



# BRAVO! BRYAN

**CITY OF BRYAN**  
*The Good Life, Texas Style.™*

Est 1871

City of Bryan Employee Newsletter

Spring 2015

It is a great time to live and work in the City of Bryan! 2015 is already proving to be another successful and prosperous year for our community, and it's thanks to your hard work and dedication. So, thank you for your continued service to the City of Bryan!

Exciting projects and events are happening every day in our great city. Recently, Blinn College announced the purchase of land on the west side of town for their newest campus. This development is expected to bring not only increased education and job opportunities, but also the promotion of commercial and residential development in the area. Permits for residential construction continue to rise, with 80 new permits being issued in the month of March alone — a nine percent increase from this time last year. As our population continues to increase, new construction is at an all-time high, and we look forward to welcoming even more development of all types in the City of Bryan.

The City Council continues to consider new ways to revitalize the city. Projects such as road improvements, construction of a new pool for Sadie Thomas Park, and updating equipment at the Bryan Municipal Golf Course are all ways in which the Council may consider as possible improvements to the quality of life for the residents of Bryan. Your involvement in these projects is essential to their success. Without your knowledge and commitment they would not be possible!

As summer approaches, keep in mind the many programs and events that take place in the City of Bryan, such as Camp H.E.R.O., the Family Camp Out, youth and adult sports, Cemetery Clean-Up Day, and the Games of Texas, just to name a few. Downtown Bryan

continues to draw people to our community to enjoy events, shopping, restaurants, and entertainment options. These are great activities to spend time with your friends and family while enjoying everything Bryan has to offer.

Finally, I want to remind all of you about a new benefit being offered by the City to our employees. The Risk Management Department held several informational sessions throughout the month of February to discuss additional voluntary insurance programs. I am happy to say that, because of a large interest, Long-Term Care Insurance is now available. Your health and well-being are important, and we will continue to look for cost-effective ways to ensure you have a secure future.

Again, thank you for your continued efforts as a valuable employee with the City of Bryan. Each and every one of you plays a vital role in moving the City forward. Your contributions and efforts do not go unnoticed.



## Upcoming Events:

**Downtown Street & Art Fair**  
Sat., April 18 | 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Culinary Class: The Peony**  
Mon. & Tues., April 20 - 21  
Rudder Cafe | 6 - 8 p.m.  
Register at [parks.bryantx.gov](http://parks.bryantx.gov)

**Family Camp Out**  
Sat. - Sun., April 25 - 26  
Austin's Colony Park | 3 p.m. - 9 a.m.  
Register at [parks.bryantx.gov](http://parks.bryantx.gov)

**Employee Picnic**  
Fri., May 8 | 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Sue Haswell Park

**Cemetery Clean-Up Day**  
Sat., May 9 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Bryan City Cemetery

**Pawpaloosa**  
Sat., May 30 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Dog Park at Morris Buzz Hamilton Park

# Bryan in the News

## Blinn College Expands to Rapidly Growing West Bryan

Blinn College is expanding in the rapidly growing area of the west side of Bryan with the purchase of 94 acres of land. The location has convenient access to several major roadways: FM 2818, Villa Maria, State Highway 47, Leonard Road, State Highway 21 and Raymond Stotzer Parkway, and is near the biocorridor, Health Science Center campus and Texas A&M University Campus.

“The location of the new campus on the west side of Bryan is an excellent location for the new campus,” said Bryan Mayor Jason Bienski. “The City of Bryan has been proud to be home to the Blinn College in Brazos County since 1970, and we are proud of our 1997 partnership that facilitated the construction of the current Blinn campus at the corner of Villa Maria and East 29th in Bryan.”

Blinn’s success and economic impact on the community are unparalleled in terms of community colleges across the country. And, Blinn is a tremendous resource locally for providing a trained and educated workforce. The City anticipates increased retail and residential development and activity on the west side with the advent of this new campus.

“I would like to acknowledge the foresight of former City Councils who had the vision to invest in the west side of Bryan, an investment that has paid off with unprecedented growth through the biocorridor, Health Science Center, Traditions, the Atlas master-planned development, numerous other residential developments, the new Walmart shopping center, improved and expanded infrastructure, and now the new Blinn College campus – the future home of 10,000 to 15,000 students who will not only learn in Bryan, but will shop, live, and otherwise invest in the local economy,” Bienski said.

