particular honor.

Currently operating in 15 countries and all 50 states in the U.S., Home Instead is a worldwide leader in non-medical home care for the elderly.



For the special loved ones in your life—parents, grandparents, spouse or friends—Home Instead Senior Care can offer solutions for daily life. When you need a helping hand, choose Home Instead because to them, it's personal.

For more information about Home Instead Senior Care or their services, please call (979) 268-6880 or visit their website at www.homeinstead.com/409.







Whether you are looking for someone to help an aging parent a few hours a week or need more comprehensive assistance, Home Instead can help.

Home Instead SENIOR CARE

To us, it's personal

Call for a free, no-obligation appointment:

Bryan/College Station/Brenham

979-268-6880 homeinstead.com/409

> Each Home Instead Senior Care® franchise office is independently owned and operated. © 2009 Home Instead, Inc.

A Bright Future

Hope Cancer Center began in January 2000 when Dr. Usha Venkatraj opened her office in Bryan emphasizing compassion, concern and a caring touch. She was the first female doctor to have an Oncology/ Hematology practice here. Her philosophy is to preserve her patients' quality of life while treating their cancer.

In September 2007 she moved her office to College Station. To this day she continues to serve patients through all of the hospitals in Bryan/College Station.

Dr. Venkatraj has brought with her to the Brazos Valley her experience in working as a Co-Director of Albert Einstein Breast Center in New York. She understands the importance of compassionate care needed in battling such a strong adversary from her years of working with patients and struggling with them on a daily basis to see them through treatment and recovery. Fortunately today most cancer treatments are available right here in the Brazos Valley, therefore avoiding the stress of needing to travel to larger cities. The aim of providing a personal touch instead of just being a "number" is a great asset to this community.

Dr. Venkatraj knows that individualized care is essential in the treatment of the disease, and she listens to patient concerns and suggests possible ways to cope with the illness. "Support groups, exercise, music or spirituality are some ways people get through this difficult time," says Dr. Venkatraj. "A caring family network is helpful in seeing patients through their course of treatment as well." She strives to keep a warm, home-like atmosphere for patients, knowing that a loving environment is so important to recovery and peace of mind.

Dr. Venkatraj is a wife and is a mother of three children; she strives to get kids involved in healthy lifestyles. Some forms of cancer are avoidable, and she maintains that by speaking



to children at schools, she can impact kids' lives in a positive way. She also reminds the community to be proactive and have health screenings on a regular basis.

For health concerns or for more information about Dr. Venkatraj, please call (979) 693-2900. Hope Cancer Center...even the name indicates a bright outlook for the future.



"Today I will pause at the crossroads and listen for the sounds of Hope."

Author Unknown

Serving patients with the <u>personal care</u> that they deserve for the <u>entire Brazos Valley</u>, including St. Joseph Hospital and the College Station Medical Center.



Usha Venkatraj, MD

Hope Cancer Center 1602 Rock Prairie Rd Ste 130B College Station , Texas 979-693-2900

Making Life Count

Living life to the fullest is important. The decision to choose hospice care is personal, and it's important to have the facts. **Hospice Brazos Valley (HBV)** treats the individual, not the disease. Care is focused on the patient, caregiver and family and emphasizes comfort and the quality of life, not the duration.

Hospice care is accomplished through a comprehensive, individualized treatment plan with a skilled team of professionals including physicians, nurses, healthcare aides, social workers, chaplains, bereavement counselors and volunteers. Team members are experts in palliative, or comfort care and provide the best solutions for pain control and symptom management.

Hospice care is appropriate for those individuals touched by grief, loss or a life-limiting illness with a life expectancy of six months or less. Since its inception, HBV has sought to reflect the values

characterizing the communities it serves while providing end-of-life care for all who need it.

While hospice care is typically included as a benefit in private health care plans, Medicare and Medicaid, HBV will provide care for all patients regardless of their ability to pay. With the majority of care provided in homes, services can also be provided in the hospital and assisted living facility.

Craig Borchardt, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hospice Brazos Valley, explains the mission of the locally owned hospice. "We believe the patients and families who receive our care value the best care possible, provided with a deep sense of compassion and attentiveness to the needs of the patient." He goes on to say patients want to take an active role in decisions about their care, maintaining the sense of personal independence.

For over twenty years, Hospice Brazos Valley has considered caring for patients a sacred trust. As a non-profit, community-owned agency, HBV relies upon the generosity of community friends to extend care and provide services to all residents in



its service area. There are many ways to support the mission of HBV including event sponsorship, volunteering, memorials, charitable giving, resale donations, corporate matching and board leadership.

Learn more about the services of Hospice Brazos Valley, please call (979) 821-2266 or visit www. hospicebrazosvalley.org.



The Eyes Have It

Marr Eye Center is currently celebrating 25 years of helping patients in the Brazos Valley with their vision care needs. Dr. William Marr is proud to have served residents of Bryan-College Station and the surrounding areas all these years, and he continues to offer the most advanced vision care available to the community.

Marr Eye Center offers the latest in multifocal lens technology for the correction of cataracts. Cataracts are a protein build up on the lens of the eyes that often affect those in their 60s or older. Those affected by the condition have blurry or dark vision due to the natural discoloration of the eye's lens due to aging, and if left untreated, cataracts can lead to blindness. The only treatment available is a surgical procedure involving lens implants, a common procedure that has been in use for 30 years.

The lens implant procedure can usually be completed by Dr. Marr in 10 to 15 minutes, and vision is restored quickly in most cases. Vision usually continues to improve in the weeks following the procedure.

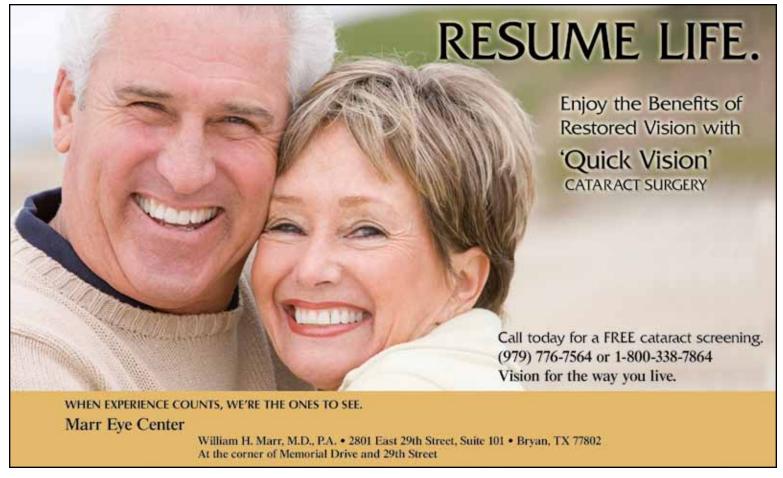
Dr. Marr received his undergraduate degree at Texas A&M University, and completed his medical education at the University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio. His internship in Categorical Internal Medicine and his residency in Ophthalmology were completed at Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple. Dr. Marr is a member of the Texas Medical Association as well as the Texas Ophthalmologic Association and the Brazos-Robertson County Medical Society. He is an active fellow of the American Academy of Ophthal¬mology and holds an appointment on staff at Texas A&M Health Science Center.

