



Bryan Texas Utilities
205 East 28th Street
Bryan, TX 77803

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 7 am - 6 pm
www.btutilities.com

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GENERAL MANAGER

Dan Wilkerson

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- L. Gene Kornegay, Vice Chairman
- Emanuel Glockzin, Jr., Secretary
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- Ken Lindberg
- Richard Parker
- Scott Smith
- Randy Trimble

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- Billing/Collections/Connects
(979) 821-5700
- Electrical Outage/Lines Down
(979) 822-3777
- Distribution/Line Design
(979) 821-5770
- Power Track Cards/Service
(979) 821-5700

REMOTE UTILITY BILL PAY

AVAILABLE AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU

Bryan Locations

HEB (2 locations)	Bryan Money Service
East Villa Maria Rd.	415 Dunn St.
Old Hearne Rd.	

College Station Locations

HEB
Texas Ave. South

To better serve you, please do not forget to take your utility bill.

Holiday Office Closing

In observance of the holidays,
Bryan Texas Utilities will be closed
December 24 to 25, 2008
and
January 1, 2009



Bikers and Volunteers Enjoyed the Fun at BTU's 16th Annual Power Pedal Trail Ride

Story and photos by Louellen S. Coker.

In keeping with more than 2,000 other electric utilities across the country, Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) finished off Public Power Week with a bang, or more accurately, with a pedal. BTU hosted its 16th Annual Power Pedal Races on Saturday and Sunday, October 11 and 12, 2008 at beautiful Lake Bryan. Over 450 cyclists, as well as countless men, women, boys and girls from across the state and region came to participate in the weekend's events. Proceeds from the event benefited Bryan charity, Scotty's House.

"Lake Bryan is the perfect venue for this stop on the 2008 Texas Fall Cup Mountain Bike Series," stated BTU Key Accounts Manager and Power Pedal Road Race Coordinator Allen Wood. "Many of the contestants ride over 400 miles a week to be competitive in their age category. It's exciting to have such an important race in an area where family and friends can support the

racers and enjoy activities for everyone throughout the day."

For the non-racers, BTU offered events for the entire family. In addition to Collegiate races on Saturday, riders enjoyed the event's first ever night race during which riders set off onto the trails just after sunset with nothing more than headlamps to light their ways. On Saturday afternoon, 50 children under age 13 participated in the Shimano Kid's Kup race.

"The Shimano Kid's Kup is a free event that develops a love of cycling and being active in young children," commented Mr. Wood. "We had 50 young cyclists complete a bicycle safety course before they competed in their age-based race."

"We take a great deal of pleasure in sponsoring, planning and staffing the

Power Pedal Celebration each year," said BTU General Manager Dan Wilkerson, "because it offers us the opportunity to share information about our utility, its services and how we are working to enhance the lives of our customers as well as encourage a healthy lifestyle for our community."

A complete list of the 2008 race results is available on the Texas Mountain Bike Racing Association's website, www.tmbra.org. Photos are available at www.BTUutilities.com



Congratulations BTU Power Pedal Trail Ride Winners



Scotty's House...

Where the Healing Begins



Story by Louellen S. Coker and Kara N. Park. Photos courtesy of Scotty's House.

What is a child's safety worth? All parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends and relatives think the answer is, "invaluable." Yet, every 10 seconds a child is reported abused or neglected and this is only the tip of the iceberg since most cases go unreported because people believe they have nowhere to turn.

Since 1995, Scotty's House has been a safe haven for all victims of abuse and their families to find a place of comfort and hope. The organization was named after Scotty Linerode, son of pediatrician Kathleen Burford. In 1982, seven months after being abducted from his daycare center, Scotty was shot to death by his father, Dr. Phillip Linerode, as an FBI agent closed in to recover the child, and Linerode turned the gun on himself.

Although a tragedy, this event

became the inspiration that led to forming of an organization that has provided hope and a much needed service to the Brazos Valley community.

Since its inception, Scotty's House has reached out to over 3,000 children. In 2007, Scotty's House served more than 400 children in a structure featuring only one observation room as well as an interview room which left families waiting in the lobby or at a nearby restaurant. In November of this year, Scotty's House celebrated breaking ground for their new \$1.4 million, 7,000 square-foot facility which will be located at Kent Street and Villa Maria Road. The new edifice will allow the staff to double their capacity for cases. In addition, a new wing will be dedicated solely to therapy, allowing

families the convenience of obtaining services at one location.

"We are all very excited to get started on the new building," explained Executive Director, Linda Patton. "Our goal was to raise \$1.4 million and we accomplished this in just a year and a half thanks to our caring community. We offered everyone a square foot for \$150, resulting in many individuals, school-room classes and organizations getting together to purchase a piece of Scotty's House."