## Building Boom of Restaurants, Retail, Residential Rooftops in Bryan

*From KBTX:* A business boom is happening in Bryan. Commercial construction doubled over the past year. News 3 takes a look at the numbers and how commercial construction is on an upswing.

“Residential and commercial has just been flourishing. Our numbers are way up in ’13 just for residential homes. I think we did 180 homes in 14 we did 233 homes,” said Cody Cravatt, who is Bryan’s Development Manager.

“I mean the Axis Pipe and Tube came in that brought a lot of jobs this direction you know and that tends to lead right in to the residential,” he said.

Cravatt says there are plans for five new hotels including a Super 8. “It’s just a happy time to be in Bryan,” he said.

Last year the City of Bryan had nearly \$135 million worth of building projects.

The City of Bryan will coordinate with Blinn and other property owners to develop a Master Plan for the immediately surrounding area to ensure development that is compatible and conducive to an educational facility. There are very few single-family homes that are in close proximity to this property.

The City will expedite the permitting process and work with Blinn to ensure that infrastructure availability is adequate to the first phase of the project.

“Bryan is proud to be home now to not one, but two Blinn College campuses, and we are proud of our partnership with Blinn College,” Bienski said. “After all, Blinn is Better in Bryan!”



*Blinn Board of Trustees: Mr. Douglas Borchardt, Mrs. Teddy Boehm, Mr. Richard Powell, Mr. Leon Toubin, Mr. David Sommer, Mrs. Carolyn D. Miller and Mrs. Sylvia McMullen President of Brazos County Campuses*

## Plans for New Health and Wellness Area in Bryan Revealed

*From KBTX:* Officials with St. Joseph Regional Health Center and the City of Bryan have been talking about ways to breathe new life into the area near the hospital and Blinn College.

Looney Ricks Kiss, an architecture and planning firm based in Memphis, has led the planning team working with the city, St. Joseph, task force members and community stakeholders to develop the Health and Wellness Area Plan.

The plan will focus on creating opportunities to design a health and wellness district with community design concepts which promote healthy, active lifestyles in order to create an innovative Health and Wellness Area Plan whose character resonates with and supports world-class employers and employees in our area.

# Bryan in the News

## Animal Center Receives High Marks from Department of State Health Services

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) arrived unannounced to the Bryan Animal Center to conduct the annual State inspection. The Bryan Animal Center received high marks given by the agency. The DSHS rates facilities as Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory or Probation, with Bryan Animal Center receiving the Satisfactory rating.

In comments from the inspector, it was noted that the “shelter staff are dedicated and passionate about maintaining the facility and caring for the animals.” The comments wrapped up by saying that the “Bryan Animal Shelter [sic] is an asset to the community and a model facility in region 7. Great Job!”

This isn’t the first year that the Center has received high marks. The City of Bryan took over operations in September 2011, since then, each State and annual vet inspection has led to high ratings.

“We keep the building in good order, physically. We are diligent with upkeep and repairs, we thoroughly clean and disinfect daily,” Julianne Burkhalter, Animal Center Supervisor said. “We have strict procedures to ensure that it stays clean.” The Bryan Animal Center staff has a thorough cleaning process, the building is well maintained, and is sanitary. All animals are fed and watered and housed in accordance with regulations and chemicals are stored properly.

“I’m very proud of my staff, and extremely proud of the comments they received” Burkhalter said. “The inspectors have been complimentary to the staff saying that we are welcoming, pleasant and always happy to show them around. We were also told we are an example facility and they show pictures of our facility to others in the state for training.”

“The animal center takes in about 3,000 animals per year, which means our staff care for 150-180 animals daily,” Hugh Walker, Deputy City Manager said. “They are dedicated not only to helping to find the animals forever homes, but to ensuring they run the best animal center around. We are extremely proud of all the work Julianne and the Bryan Animal Center staff does daily.”

Recently, the City of Bryan released a special report on the Animal Center to showcase the work that goes into the center to get animals reunited with their families or adopted by new ones.