Symptoms of cataracts include one or more of the following: difficulty reading, difficulty seeing close objects, difficulty seeing to drive, especially at night, changing glasses prescriptions and needing bifocals. Not all



patients are good candidates for multifocal lens implant technology. An examination at Marr Eye Center can help determine if you are a potential candidate for this exciting technology.

To learn more about vision improvement and increasing your quality of life, contact Dr. Marr's office at (979) 776-7564.



Personal Care, Professional Service

In the Bryan medical district near St. Joseph Regional Health Center sits a shining example of the rewards of hard work and dedication. Started in 1974 by two local ladies, **The Pharmacy Shop** was a neighborhood pharmacy that, through the years, became synonymous with customer service.

Purchased in 2000 by Brazos Valley resident Judi Henneke, the business has continued in its tradition of service, winning the 2006 Women-Owned Business Community Impact Award from the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau's 2006 Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics, Newman 10 Awards in 2002 & 2007, and being voted the Eagle Reader's Choice for Best Pharmacy in the Brazos Valley four years running.

Employees are a key factor in the success of the business, and Judi believes that they are the backbone of the business. Henneke and her staff take an interest in the lives of their customers. They know their customers' medical histories, greet them by name, and care about their wellbeing.

One of the services that Judi takes pride in is delivering to local nursing and assisted living facilities and to those Brazos Valley residents unable to come in to her store to get medications on their own. She's pleased to offer new technology with old fashioned service.

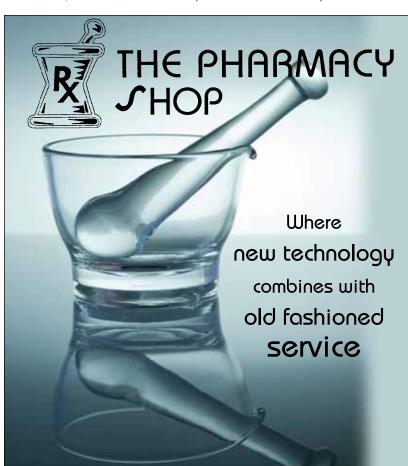
Brazos Valley Long Term Care, a division of her company that specializes in unit dose packaging of medication, is located next to The Pharmacy Shop. It helps nursing homes and assisted living centers simplify the medication process for their residents.

In addition to keeping up with the latest technology, Judi recently served as president of the Brazos Valley Pharmacy Association and is active in the Texas Pharmacy Association, the American Pharmacy Association, and the National Community Pharmacists Association.



Despite her success, Judi has never lost sight of what brought her to this point in her career. Putting people first, always being concerned with their well-being and being passionate about helping others will continue to be her focus. With that mantra, more future success is certain to follow.

For more information about The Pharmacy Shop, please call (979) 776-6800.



Over 35 Years of Service in Bryan-College Station

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(Across from St. Joseph Hospital) 2007 Newman 10, Eagle Reader's Choice 4 years running

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The Brazos Valley's First Exclusive Long Term Care Pharmacy

- Unit Dose Packaging Free Delivery
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Professional Pain Reliever

Dr. Michael Reece knows it's hard to smile when you have a headache. What he wants his patients to know is that headaches, facial, neck and shoulder pain, earaches and even fatigue from sleep apnea can all result from imperfect bite and jaw alignment. Specialized neuromuscular dental training allows Dr. Reece to help his patients enjoy both beautiful, comfortable smiles plus the myriad health benefits that come from correcting imperfect bite alignment.

"Form follows function," says Dr. Reece. "It's about more than just a lovely smile – it's about each patient's long-term health.

"I've had patients whose headaches kept them from working, even driving," says Dr. Reece, who teaches neuromuscular dentistry techniques at the prestigious Las Vegas Institute of Dentistry several times each year. Dr. Reece's patients are able to see a "picture" of the tension in their facial, neck and jaw muscles using small sensors taped to the skin. Those suffering from chronic headaches or other facial pain often register extremely high tension – even when they think their face and neck are relaxed – and even higher tension when they bite their teeth together.

Some patients know the source of their fatigue – sleep apnea – but can't adjust to wearing a Continuous Positive Air Pressure mask at night. For patients who have been diagnosed with sleep apnea and who are looking for an alternative to wearing a CPAP mask, Dr. Reece offers an FDA approved orthotic, custom made to be as comfortable as possible while maintaining proper jaw alignment to ensure an unobstructed airway.

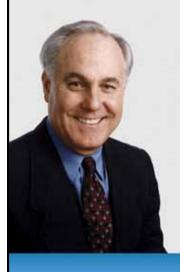
If you're one of the thousands of people who suffer from chronic headaches, TMJ or sleep apnea, you have probably tried multiple doctors and medications in your search to be healthy and pain free. For those who want more information about Dr. Reece's



experience treating these and other jaw placement disorders through his practice. For that reason, he and his staff offer free, informative seminars to answer commonly asked questions about his neuromuscular dental practice. A full schedule of seminars is available at www.drreece.com or by calling his office at (979) 846-6515.

Afraid to leave the house without headache medicine?

You CAN be headache free!



Come learn how Dr. Michael Reece is making headaches disappear for patients using an innovative technique that is bringing relief to long time headache and TMJ sufferers.

Register today. It's free! 846.6515 or online at

freeheadacheseminar@headacheaway.com

FREE SEMINARS

Learn how you can be headache free

Tuesday, February 2 noon Wednesday, February 3 noon Thursday, February 4 5:30

Tuesday, March 2 5:30 Wednesday, March 3 noon Thursday, Mach 4 noon



1615 Barak Lane, Bryan ❖ 979.846.6515 ❖ drreece@drreece.com

Simplified Pest Solutions

Individualized customer care has been the foundation of **Binford**Insect Control since the company's beginnings in the early 1940s.
This customer service mentality and attention to detail has seen the company through decades of changes, both in the Brazos Valley community and in the way pest control techniques have changed.

The company started when George Binford left the Public Health Department after the vector control he was involved with was phased out. Many people began to rely on Binford to meet their pest control needs. By 1947, Binford was doing full time pest control in Navasota.