This United Way agency, which is a member of Child Advocacy Centers of Texas, Inc. and the National Alliance for Children, has created a system that offers children a safe setting where they can tell their story just one time. The children speak with a highly trained forensic interviewer while a law enforcement officer, Child Protective Services caseworker, prosecutor and crime victim coordinator watch by closed circuit television. This way, each agency representative is able to get all necessary questions answered without

A medical room in Scotty's House where children are brought in for initial exams. The new facility will feature more medical rooms with state-of-the-art equipment.



"The new facility will offer an even larger medical room with the finest equipment."



The well-being of the child is considered from the very beginning. Children need to tell their story only once because law enforcement and Child Protective Services officials can watch and listen to a child's interview in real time via closed-circuit television.

the need of a second interview.

After the interview is complete, children are able, when warranted, to have a medical exam in the next room. Scotty's House is one of 63 child advocacy centers in Texas only a few of these have an on-site medical clinic. The room is filled with up-to-date equipment, some of which is not even found in a hospital emergency room. The new facility will offer an even larger medical room with the finest equipment that allows the medical examiner to take photographs, collect evidence as well as test for sexually transmitted diseases and HIV. When children enter the examining room, they find a teddy bear and a handmade quilt just for them to comfort them through the exam as well as give them strength through the next steps.

While the children are going through the examination procedure, parents and other family members may receive counseling or crisis intervention. In addition to the new construction, Scotty's House has a new prevention program, *Darkness to Light-Stewards of Children*. This prevention program is available to all adults, 18 and over, and teaches

participants how to spot the signs of child abuse.

With the new facility on its way, Scotty's House is going to be able to have more volunteers, staff and programs. Non-offending family members can find support at Scotty's House as well through

- Information and referral to community resources
- Individual and family counseling
- Play therapy for younger children
- Follow-up medical treatment
- Support groups for children and caregivers
- The *Kids in Court* program designed to prepare children who will be called to testify in a court proceeding.

"The community has been just incredible and so supportive of Scotty's House. If we can all do something to break the cycle of child abuse, then everyone wins. This will be an awesome center for the area and the community as we continue to grow," affirmed Mrs. Patton.

"If anyone suspects a child is being abused or neglected, it is his or her responsibility to make a report to the Texas Child Abuse Hotline (800) 252-5400," she concluded.

"Believe me, every child's safety is worth it!"

The success of the agency depends on its volunteers and the support of the community. If you would like to become a volunteer or make a donation, please contact Scotty's House by calling (979) 775-4695, visiting the center at 502 South Coulter Street in Bryan or browsing to www.scottyshouse.org.

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Meet your Bryan City Council

Ann Horton, Single Member, District 4

Story by Louellen S. Coker and Kara N. Park. Photos courtesy of City of Bryan.

Ann Horton was first elected to the Bryan City Council in June 2007 to finish the unexpired term of Council Member Mark Conlee, who was elected Mayor. She never dreamed she would be so fortunate to be re-elected in 2008 and starting on a three-year term.

Born and raised in Bryan,

Councilmember Horton is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin High School and Texas A&M University (TAMU). In fact, she grew up in the district she now represents and is now representing the neighbors she has known all of her life. Councilmember Horton graduated from TAMU with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in Urban and Regional

Planning. After working 18 years as a research associate for the Texas Transportation Institute, Councilmember Horton decided she wanted to be part of the City

Council to have a role in ensuring that Bryan residents enjoy the *Good Life, Texas Style*.

"I am proud of the direction in which Bryan is headed. We are growing and progressing but we are also proud of our tradition and our heritage," explained Councilmember Horton. "As a representative of District 4, I recognize we are an older and larger district with lots of character, and our share of infrastructure needs. As a Council Member, I can have a voice in passing policies that will ensure that deficiencies will be corrected and needs will be met not

only in District 4 but in all districts."

After her first year on the Council, Councilmember Horton's biggest challenge is that she wants to please everyone but realizes she cannot make everybody happy. She is always

willing to talk with citizens about their ideas and concerns and be a listening ear for the local community.

"I want to see Bryan grow in a well-thought-out, planned manner, but at the same time be mindful of our older areas and constantly maintain and improve them," emphasized Councilmember Horton. "I want our residents to be proud because we offer a vibrant, safe, quality place to live and bring up a family."

Councilmember Horton dedicates herself not only to the community

"The most rewarding part is seeing the progress of the City and knowing that I have been a part of that progress and history."



through the City Council, but also as an owner in RLH Custom Homes. She and her husband, Robert, began a building and painting company over 30 years ago; but it was not until the last 10 years that she has gotten more involved and taken a hands-on approach. Together, the couple enjoys finding empty lots in an established development in the Bryan area and building a new house on the property.