## National Employee Appreciation Day

*From KAGS:* When you work hard, it’s nice to be appreciated. Today is a day just for that. It’s national Employee Appreciation Day and one local animal shelter’s staff’s deserves to be rewarded. The Bryan animal shelter and its employees received high remarks from a state inspection.

It’s not all about the furry faces and glamour.

“It’s dealing with all the dirty pooppy stuff,” says Mika Smith, the lead animal control officer at the Bryan Animal Shelter.

And the heartbreak.

“Every animal that comes in we want them to get good homes so when we do have a dog or cat come in and they are here longer than anything else, those are the ones we try to spend a little more time with,” says Smith.



Mika Smith has worked at the animal shelter

for eight years and says she wouldn’t trade it for anything.

“It’s very rewarding when we get them out to a permanent home or a rescue,” says Smith.

When the inspector comes here unannounced, he looks at everything- the animals, the facility, and especially the staff.

“Each individual that comes out that works here at the City of Bryan or even volunteers. They really have a passion for the animals and that was really shown with the marks that we got to the state health department,” says Eric Zaragoza, the environmental services manager in Bryan.

The health department stated that the staff at the Bryan Animal Shelter are dedicated and passionate about maintaining the facility and caring for the animals.

“They like coming in because they like the animals and they also like coming in knowing that they are changing someone’s life for the better. Employees and our volunteers work very hard without the employees and without the volunteers we wouldn’t be able to go what we do every day,” says Smith.



# Bryan in the News

## Bryan Municipal Court Shines "In The Spotlight"

*Bryan Municipal Court is the first court to grace the Texas Municipal Court Association's "In the Spotlight" feature. The new feature on the TMCA website will highlight a different municipal court each month.*



The Bryan Municipal Court is responsible for adjudication of all Class C misdemeanors which is inclusive of Traffic, Penal, Education, Alcohol and Beverage Codes as well as City Ordinances. The Court processes an average of about 20,000 cases a year and issues an average of about 5,500 warrants.

The City of Bryan has been at the court technology forefront with installing. Credit Card payments have been accepted at the counters since 1989, and online credit card payments since 1998. Video arraignment was installed in 1997, making the Bryan Municipal Court the first court in Brazos County to have this technology. In July of 2008, the municipal court moved into a new facility that increased protection and improved accessibility by means of all employees having proximity cards for entry to the building.

The court building has holding cells for the City Marshals to use if necessary. Recently, docket posting monitors, a payment kiosk and a security screening system have been installed to increase the quality of service and ensure the safety of everyone that enters the court.

In 2012, the Bryan Municipal Court became a court of record. The court staff consists of four Attorney Judges, one Court Administrator, one Deputy Court Administrator, four City Marshals, a Warrant Technician, Juvenile Case Manager, Community Service Coordinator, and seven clerks. Of the staff members, eight are Level II and two are Level I certified court clerks.

The Bryan Municipal court is a three-time awardee of the Traffic Safety Initiative Award, hosted by the Texas Municipal Court Education Center. The dedicated staff members are proud to increase their roles each year in making the Bryan community a safer place in which to live and travel.

## Bryan Launches 'The Cost of DWI: The Flipside' to Warn Against Drinking and Driving this Spring Break

In an effort to raise awareness about the hazards of drinking and driving, especially during Spring Break, the City of Bryan has launched the second installment of its drinking and driving campaign. "The Cost of DWI: The Flipside" tells stories from individuals who were arrested for DWI and the ripple effects afterward.

Part One of this special report was released last year and focused on the victims of DWI accidents.

The City wants to educate local residents about the consequences and tragedies that can result from drinking and driving, and prevent these types of accidents from occurring.

"We want to remind people that driving while intoxicated on Texas roads will not be tolerated," said Kelley McKethan, Bryan Police Public Information Officer. "We want everyone to be able to enjoy a safe Spring Break. If you choose to drink, then do not drive. Find another way home, or your local police will find you a ride to jail."

To view "The Cost of DWI" please visit: [www.bryantx.gov/dwi/](http://www.bryantx.gov/dwi/).