After ten years in business, Binford moved his operation to Bryan. His sons, Ed and Bill became involved in the family enterprise in 1961 and 1968 respectively. They became

leaders in the pest control industry because of their work ethic and expertise.

The goal at Binford in the early days, as it is now, was to find the source of the problem and eliminate it. This no nonsense approach to pest control helps Binford remain a leader in their field.

Today, Bill Binford and son Brien Binford, TAMU Class of '95, continue to provide new ideas and implement technology that helps the company stay abreast of changes. It's more challenging than ever to keep pests at bay with environmental rules and regulations that have banned specific chemicals.

"Every home has its own unique set of problems. We consciously try to strike a balance here at Binford," says Brien "to control your pest control your pest problems, while at the same time protecting the environment and the health of our customers."

The pest control experts at Binford have their work cut out for them, but they are more than up for the challenge. Brien Binford explains



the role of the company in the future: "We'll see newer methods of excluding pests from homes or businesses by monitoring, baiting and precise residual applications to better protect clients' homes and businesses."

For more information about the services Binford Insect Control offers or to schedule an appointment, please call (979) 822-5524.



Always Deere Season

Coufal-Prater Equipment, LTD. is the Brazos Valley's John Deere and Stihl headquarters. Whether you're a farmer, home owner, or a weekend hobbyist, Coufal-Prater Equipment is prepared to meet all of you equipment needs. The dealership, which has been family owned for thirty-five years, has served the Brazos Valley for seventeen years.

What started in 1974, as Coufal Equipment Company, in Temple, TX, has evolved into Coufal-Prater Equipment, with four branches located in Temple, Cameron, Bryan, and Navasota. Recently, Coufal-Prater Equipment has modernized each location, inside and out, to ensure that customers have a pleasant and comfortable shopping experience.

The company's headquarters, located in Bryan, TX, consists of a 9,000 square foot showroom with interactive computer stations, as well as, a 13,000 square foot service shop. Coufal-

Prater Equipment has a large inventory of farm equipment, including, new and used tractors, skid steers, cotton strippers, and a large stock of the popular Gator utility vehicles. The store also carries a full line of lawn tractors, trimmers, and blowers.

For all home and property owners, Coufal-Prater's professional sales and service personnel are dedicated to serving your needs and helping you find exactly the right product.

"Our goal as an equipment supplier is to help provide a valuable solution for our customers' business or pleasure," says owner Tim Prater.

The company, which is noted for its customer service, takes pride in community outreach programs, and encourages employees to do their part in making the Brazos Valley better. Coufal-Prater is dedicated to supporting non-profit organizations, government agencies, local 4-H and FFA clubs, as well as supporting smaller communities with fundraising efforts to improve community centers, volunteer fire stations, booster clubs and more.



For more information about products offered at Coufal-Prater Equipment, LTD., stop by their location at 3110 Hwy 21 West in Bryan, contact the store at (979) 822-7684 or visit www.cpequipment.com. Also, for all the latest news and store specials, become a fan of cpequipment on Facebook, follow cp_equip on twitter, and check out their blog at cpequipment.blogspot.com.

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NO INTEREST PAYMENTS FOR 12 MONTHS[†]

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CAMERON, TX 2401 N. TRAVIS AVE. 254-697-6551



10ffer ends 3/1/2010, Some restrictions apply; other special rates and terms may be available, so see your dealer for details and other financing options, Subject to approved credit on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan, a service of FPC Financial f.s.b. For consumer use orly, After promotional period, finance charges will begin to accrue at 17.9% APR, A \$1.00 per month minimum finance charge may be required. The engine horsepower information is provided by the engine manufacturer to be used for comparison purposes only, Actual operating horsepower will be less.

BRYAN, TX

3110 Hwy 21 W

979-822-7684



Ideas that Shine

Offering excellent lighting and accessories for more than 50 years, **Dealers Lighting** is definitely the area's premier lighting showroom. Customer service is a top priority, and their staff is trained to help the residents of the Brazos Valley with all of their lighting needs.

You can select a complete home package or just pick up a light bulb and be assured that the specialists at Dealers Lighting are interested in satisfied customers. Dealers Lighting is your local source for Craftmade ceiling fans, Kichler Lighting and Lightolier track and recessed lighting. Many other brands are represented both for the budget-minded or the customer who wants a custom built chandelier.

Their showroom is filled with a multitude of lighting choices for your new or existing home. The wide array of decorative finishes makes

it easy to coordinate your choices with your home's décor.

Store Manager Jan Lee has seen many changes in the home products industry. "Today, people are concerned with functionality of fixtures they choose for their homes," says Lee. "And, more and more, we find that people are concerned with energy usage and the environment. We are definitely seeing a more educated consumer when it comes to choosing home products."

The lighting industry has been greatly impacted by the development of compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and LED lights for your home. Dealers Lighting displays and sells a variety of CFLs and LEDs including recessed lighting and lights for counters and cabinets.

Lighting options inside and out are always evolving, with changes in both form and function and you can count on Dealers Lighting to be up to date on all things lighting! Offering the latest in technology is important, but Lee contends that her knowledgeable staff is essential for success in today's business



climate. "We're all interested in satisfied customers here," says Lee. "The individual attention that our staff gives every customer when they walk through our doors keeps them coming back."

For more information about Dealers Lighting, please call (979) 775-1697 or stop by their showroom on the corner of South College and Koenig in Bryan.



Excellence in Craftsmanship

Forster Tile Company in Bryan is the choice of discriminating Brazos Valley homeowners for custom tile work through every step of the process including consultation, design and installation. In business since 1957, Forster Tile has the expertise, craftsmanship and experience to help make your next project shine.

Owner Roy Forster is a third-generation contractor and artisan. His company's work is unsurpassed in the area and reflects both the wealth of design possibilities offered by ceramic tile and the quality craftsmanship and attention to detail valued by customers.

With emphasis placed on design and functionality in today's homes, it's more important than ever to customize yours to fit your own personal style. Forster Tile realizes the importance of making a home unique to each customer's lifestyle and preferences.

Choosing the appropriate materials for a home can be a major decision, and Forster Tile's expertise in the tile industry and precise methods guarantee quality and style in the finished product. This along with experienced tile consultants makes Forster Tile the premier tile showroom in the Brazos Valley. Office Manager Sharon Lynch has over 15 years of experience in tile design and selection; she is devoted to working one on one with homeowners to make sure their vision becomes a reality.

To better assist you, Forster Tile will loan out samples in order to choose the perfect option for your home. The company has an extensive inventory comprised of thousands of tile samples in order to find the perfect ceramic, glass or stone for your home.