“We find that when we build a new house or even re-do an older one, it has a very positive effect on the neighborhood. Other residents start fixing up their homes,” added Councilmember Horton. “We also sell and rent homes in the Bryan area.”

While attending her freshman year of college in Oklahoma, Councilmember Horton had dated Robert for only two weeks when he asked her to marry him. They recently celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary and still call one another their best friend. Their pride and joy is their daughter, Sara, who is also a graduate of TAMU with a Bachelor’s degree and Masters in English. Sara is currently working on her Ph.D. while teaching English 104 at TAMU.

On top of her busy work schedule, spending time at home and being involved in RLH Custom Homes, Councilmember Horton and her husband founded a non-profit organization, *Shelter the Homeless International Projects*. They are currently building an orphanage in San Salvador, El Salvador that will house 60 children. “We’ve been going there for four years and have fallen in love with the country and especially our ‘children,’” enthused Councilmember Horton. “We took a mission team of 17 down there this summer and we started building.”

In her spare time, Councilmember Horton usually enjoys reading or walking with her three-year-old Westie, Lilly. A long-time member of Central Baptist Church, she serves on the Project Unity Board, the Brazos County Advisory committee of Blinn College and Bryan-College Station Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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Councilmember Horton’s passion and dedication to volunteering and serving in her role on the City Council have led her to be a participant in improving the city she loves. “The most rewarding part is seeing the progress of the City and knowing that I have been a part of that progress and history. It is being able to help individuals in my district with their concerns. It is the new Justice Center,

the new fire station and handing out certificates to children at the Bryan Library during the summer reading program. It has been a blessing to be part of such a wonderful community,” exclaimed Councilmember Horton.

If you have questions for Councilmember Horton, you can reach her by contacting the City of Bryan at (979) 492-9817 or emailing her at ahorton@bryantx.gov.

BRYAN'S SANDRA METOYER NAMED RUNNER-UP IN RECIPE CONTEST

Story by Louellen S. Coker and Kara N. Park. Photo by Brittany Bailey.

Bryan's own Sandra Metoyer was named runner-up in the Texas Co-op Power Holiday Recipe Contest, sponsored by Pioneer Brand. Her creative and delectable Texas Cowboy Pie was a new creation for her and her family that even has a "taste of home" added in.

Mrs. Metoyer and her family—husband, Shawn and their 12-year-old daughter, Kira—spend their leisure time in the kitchen or out by the grill creating new and fun recipes. For the Metoyer family, cooking has become more than just putting dinner on the table; it is a way for the whole family to spend time together and have some fun while preparing the evening's fare.

"We started to develop a recipe and ended up going through three or four changes after we found something we all liked," explained Mrs. Metoyer. "We began with the essentials and kept switching it up from the basic mix to cornbread to changing the type of meat we were using. And then we just found the perfect combination."

Mrs. Metoyer's Texas Cowboy Pie is unique in that it is made from beef and contains a few home-style Texas ingredients. This dish is a great combination of flavors and textures,

"Kira and I were trying to think of how we could make it better and more enjoyable when she got the idea to make it more Texan."

with its crunchy cornbread topping and spicy filling. Plus, she added some extras to make it a little healthier and even tastier.

The one requirement of all entries is to use a Pioneer Brand product and Mrs. Metoyer tried out several different types of mixes.

"Kira and I were trying to think of how we could make it better and more enjoyable when she got the idea to make it more Texan," stated Mrs. Metoyer. "We actually ended up taking out the typical pot pie vegetables and added in black beans and corn with a cornbread crust made from the Pioneer Cornbread Mix."

"This was my first time to enter this type of contest. We saw the article in *Texas Co-op Power* and decided it would be fun to do since we are always coming up with new creations," added Mrs. Metoyer. "We don't always write the recipes down but we are always

putting our own twist on everything we cook."

When not experimenting with recipes, Mrs. Metoyer enjoys spending time with her family and relaxing at home or running around town with her daughter. The Metoyer family moved to Bryan 10 years ago from Arlington and has always called Texas home. Mrs. Metoyer is currently working on her Ph.D. in Geography from Texas A&M University.

Mrs. Metoyer received a \$500 check from *Texas Co-op Power* and Pioneer Brand and plans to enter the contest again. Until she and her family come up with the next delectable creation, she hopes their Cowboy Pot Pie will become a favorite at your dinner table and a recipe you'll want to share with your families and friends. Ready to try Mrs. Metoyer's outstanding recipe? You'll find it and the other winning recipes on page 26.

BTU's General Manager, Dan Wilkerson, presents Mrs. Metoyer with her prize for her award-winning Cowboy Pot Pie.