## Downtown Street and Art Fair and MonuMetal Auction

*From DowntownBryan.com:* The 6th Annual Downtown Art and Street Fair is Saturday, April 18th, from 10am-6pm in the 200 block of W. 26th Street in historic downtown Bryan, Texas.

The event features artists and artisans as well as live music and street performers. An arts demonstration and hands on art activity area for all ages will also be part of the festivities. We will also be auctioning off the sculptures created by our MonuMetal teams. The sculptures will be on display around Downtown beginning Saturday, April 11, 2015.

Over the last several years, downtown Bryan has actively fostered the arts. This fair continues to build on that- inviting area arts lovers to attend as well as actively marketing the event to Texas A&M students and their parents. This is a recognized event of Texas A&M Parent's Weekend.

Admission is free.

# Bryan in the News

## Bryan Fire Department, Fire Chief Honored with Top State Awards

The City of Bryan Fire Department and Fire Chief Randy McGregor were honored with two awards on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.

The Texas Fire Chiefs Association’s annual awards program recognizes members of the fire service for improving the lives and fire safety of Texas citizens. Awards are given for service, innovation, and heroism.



The Bryan Fire Department was honored with the Safety Impact Award, which honors departments for implementing an innovative and progressive program that enhances their community’s fire and life safety service delivery.

“We are honored to have Chief McGregor and Bryan Fire Department recognized for these efforts,” said Terry Barnett, Assistant Chief of Operations. “As a department, we have made

changes operationally to help improve our overall operations and safety on the fire ground since the tragic Knights of Columbus Hall fire. These efforts have been acknowledged by the State Fire Marshal’s office as well as other Fire Chiefs throughout the state of Texas.”

Chief McGregor was unanimously selected to be the recipient of the 2014 Fire Chief of the Year Award. The Fire Chief of the Year Award is TFCA’s highest honor for service. This award recognizes fire chiefs who are dedicated to life safety issues and to the Texas Fire Service; and have completed significant achievements or accomplishments during the previous year for their department through their leadership and vision.

“Chief McGregor is an incredible asset to the City of Bryan,” Kean Register, Bryan City Manager said. “We’ve always known what an outstanding fire chief he is, and now it’s nice to know that others recognize this as well. We are very honored that both he and our fire department have been acknowledged by this outstanding organization.”

## Texas Reds Steak and Grape Festival... Brings Back the Steaks

From KBTX - Organizers with the Downtown Bryan Association say this year’s Texas Reds Steak and Grape Festival will actually include...steaks.

After being removed from last year’s menu, the DBA decided to bring back steak dinners after reviewing visitor feedback.

Less than 10,000 people attended the free, two-day festival and organizers hope to surpass that number this year.

Texas Reds had an economic impact of more than \$800,000 with visitors coming from 84 Texas counties and 14 other states to take in all the entertainment, food and fun.

DBA organizers say some of the changes include reducing the number of music stages from five to four to allow visitors time to watch the acts perform. The festival will start on Sunday at noon instead of 10 am, and the number of wineries will be limited.

DBA executive director Sandy Farris says, “Texas Reds is continuing to create a positive feeling for Bryan-College Station. What we hope for is to spill over into other parts of town. They come and see something they like here, they will come back another time of the year and that’s our goal.”

Also, something new this year, the DBA will award two \$500 scholarships to two Bryan ISD students in May.

Texas Reds Steak & Grape Festival is Sept. 26-27, 2015.

Come and enjoy the day with your furry friends while visiting with the community pet experts. Bryan Animal Center will be at the park with lots of little and big dogs looking for a forever home. So, whether you’re still looking for a fuzzy friend, or want to add to your family, don’t miss this opportunity to check out the park and the center’s adorable adoptable pets!