Forster Tile can tackle any job from new builds to remodels. Forster's specialized and skilled tile setters will provide expertise and services for tub and shower wall installation, flooring, backsplashes, countertops, patios and barbeque pit and grill areas.



Today's homes are full of custom options and Forster Tile's range of services and exceptional value will be an asset to any home project. In true artisan style, great care is taken to ensure precision and beauty of the finished work. To contact Forster Tile Company call (979) 823-0379, or to see a variety of completed Forster Tile projects, visit www.forstertile.com.



Service Sets the Standard

Design expertise is always in high demand, and Barbara Holley, owner of **Holley's Window Fashions and Interiors**, has brought this kind of expertise to the Brazos Valley. Fueled by a passion for window fashion more than 30 years ago, Barbara began creating custom designed window treatments, bedding and accessories for her clients.

Today, the knowledgeable staff at Holley's Window Fashions & Interiors has transformed residential as well as commercial spaces in Bryan-College Station and surrounding areas.

Barbara and her staff's custom designs and unsurpassed customer service has enabled Holley's Window Fashions and Interiors to grow far beyond their expectations. Barbara has always realized how important these details can be in helping transform clients' homes into their own personal spaces. Barbara and her staff

make decisions easy by helping their clients through each step of the process from the initial consultation to making fabric and design choices to completion and installation. Barbara's sense of style and innovative design capabilities enable her to have a unique perspective making the consultation process a breeze.

"It is such a joy to help people's dreams for unique surroundings come true," states Barbara. "Custom designs can turn a house into a reflection of the owners, truly making it a home. Each design is unique for the individual client with our specialized customer service."

Barbara designed a first class showroom in College Station to highlight the fine Hunter Douglas products she has to offer residents of the area. In today's age of home product technology, the possibilities for unique home décor are limitless. In her showroom, Barbara has wisely arranged a wide variety of shutters, blinds and draperies from which to choose throughout the store, making it easy for customers to decide which ones best suit their lifestyles and needs.



Product lines and selection are not the only things to consider. Holley's Window Fashions and Interiors have the only Hunter Douglas master certified shutter installer between the Houston and Dallas areas. Barbara wants to make sure installation is properly done and that customers are able to get the full warrantees on the products they choose.



Loving Companionship

The **Brazos Animal Shelter** is a 501(c)3 non-profit, animal welfare organization whose vision is to respect and protect the human-animal bond and act as a community resource for all pet animal issues. The staff and volunteers of the Brazos Animal Shelter believe animals enhance the quality of life.

They value the lives all animals, and strive to save the life of every homeless pet. As part of their vision, they strive to enhance the humananimal bond, act as leaders and advocates in the animal welfare industry, and protect the health, safety, and well-being of animals.

Over 8,500 animals came to the Brazos Animal Shelter in 2008. Though a majority are from Brazos County, the Shelter accepts animals from all the surrounding counties such as Grimes, Robertson, Burleson, Washington, Madison and Leon. Many dogs, puppies, cats and kittens come through their doors as strays, but they also receive owner surrenders and pets that are not reclaimed by their owners. They also take in many other types of animals including rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils (and other pocket pets), iguanas and other reptiles, all kinds of birds, and ferrets are also available at the Shelter from time to time.

Some of the services the Brazos Animal Shelter provides to the community include an adoption program to place homeless animals in their forever homes, a lost and found "system" for reuniting families, microchipping, humane education, and volunteer and community service opportunities.

The Brazos Animal Shelter is always grateful for the many volunteers that help either at their location or for special events. Whether someone is able to spend a few hours a week, come in once a month or stop by daily, volunteers provide a key function. Individuals can also help to foster animals that are not ready for adoption. Other ways to volunteer are helping with seasonal



events like Wiener Fest, or ongoing projects like the PetSmart mobile adoption.

The Shelter is open to visitors Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. For more information about the pets available for adoption, their services or upcoming events, visit the Brazos Animal Shelter's website at www. brazosanimalshelter.org.



Home Away From Home

Trust and compassion are key ingredients to the special care provided to your pet at **BYD Ranch** & **Kennel**. When looking for a temporary home for your beloved animals while you're away on a weekend trip or extended vacation, it's important to feel comfortable with the kennel and caregivers.

No job is too big or too small for BYD. Their main desire is to make your animal feel like part of the family. They are the premier boarding facility for dogs and horses in the Brazos Valley.

Founded in 2006 by Jim and Miriam Rieck, their business is built on love, professionalism and commitment to providing the best possible environment for your companion. Located on a 45-acre ranch right outside of Bryan and less than 20 miles from Texas A&M University, BYD Ranch & Kennel offers a healthy atmosphere

with personal attention to the needs of each pet. BYD was designed for the best of pet care, from its quiet country setting to its individual, super-sized runs.

Owner Miriam Rieck takes a unique approach to the traditional style of dog boarding. They welcome all breeds but take pride in providing kennels that accommodate extra large breeds and multi-dog families in large spaces rather than small individual stalls. Amenities include fire and security alarm systems, indoor climate controlled spaces and outdoor shaded runs. Rieck only offers 12 runs so she is able to give her undivided care and attention to each animal. Dogs and horses are her two main passions in life and she will go above and beyond to ensure the safety and care of each animal she works with. "They are more like a family and clients rather than animals," Rieck says.

For horse boarding, BYD offers personal care and attention with a 60 foot round pen, riding arena, obstacle course and 25 acres of trails. Their goal is to provide a safe, clean, healthy,



sanitary and comfortable environment for every pet. BYD also schedules clinics and seminars on competitive trail riding, including how to condition you and your horse to participate in this popular and fast growing sport. For boarding or riding information call (979) 589-1843 or visit www.bydranch.com.



DOG BOARDING

All breeds welcome

Large indoor enclosures with access to outdoor shaded runs

A safe, clean and comfortable environment

Each run is over 200 square feet

Specialize in extra large breeds and multi-dog families

Home of the Brazos Valley Dog Directory

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Experience Builds Trust

John R. Clark has built his real estate business on constant honesty and integrity. Over the past 23 years in B/CS, John and his associates have leased or sold millions of square feet of commercial, industrial, retail, and office space. They have also successfully marketed numerous rural and commercial land tracts of all sizes.

John R. Clark and Associates is a full-service commercial real estate firm dedicated to providing outstanding real estate services on commercial, land, and investment properties.

John graduated in 1985 from TAMU with a finance degree. He was co-owner of RE/MAX Bryan-College Station until founding John R. Clark and Associates in 2002. John has given back to the community by serving on the board of Habitat for Humanity and as chairman of the Bryan Planning and Zoning Committee. He and

his wife, Janice, have three daughters and enjoy living and working in the Bryan/College Station.

Josh Isenhour joined John R. Clark and Associates in 2002. Josh earned his Masters in Land Economics and Real Estate in 2004 from TAMU. Josh has sold or leased numerous commercial properties and ranches throughout the Brazos Valley and has served on the regional MLS board.

Andrew McDonald joined the team in 2008. Andrew graduated from TAMU and worked as a commercial real estate appraiser before joining John R. Clark and Associates.

John and Josh founded Clark Isenhour Commercial Property Management in 2005.

Clark Isenhour strives to provide the best service to property owners by controlling costs without sacrificing proper maintenance and minimizing the burden of its clients. Clark Isenhour employs a full-time bookkeeper and maintenance man. The seamless integration between John R. Clark and Associates and the in-house property management firm, Clark Isenhour, has contributed to the firms' success.



John and his associates continue to build on their variety of experiences and tradition of excellent service. With numerous areas of expertise, quality support staff, and a convenient office located just north of Texas A&M University, John R. Clark and Associates stands ready to meet all of your real estate needs in the Brazos Valley.

JOHN R. CLARK AND ASSOCIATES

REAL ESTATE SERVICES - COMMERCIAL • LAND • INVESTMENT



FEATURED PROPERTY FOR LEASE:

THE CARTER CREEK CENTER

4001 E. 29TH STREET

- EXCELLENT 7,500 SF RETAIL SPACE WITH OPEN FLOORPLAN AND STOCKROOM
- GREAT VISIBILITY FROM 29TH STREET
- CENTRAL LOCATION IN THE HEART OF BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION
- PERFECT MIX OF RETAIL, OFFICE AND SERVICE TENANTS.

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3828 SOUTH COLLEGE AVENUE, BRYAN, TX 77801 PHONE (979) 268-6840 FAX (979) 268-6841 WWW.JOHNCLARK.COM INFO@JOHNCLARK.COM

Bringing you Home with a Smile

it's more important than ever to enlist the help of real estate professionals. **Trish Thornton Havel** and **Jennifer Scarmardo** of RE/MAX BCS can help you with your next real estate transaction whether you are buying or selling real estate in the Brazos Valley area.

With the changing real estate market,

The pair, who are both Texas A&M grads, were both born and raised in the area and have seen Bryan-College Station change dramatically. They know the neighborhoods, the schools and the community, helping their clients gain insight and information to enable them to make good decisions when choosing their next home.

Trish moved from a career of educating youth in the Brazos Valley to educating prospective home buyers and sellers throughout the real estate process. Jennifer has strong family ties that give her the firsthand experience of knowing that the right house can mean a sense of comfort, great memories and deep roots.

Trish and Jennifer truly love helping clients find just the right home. They take pride in working with people to find homes that fit their needs, personalities and lifestyles.

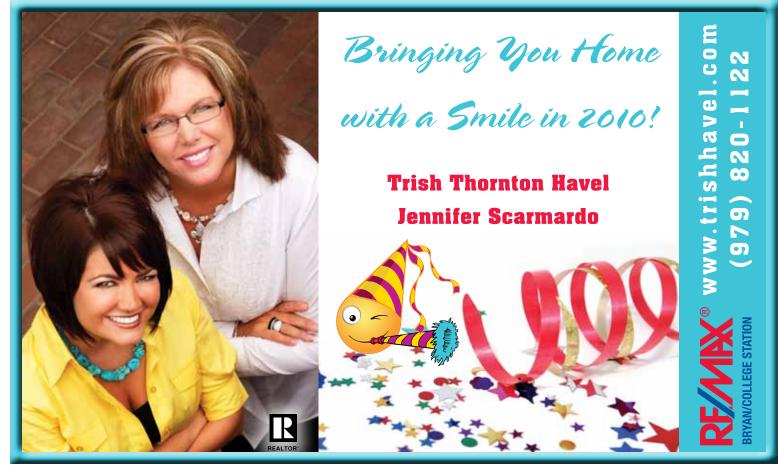
Recent changes in the market are helping more and more people become home owners. New incentives for first time buyers have prompted more interest in the real estate market locally. A federal tax credit of \$8000 that was offered for first-time home buyers this past fall has been extended into April of this year, making it a better time than ever to make a move into a home. In addition, a new tax credit for those who have been in their homes for five years or more is more reason than ever to make a move this year.

Those who know Trish and Jennifer realize that they put their hearts into everything that they do. That dedicated effort has earned Trish distinguished awards for providing superior customer service to home buyers and sellers.



Trish and Jennifer are truly committed to bringing their clients "home with a smile!"

For more information about the services Trish and Jennifer can offer you, please call (979) 820-1122.



Professional and Ethical

Friendly faces, great service and attention to detail has made **Briarcrest Cleaners** the Best of the Brazos for three years running. Owners Michelle and Shaun Winder are in their 14th year of operating the business, which has two locations in Bryan and one in College Station.

The Winders work together every day to ensure that they have satisfied every customer that walks through the doors. Their customer-first philosophy has been essential to their success. They are also quick to point out the dedication of their loyal employees who have similar views on helping customers quickly and efficiently.

"Our staff understands the needs of our customers," says Shaun. "They understand the importance of putting customer concerns first."

The Winders have built their business around a strong foundation of quality service, hard work and ethics that has earned praise from customers, even earning them a nomination for the prestigious Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics sponsored by the Better Business Bureau. The award was established to gain recognition for area businesses that maintain a solid commitment to conduct their business practices in an ethical fashion.

Plus, the company does great work, taking time to thoroughly clean and press garments, even mending buttons when necessary.

"We pride ourselves in giving the customer a garment that's ready to wear," says Michelle. "Top notch service is our main goal. We have many satisfied customers because we take the time to check our work."

There are challenges, however. Consumers tend to think that all cleaners are created equal. Therefore, with a cleaners on every corner, it's tempting for people to consider only convenience when making their choice without considering quality or service. Shortcuts and inferior supplies are not an option at Briarcrest Cleaners.



When asked about the future, Michelle states, "We'll continue with business as usual—quality work, smiling faces and personal service."

For quality dry cleaning and excellent service, stop by Briarcrest Cleaners on Briarcrest Drive and Boonville Road in Bryan and on Graham Road at Highway 6 in College Station or call (979) 774-7700 for more information.