Saturday, May 30 – 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Dog Park at Morris Buzz Hamilton Park

# Employee Service Awards

## 5 years

Daniel Amaya - Police  
Lance Anderson - Fleet Services  
Sergio Aguilar - Wastewater Collection  
Bryan Hovey - Police  
Rod Hovey - Police  
Jonathan Koury - Legal  
Peggy Noynaert - Library  
Benjamin Rush - Engineering

## 10 Years

Michael Castilla - Water Production  
Jean Guzman - Police  
Hannah Jackson - Human Resources  
Re'Dawna Jackson - Library  
Robert Jackson - Parks and Recreation  
Melva Shae Johnson - Police  
Derrick McKethan - Police  
Glen Masters - Fleet Services  
Anne Preston - Library  
Bryan Ruebrush - Police  
Robert Shultz - Internal Auditor  
Lucio Sierra - Water Production

## 15 Years

Chad Hanks - Police  
Lou Vonne Johnson - Library  
David Nichols - Wastewater Collection  
Gary Plagens - Fire  
James Rosier - Fire  
Steven Spillers - Police  
Craig Tepera - Development Services

## 20 Years

Blake Barrentine - Fire  
Shane Bush - Police  
David Chavez - Streets & Drainage  
Peggy Haisler - Police  
Kenneth Jeske - Solid Waste  
Louise Langdon - Police  
Pedro Rocha - Traffic Operations  
Hugh Walker - Deputy City Manager

## 25 Years

Billy Chambers - Solid Waste  
Charlie Hall - Water Distribution  
Angel Martinez - Police

## 30 Years

John McNair - Police

## 35 Years

Mark Jones - Fire  
Marilyn Newton - Municipal Court





# Inside City of Bryan

## 1. New Special Training Event

The City of Bryan has been offered a unique opportunity to participate in a City Organization Workshop which will focus on organizations and their interactions within, including insightful perspectives on the various roles of Employees, Managers, Executives, Citizens, Vendors, & City Council.



**THE CITY ORGANIZATION WORKSHOP**  
 April 16th  
 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The **purpose** of The City Organization Workshop is for participants to share an intense interactive activity around *organization dynamics*, including local government. The workshop creates a powerful experience that encourages everyone to examine:

- The impact of their role at whatever level or position they occupy;
- The issues and dilemmas people at all levels of the organization face, particularly during turbulent times;
- Options and opportunities for addressing their challenges;
- Actionable strategies for interacting more effectively with people at all levels, including internal and external customers;
- How organizations, despite our best intentions, become dysfunctional; and
- The total benefits of integration with peers and the pathway to make it happen.

## 2. New COB Employee Internet Access



Our external website located @ [www.bryantx.gov](http://www.bryantx.gov) now has an exclusive webpage available to City of Bryan Employees only. The link is located at the bottom

left corner under "INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYEES". In order to open the protected webpage, please enter the following password when prompted: **bravobryan**

Various documents are available for download and review, such as the Employee Newsletter, FMLA forms, Holiday & Payroll Schedules, Policy & Procedures Manual, and Training & Talent Development Classes. It is our intent to ensure that all City employees have easy access to critical documents and communication announcements, including those individuals which may not have regular access to the network. Please note: This does not replace the City's intranet, MyCOB; it simply allows employees to access certain items frequently requested away from the workplace.

## 3. Location Change on June 4th: Customer Service Series



Please note that the location has been changed for those Customer Service Series classes on June 4th. Please allow extra time for travel as the sessions will now be held at Carter Creek Center, 3991 East 29th Street, in the Center for Regional Services building (aka Workforce Solutions and/or Brazos Valley Council of Government).



Since parking is limited, please carpool and do not arrive more than 5-10 minutes early. Otherwise, participants from previous sessions will not have adequate time to leave and there will be no available spaces.