Spend time with the family . . .

not the laundry



BRAZOS VALLEY

3 years running

BRYAN

1887 Briarcrest Dr. • 774.7700 4282 Boonville Rd. • 779.2400

COLLEGE STATION

Hwy 6 at Graham Rd. • 690.2194

On the Road Again

"Heck, I'd give it all away, but my wife won't let me." Long-time Brazos Valley residents may remember these words used in radio ads years ago. The words, uttered by Al Gutierrez, founder of **House of Tires** at the corner of Coulter and Texas Avenue in Bryan, struck a chord with area residents who wanted great tires at reasonable prices.

Today, Bobby Gutierrez is at the helm of the family business, aided by his wife Becky, and the great values are as real as they were way back when. The company even offers to beat any competitors' prices!

The company specializes in quality tires by Cooper, Toyo, Mastercraft and Yokohama as well as other name brands. The family philosophy of great service and value continues as Bobby, Becky and their team at House of Tires get you prepared for the road ahead.

After going to College at Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Kingsville, Bobby worked in the ranching industry in the late 80's and returned to the family business in the early 90's. The new perspective within the family business enabled the company to expand and thrive for almost two decades. The business is stronger than ever due to the dedication of Bobby and the entire staff, who are committed to helping residents find their perfect tires.

Now, with the current economic climate, it's more important than ever to have value in the marketplace. Helping you get more for your money is the rule, not the exception, at House of Tires, and the company has tires and wheels for any budget.

Tire selection is important for your family's safety and enjoyment on the road. With a helpful staff of specialists, House of Tires can help with selection, installation and maintenance



of tires and wheels. They will also help you differentiate between cost and value, ensuring that you will get quality products every day.

"We're not fancy but we're fast, friendly and fair!" For more information or to request an estimate, please contact House of Tires at (979) 779-2458 or stop by 1401 S. Texas Avenue in Bryan.



Auto Service Experts

It's important to trust your family's safety on the road to auto care specialists. Old fashioned service merges with new technology down 29th Street in Bryan at **Pete's Auto Care Center**. Quality service and integrity have brought customers back to Pete's for over 20 years.

Customers know they can expect the best service to keep their cars and trucks on the road and functioning properly. Owner Pete Kountakis has been providing auto care to the residents of the Brazos Valley and has built a loyal customer following based on trust and comprehensive service. Open six days a week, Pete's offers auto repair as well as a wrecker service.

With a well-rounded and trained staff, Pete and his team of auto experts will fix all your problems on both foreign and domestic cars. Pete's services Mercedes, BMW, Volvo, Jaguar and Volkswagen.

Services at Pete's include air conditioning and electrical repairs, tune-ups, brake jobs, front-end alignments and computer wheel balancing. Pete's also carries high performance tires including Bridgestone, Firestone and Falken.

Pete and his team take pride in offering their customers quality service and repair at a fair price. At Pete's, certified mechanics troubleshoot to find specific issues that may be causing your auto problems. Repairs are made quickly and completely to have your car up and running in no time, even offering a shuttle service if needed.

"Our job here is to get you back on the road as quickly as possible," explains Pete. "We take pride in offering thorough repairs to correct vehicle issues."

Having your vehicle examined by a professional can also prevent problems down the road. Periodic maintenance can prolong the life of your vehicle and help you to avoid breakdowns.

In cooler months, having service specialists at Pete's check antifreeze, pH, condition of your



battery and alternator can be inexpensive ways to keep you from breakdowns in uncomfortable winter conditions. Likewise, when the weather turns warm, inspections of brakes, tires and other important car systems can be helpful.

For more information or to schedule a service, call Pete's Auto Care Center at (979) 774-1192.



A Family Legacy

Hard work, honesty, integrity, a love of country and of God-that's the legacy that Leon Sevcik left for his family after years of serving the Bryan-College Station area. They now carry on his tradition of service in the Brazos Valley at Sevcik's Service Center off Longmire in College Station.

Just as Leon, son Patrick and son-in-law Mark Lindemulder know customers by name and strive to run the business based on quality service, hard work, long hours, lasting friendships, and unparalleled generosity just as Leon had done all his life.

Patrick and Mark are now Owner/Managers of Sevcik's Service Center. Leon's daughter, Lisa, and daughter-in-law, Kaye, along with grandsons, Alan, Aaron and Adam, have all worked in the business as well. The Service Center's primary strength is its long-time crew-

-several of the 15 employees have worked for the Sevcik family for 10 to 20 years.

Affiliations with Shell, Valvoline, NAPA. O'Reilly, CarQuest and Interstate Batteries, along with access to most major tire brands, ensure top-tier products are available for you and your vehicle. The secret to their success, however, is having the owners on-site during all working hours, combined with the dedication of trusted technicians.

They offer a wide range of services, from tune-ups to oil changes to all types of repair services. The auto technicians at Sevcik's take their jobs seriously, working to get you back on the road quickly. The staff is always friendly and helpful, and the waiting area is neat and comfortable. Don't be surprised if you're offered a complimentary drink while you wait, and you may even be served up a bit of friendly conversation.

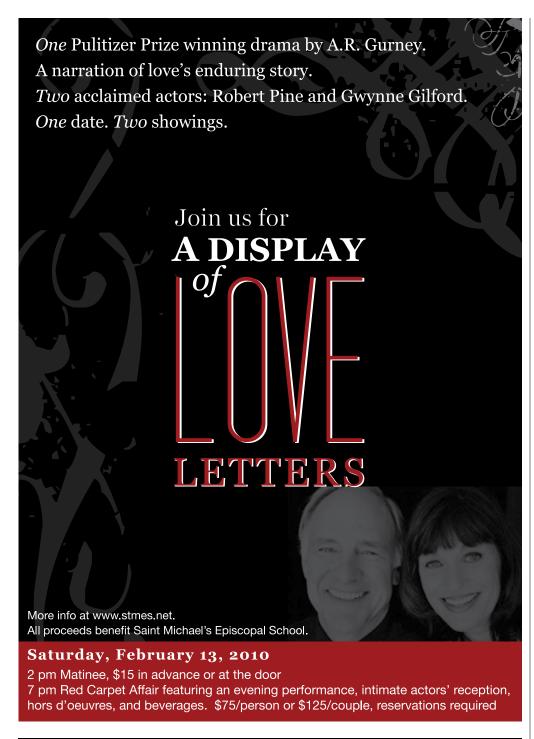
Leon is gone now, but not forgotten. The family chooses to keep his spirit alive each day by working hard and helping others. Sevcik's



Service Center is – and will continue to be – so much more than an ordinary auto repair shop - it is Leon's legacy that the entire family is committed to uphold. Stop in today for a fill-up, friendly faces and the best service around!

For more information, please call (979) 696-0065 or stop in for routine maintenance or your next car repair.







8th Annual Country Palooza

Sonny Burgess, Jason Allen, Pauline Reese, Shawn Jennings & The Southern Roots Band, Matt Martindale, Jerry Audley & Jarrod Medulla, Beau Hinze & the Backporch Shufflers.

NO COVER!! Jan 16!! Silver Wings Ballroom in Brenham

BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION

DINING / CATERING

BLUE BAKER, www.bluebaker.com, 800 University Dr, CS (979) 268-3096; 201 Dominik, CS (979) 696-5055, Blue Baker is an artisan bakery and café featuring breads baked from scratch, pastries, sandwiches, soup, fresh tossed salads and brick-oven pizzas. Try some cookies for the perfect finish! M-F 7am-10pm, Sa-Su 8am-10pm

C&J BBQ, www.cjbbq.com, 105 Southwest Pkwy, CS (979) 696-7900; 1010 South Texas Ave., Bryan (979) 822-6033; 4304 Harvey Rd., CS (979) 776-8969. Voted Best BBQ in the Brazos Valley, C&J offers all your favorite Texas barbeque such as sliced beef, jalapeno sausage, pork loin, turkey, chicken, or ribs. Catering and banquet rooms are available. M-Th 10:30am-8:30pm; F-Sa 10:30am-9pm; Su 11am-3pm, Hours may vary among locations.

CAFÉ ECCELL, www.cafeeccell.com, 101 Church Ave., CS (979) 846-7908. Café Eccell really is a true grill and fresh seafood bistro. Located in College Station's Old City Hall, the café offers fresh seafood daily and a kitchen that fires up with food that excites the senses. Lunch M-Th 11am-2pm; F & Su 11am-5pm; Sa 12pm-5pm; Dinner M-Su 5pm-10pm

CAFFE' CAPRI ITALIAN RESTAURANT, www.theplaceforitalian.com, 222 N. Main St., Bryan (979) 822-2675. Discover the unique flavor of the Cerone family kitchen with a blend of taste-tantalizing recipes of old. House specialties are constantly being created by adding savory touches to Italian classics. Lunch M-F 11am-2pm; Dinner M-Th 6pm-9pm; F-Sa 5pm-9pm

CARTER'S BURGERS, 3105 S. Texas Ave., Bryan (979) 779-7000. For a pleasurable dining experience the entire family can enjoy, it's Carter's Burgers. They have a great menu including old-fashioned mouth-watering burgers and fries or onion rings. Top it off with a delicious shake or malt, or perhaps a scoop or two of Blue Bell ice cream. Open daily 10am-10pm

CASA RODRIGUEZ, www.casarod.com, 300 N. Bryan Ave., Bryan (979) 779-0916. Casa Rodriguez has been serving Bryan and College Station for more than 30 years. Their menu consists of traditional Mexican food recipes that have kept the locals and visitors coming back for more. Serving breakfast on weekends. M 11am-2pm; T-Th 11am-9pm; F 11am-9:30pm; Sa 8am-9:30pm; Su 8am-8pm

CHICKEN OIL CO., www.dixiechicken.com/chickenoil, 3600 S. College Ave., Bryan (979) 846-3306. Chicken Oil Co. opened in Bryan, Texas as a gas station and burger shop in 1977. Since then it has become one of the most unique restaurants in the world. It is most recognized for its delicious hamburgers, one uniquely called the Death Burger. Su-Th 11am-9pm; F-Sa 11am-10pm

CHRISTOPHER'S WORLD GRILLE, www.christophersworldgrille.com, 5001 Boonville Rd., Bryan (979) 776-2181. A trip to Christopher's World Grille, in the historic Andrews House in Bryan, is a fine dining experience that can best be described as food with Mediterranean, Italian, coastal French, and South Pacific influences with a touch of Louisiana thrown in. Lunch M-Su 11am-2pm; Dinner Su-Th 5pm-9pm; F-Sa 5pm-10pm

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. M-Fr 10am-2pm; M-Fr 5pm-9pm; Sa 5pm-10pm

DIXIE CHICKEN, www.dixiechicken.com, 307 University Dr., CS (979) 846-2322. Thirsty beer drinkers regularly

flock to the Dixie Chicken to play bones, shoot pool, listen to their favorite Texas music and be with good friends. Choose from a variety of menu options including made to order burgers, hang down sausage, and cheddar cheese on the wheel. M-Su 10am-2am

ECCELL STEAKHOUSE, www.eccellsteakhouse.com, 980 University Dr. E., CS (979) 268-4104. Eccell Steakhouse is meant to excite the diner's senses and entertain the lounge patron. With an excellent selection of steaks and other favorites such as seafood and burgers, this College Station gourmet restaurant is already becoming a favorite in town. Brunch Sa-Su 10am-2:30pm; Dinner M-Sa 4:30pm-10pm

EPICURES CATERING, www.epicurescatering.net, 2319 Texas Ave. S., CS (979) 695-0985. As a full service catering company, Epicures specializes in weddings, receptions, business functions, conventions, reunions, celebrations, bridal showers, company luncheons and more. Epicures also offers private dining facilities for parties from 20 to 200. Epicures is also equipped to handle last minute plans with our new line of Epicurean Packs, a complete meal featuring favorite dishes prepackaged and ready-to-go.

JOSE'S RESTAURANT, www.joses-zaraperestaurants. com, 3824 S. Texas Ave., Bryan (979) 268-0036; 308 North Main, Bryan (979) 779-8702. Discover the taste of Old Mexico at Jose's Restaurant. Choose from traditional dishes such as enchiladas and quesadillas, or savor specialties like pollo a la parrilla, steak ranchero, or carne asada a la tampiquena. Mixed drinks are also available. T-Su 11am-9:45pm

LA BODEGA, www.bodegatacos.com, 102 Church Ave., CS (979) 691-8226. La Bodega is a Baja taco bar located on Northgate. Choose from their wide selection of tacos made from the freshest ingredients alongside specialty drinks and other great menu options. Live music can be heard W-Su nights. M-Su 11am-10pm

THE REPUBLIC, www.therepublic1836.com, 701 University Dr. E., 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. M-Sa 5pm-10pm

THE TAP, www.tapbcs.com, 815 Harvey Rd., CS (979) 696-5570. 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, and a piano bar. Their menu consists of lunch specials, burgers, sandwiches, and free peanuts. M-Sa 11am-2pm

VERITAS, 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 Su-Th 5:30-9:30pm; F-Sa 2-11pm

SWEET TREATS

TRUMAN CHOCOLATES, www.trumanchocolates.com, 4407 South Texas Ave., Bryan (979) 260-4519. Truman Chocolates is your source for exquisitely handcrafted gourmet chocolates. Each chocolate is made of only the finest ingredients and carefully designed to maximize your sensory experience. M-F 9am-6pm; Sa 10am-3pm

ENTERTAINMENT AND ATTRACTIONS

BRYAN GOLF COURSE, www.bryangolf.com, 206 W. Villa Maria, Bryan (979) 823-0126. This 18-hole municipal course is great for all types of golfers and convenient to the entire Brazos Valley. Their mature and well-manicured course is a pleasure to play year-round. A pro shop, chipping and putting practice areas, as well as a bar and grill are available. Open Daily.