## 4. Upcoming 2015 Onsite Classes: (Register via HR Training & Talent Development Webpage)

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| <p><b>April 2<sup>nd</sup></b> <i>Required "Harassment" Topic every 2 Years</i></p> <p><b>Workplace Harassment I: Don't Go There! - "1 Hour Class"</b><br/>                 3:30-4:30<br/>                 Employment Laws &amp; Policies<br/>                 Human Resources</p> <p><b>April 16<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>The City Organization Workshop</b><br/>                 8:30-12:30<br/>                 Relational &amp; Job Specific Development<br/>                 Tracie Chapman, Power + Systems Inc.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>APRIL</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>                                                                          | S  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F | S |  |   |   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| <p><b>May 7<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Required "Harassment" Topic every 2 Years</i></p> <p><b>Workplace Violence &amp; Bullying - Assess, Develop, &amp; Implement a Program</b><br/>                 8:15-10:15 – Employee Session<br/>                 8:15-12:15 – Manager Session<br/>                 Employment Laws &amp; Policies<br/>                 Kim Fox-Marchetti</p> <p><b>May 21<sup>st</sup></b> <i>Required "Ethics" Topic every 2 Years</i></p> <p><b>Professional Ethics I</b><br/>                 8:15-10:15<br/>                 Employment Laws &amp; Policies<br/>                 SGR</p> <p><b>On Your Mark, Get Set, Motivate! I - Managers Only</b><br/>                 10:30-12:30<br/>                 Leadership Development<br/>                 SGR</p> | <p><b>MAY</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> | S  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F | S |  |   |   |   |   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 31                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <p><b>June 4<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Required</i></p> <p><b>Customer Service Series</b></p> <p>Module 1: 8:00-10:00      Module 1: 1:00-3:00<br/>                 Module 2: 10:15-12:15      Module 2: 3:15-5:15<br/>                 Job Specific Development<br/>                 Kevin Tutt, Tutt &amp; Daggas</p> <p><b>June 18<sup>th</sup></b> <i>Required "COB Policies" Topic every 2 Years</i></p> <p><b>COB Policies &amp; Procedures: Performance, Compensation, Grievances - "1 Hour Class"</b><br/>                 3:30-4:30<br/>                 Employment Laws &amp; Policies<br/>                 Human Resources</p>                                                                                                                                                   | <p><b>JUNE</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>                                                                           | S  | M  | T  | W  | Th | F | S |  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| S                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | M                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | T  | W  | Th | F  | S  |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 14                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| 28                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 29                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 30 |    |    |    |    |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |  |  |  |  |  |  |



**Cemetery Clean-Up Day**  
 May 9, 2015  
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Bryan City Cemetery

Contact Bob Holmes for more information:  
[rholmes@bryantx.gov](mailto:rholmes@bryantx.gov)  
 979-209-5230

# Inside City of Bryan

**Mark Bower**, a Maintenance Crew Leader with Water Services was working near a home when he was approached by the elderly homeowner, Ms. Earthie Seyfus. Mark took notice that Ms. Seyfus was extremely cold. Apparently, Ms. Seyfus lives alone and has no heat in her home. Ms. Seyfus relied on several layers of clothes to keep herself warm.

Mark contacted **Melissa Gill** with the Public Works Call Center to see if there was anything she could do to find assistance for Ms. Seyfus. Melissa contacted 211 and COB's **Art Roach**, with Community Development, to find help for Ms. Seyfus. In the process, they were able to find organizations to donate space heaters and electric blankets to her. They will also see if she qualifies for other programs such as heating assistance and Meals On Wheels.

Ms. Seyfus contacted Melissa. She was in tears and so grateful for the help she received. She stressed that she is elderly and alone and has no idea how to find the assistance she needs. Mark and Melissa got the ball rolling to help her have a better quality of life.

This is definitely an example of going above and beyond. Thank you, Mark, Melissa & Art!

**Marty Mulgrew** completed the requirements and is now certified as an American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Trainer. This certification will allow him to teach and train Lifeguard Instructor candidates. This is very exciting for Marty as it will continue his career growth in the Aquatics field as well as a Parks and Recreation professional.

**Will Smith** has been promoted to the position of Assistant Finance Director at City of Bryan. As Assistant Finance Director, Will will take on the additional responsibility of the COB budget function.

**Beth Matous** has been promoted to the position of Accounting Supervisor. All COB accounting personnel will report to Beth. She also passed the last two CGFO (Certified Government Finance Officer) exams while attending the Government Finance Officers Association of Texas Spring Conference in San Marcos.

**Cindy Oser**, Youth Services Librarian, will be presenting a contributed paper at the Texas Library Association Conference in April. Her topic, Teen Ambassadors @ the Library, will provide valuable information on starting and sustaining a teen volunteer program for public librarians.

The Bryan College Station Public Library System welcomes **Elaine Platt** as our newest librarian. Elaine will start in mid-April and will be assigned to the Mounce Library. She has many years of teaching and library experience with BISD. She comes to us from the Star of the Republic Museum in Washington, TX. Elaine will be working with children and teens.

BTU held a Chili Cook-off in February. The event was a success with 14 entries and the coordination efforts of Ariel Pena and Megan Carlson of Administration. Thank you to everyone who participated this year!

## NEW HIRES

### BTU

Donna Boyd –*Fiscal Services*  
 Megan Carlson –*Administration*  
 Jessica Garcia –*Customer Operations*  
 Colton Honeycutt – *Production*  
 Kody Manry –*Distribution*  
 Nadine Miller –*Customer Operations*  
 Matthew Goodson –*Energy Management*  
 Ethan Olden –*Production*  
 Luis Padin Jr. –*Customer Operations*  
 Tyler Petersen –*Production*  
 Kevin Robinson –*Production*  
 Ian Soares –*I.T. Systems*

### City Secretary

Priscilla Rios

### Engineering

Johnnie Price

### Executive Services

Landon Johnson

### Development Services

Elizabeth Titus

### Facility Services

Jerry Hejl

### Fire Services

Tyler Vitek

### Library

Maritza Hernandez – *Bryan*

### Parks and Recreation

Leah Stewart

### Police

Brian Bailey  
 Daniel Broeckelmann  
 Christina Luttrell  
 Kendelle Porter  
 Amanda Vela

### Pretreatment Plant

Wesley Jackson

### Solid Waste

Ann Bush  
 Angela Guilbeau  
 Jason Hall  
 Vidimara Valdez

### Water Distribution

Omar Jimenez



Best Overall:  
**Ray Berger** (pictured left)  
 “Can’t Be Beat Unless You Cheat”

Best Color:  
**The Warehouse**  
 “3 Amigos Chili”

Best Smell:  
**Carol Carey**  
 “Red, White, & Green”

Best Texture:  
**Randy Trimble**  
 “I Dunno Chili”

People’s Choice:  
**Jenna Graham**  
 “Chili Chili Bang Bang”



# Inside City of Bryan

## COB Budget Analyst Publishes First Novel

**Kelle Green-Soltis** has been with the City of Bryan Finance Department for 12 years. A few years ago, she began her lifelong dream of writing a novel.

“I’ve been wanting to write a novel for forever. I’ve had the characters developed since I was little.”

Kelle began writing in school, and she was editor of the Bryan High newspaper. She attended Texas A&M University and majored in Accounting with a minor in Journalism. She also wrote for *The Battalion* while in college.

But it wasn’t until she helped her father evacuate for Hurricane Ike that the story for her book came to life. “They say write about something you know, and after that the story fell into place.”

It took Kelle three years to finish the novel, *Visions*, which is a Romance novel with a mix of suspense as the two main characters flee to College Station from Galveston during the onset of Ike.

“It was harder than I thought. I didn’t know how difficult it would be. My family was very supportive of me throughout this process and once I finished, my daughter helped me edit.”

She almost didn’t send her book to be published but Larry Koeninger introduced her to VirtualBookworm.

*Visions* sold out on Amazon.com in the first few days after it’s release. It is also available for purchase from virtualbookworm.com and barnesandnoble.com in softcover or hardcover.

“I want this book to be in the libraries, so it will be read.”

Kelle does hope to have a book signing at the BCS Libraries.

*Do you have a question, comment, interesting fact, employee accomplishment or other story to tell?*

*Send it to [comm@bryantx.gov](mailto:comm@bryantx.gov)*



### About *Visions*

Romance and suspense collide amidst an oncoming storm in *Visions*, the new novel by Kelle Green-Soltis, which carries hopeless romantics away into the beauty and pain of love.

Set during the onset of Hurricane Ike in 2008, “certain death” is predicted for anyone who does not heed the warning to leave Galveston, Texas. Samantha Somers is fighting the emotional demons of losing her mother and now must endure the mighty hurricane. Bobby Austin is all Texas Ranger: tough, disciplined, and strong. But in the midst of running from the storm, he realizes he must confront demons of his own.

Bobby and Sam’s journey is a whirlwind of emotions, full of highs and lows. *Visions* is a must-read for romance enthusiasts who enjoy drama, suspense, humor, love and – most of all – an immense, draw-you-in, feel-good, rollercoaster ride.

*From VirtualBookworm.com press release*