CITY OF BRYAN PARKS AND RECREATION, www.bryantx.gov, Bryan (979) 209-5528. With plenty of beautiful parks and walking trails to keep you entertained and exercised, Bryan Parks and Recreation has this and so much more. They have programs and camps for all ages, sports fields, pavilions for picnics, hockey rinks, and skateboard parks. Look for special events.

DOWNTOWN BRYAN, www.downtownbryan.com, 213B S. Main, Bryan (979) 822-4920. Enjoy shopping, dining and entertainment in one of the Brazos Valley's most dynamic areas. Downtown Bryan is a vibrant historic business district which accentuates the uniqueness and diversity of the community while maintaining the historic integrity of the past amidst a multi-use business/residential environment.

PLAY-N-TRADE, www.playntrade.com/bryancollegestation, 3001 Wildflower Dr., Bryan (979) 776-4263. Play-N-Trade buys, sells and trades games and gaming equipment. To maximize patron satisfaction, customers are able to try any game, new or used, before purchasing it. Call about holding your child's next party at Play-N-Trade for a truly unique celebration! M-Sa 10am-9pm; Su 1pm-6pm

THE THEATRE COMPANY, www.theatrecompany.com, Corner of Villa Maria and Texas Ave., Bryan (979) 779-1302. The Theatre Company is a community theater performance group dedicated to the presentation of high quality productions suitable for family audiences at an affordable price. The group strives to provide community enrichment for all ages. Call for production dates and times.

U PAINT-IT, www.upaintit.com, 900 Harvey Road, Ste. 5A, CS (979) 695-1500. U Paint-It is a contemporary paint-it yourself pottery studio. They provide the materials for you to design and paint your chosen ceramic piece. Then they glaze and fire your piece and in 5-7 days you'll have a personal masterpiece and keepsake! T 11am-8pm; W 10am-10pm Th-Sa 11am-8pm; Su 2pm-6pm

BURLESON COUNTY

DINING / CATERING

JP'S TACO EXPRESS, 410 SH 36 S, Caldwell (979) 567-0611. Homestyle Mexican food at its best! Enjoy delicious breakfast tacos made to order, mouth-watering fajitas tacos, gorditas and chalupas. JP's uses homemade tortillas and offers service with a smile in Burleson County. Try the M-F 6am-3pm, Sa 6am-2pm

K'S CAFÉ, 100 S. Echols, Caldwell (979) 567-0500. K's Café offers gourmet burgers in a quaint café atmosphere. Choose from lunch specials, sandwiches and soups. Dine inside or on the patio for a relaxing change of pace. Sip a cool drink or enjoy beer or wine while watching your favorite sporting event on the many big screen TVs. M-Th 8am-8pm; F-Sa 8am-10pm

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. W-Sa 8am-5pm

MASFAJITAS, www.masfajitas.com, 305 Highway 36 S., Caldwell (979) 567-4007. Masfajitas' Tex-Mex menu consists of all your favorites including a variety of fajita options, enchiladas, tacos, and nachos. Seafood entrees are also available for a taste tempting combination of flavors. Call Masfajitas for your next party or event. Su-M 11am-9nm

SHOPPING

MAD HATTER'S TEA ROOM, www.madhatterstearoom. com, 210 S. Echols, Caldwell (979) 567-3504. The Mad Hatter's offers a unique selection of gift items, gourmet coffees, and specialty teas. Ladies' apparel, jewelry and accessories make for a pleasant shopping excursion. W-Sa 8am-5pm

SLOVACEK'S, www.slovacek.com, 9423 Highway 60 W., Snook (979) 272-3333. In 1957, Uncle John Slovacek, a friendly guy from Snook, dropped his amateur status and turned professional sausage maker. Today, Slovacek's offers their great sausage in retail locations around the Brazos Valley, including their retail store in Snook. You'll find it alongside fresh meats and gourmet gift ideas. M-F 6-8; Sa 7-8; Su 10-8

ENTERTAINMENT AND ATTRACTIONS

COPPERAS HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB, www.copperashollow.com, 995 Country Club Dr., Caldwell (979) 567-4422. Travel down the road to Caldwell for a day of fun at this 9-hole course with trees, creeks and expansive greens. Open to the public, Copperas Hollow is known for down home hospitality. Bring along a group of friends for some well-deserved R & R! Minutes from B/CS. T-Su 8am-8pm

THEATRE GUILD OF BURLESON COUNTY, (979) 567-2308. The Theatre Guild of Burleson County is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to enrich, educate and entertain as well as create opportunities for community participation in a broad range of quality and affordable theatrical productions. For information about productions or auditions, please contact Texas Agrilife Extension Service, Burleson County.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

ATTRACTIONS

ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM, 10,000 FM 50, Brenham (979) 836-5548 www.weAREroses.com Visit historic Independence and treat yourself to a true Brazos Valley treasure, a complete gardening experience, The Antique Rose Emporium. The beautiful themed display gardens are a nature lover's dream, showcasing antique roses, perennials, herbs and Texas natives. Sure to inspire! M-Sa 9am-6pm; Su 11am-5:30pm

DINING / CATERING

FUNKY ART CAFÉ, 202 W. Commerce St., Brenham (979) 836-5220. Delicious and different, Funky Art Café in Brenham offers enticing entrees to please the palate. Or choose a sandwich or savory soup before shopping in its companion retail shop The Pomegranate to find trinkets, gift ideas and kitchen gadgets. M-Fr 11am-2pm; Sa 11am-3pm

SOUTHERN FLYER, www.brenhammunicipalairport.com, 3001 Aviation Way, Brenham (979) 836-5462. Whether flying in or driving up, Southern Flyer is a great place to land with great eats! The 50s-style diner is a blast from the past with waitresses who serve up your food in poodle skirts. Bringing together fun and food at a relaxing and enjoyable destination! Su-Th 11am-3pm, F-Sa 11am-9pm

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

Spine Spine

- Microsurgery
- Minimally Invasive
- Complex/Revision Spine
- Dynamic Stabilization
- Artificial Disc Replacement
- Scoliosis
- Trauma



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