



# Chamber Chatter

December 29, 2008

Kyle Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau  
100 N. Front St. / PO Box 900

Kyle, TX 78640

[www.KyleChamber.org](http://www.KyleChamber.org)  
512-268-4220

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DECEMBER 2008

- 31** 12:00pm – Kyle Chamber Office Closes Early

### JANUARY 2009

- 1** 1:00pm – Polar Bear Splash – City of Kyle Pool – [Register Here!](#)

- 1** All Day – Kyle Chamber Office Closed

- 13** All Day – Free Small Business Counseling with the TxState SBDC – Kyle Chamber Office

- 13** 12:00pm – Kyle Chamber Ambassador's Committee Meeting – Depot

- 14** 6:30pm – City of Kyle Leadership Academy – Kyle City Hall

- 19** All Day – Kyle Chamber office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Day

- 23** 5:30pm – Kyle Chamber Awards Gala – Texas Disposal System Exotic Game Ranch



6:30pm – 10:30pm

*Texas Disposal Systems Exotic Game Ranch*

*Key Note Speaker: Keith Beitler, Sr. VP and COO of Landry Seafood Restaurants*

*Cocktail \* Dinner \* Awards Ceremony*

*Silent Auction \* Live Auction \* Dancing*

### **Roaring 20's Table - \$700.00**

Main Listing in Program and Full Page Ad  
DVD Insert to be played during cocktail hour and dance  
Seating for Eight  
Promotional Materials on All Tables  
Chilled Champagne and Eight "Roaring 20's" Etched Glasses

### **Jazzy Table- \$500.00**

Third Tier Listing in Program with a 1/3 page ad  
Seating for Eight

### **Individual Tickets- \$50.00**

### **Tickets at the Door- \$75.00**

### **Motion Pictures Table- \$600.00**

Second Tier Listing in Program with 1/2 page ad  
DVD Insert to be played during cocktail hour and dance  
Seating for Eight  
Chilled Champagne and Eight "Roaring 20's" Etched Glasses

### **Model-T Table-\$400.00**

Line Listing in Program  
Seating for Eight

### **Couple Ticket- \$90.00**

*Limited Seating Available. Contact the Kyle Chamber of Commerce to make your reservations.*



We are now accepting your nominations to recognize the outstanding leaders that contribute so much to the Community and Business Community alike. Please don't forget to submit your nomination so we can recognize you & your fellow members in the following categories:

**Small Business of the Year \* Large Business of the Year \* Business Person of the Year \*  
Ambassador of the Year \* Volunteer of the Year \* Organization of the Year**

Start thinking about who you'd like to nominate and remember, only one nomination per category, per member please! [Click Here](#) to submit your nominations!

## Splash in the New Year with the Polar Bear Club at Kyle Pool

The City of Kyle PARD invites all to attend the 5th annual Polar Bear Splash. Come Splash in the New Year at a Free Event with the Kyle Parks & Recreation Department at the Kyle Pool. As 2008 comes to a close we welcome the New Year with our Annual Polar Bear Splash. The City of Kyle's Polar Bear Splash has been a tradition in Kyle for 4 years and we gather New Year's Day at 1pm for a dip in the frigid waters of the Kyle Pool in mid-winter.

New to the event this year is a Crazy Costume Contest. Come out in your craziest garb or just forget about the weather and come out in your favorite Speedo, either way someone will think you are crazy. The contest will take place just prior to jumping into the pool and the winner will be given the new Crazy Polar Bear Trophy.

Polar Bear Club Registration is available at the PARD office and online at [www.kylepard.com](http://www.kylepard.com). Register by December 17<sup>th</sup> to secure your event shirt size. For only \$20 you will receive a long-sleeve event shirt, ½ off a 2009 Summer Season Pool Pass, a ticket for a chance to win a door prize and your name on the coveted Polar Bear Club Plaque. You do not have to jump into the pool to join the club and you do not have to join the club to jump into the pool.

### **December 31 is the last day to Reserve Your Spot in the Relocation Guide!**

Once a year, we open up the relocation packets and allow Kyle Chamber Members to participate in the packets that are distributed to people looking to relocate to Kyle & businesses in the area that are seeking information for their employees. With all the growth planned over the next few years, you cannot miss this opportunity to advertise to the new residents coming in!

If you sign up to participate, beginning in January of 2009 through the end of the year, your one-page flyer will be included in the relocation packets that we distribute. In each packet, there will also be a guide to Kyle with all members listed in the back. Cost to participate is only \$250.00 for one whole year! Space is limited, so reserve your spot today!

For more information or to reserve your spot, simply call the chamber or [email us](mailto:chamber@kylechamber.com).

### **IRS Offers Tips for Year-End Donations**

To help taxpayers plan their holiday-season and year-end giving, the IRS offers the following reminders:

- Contributions are deductible in the year made. Thus, donations charged to a credit card before the end of the year count for 2008. This is true even if the credit card bill isn't paid until next year. Also, checks count for 2008 as long as they are mailed this year.
- Check that the organization is qualified. Only donations to qualified organizations are tax-deductible. IRS Publication 78, available online and at many public libraries, lists most organizations that are qualified to receive deductible contributions. The searchable online version can be found at [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) under "Search for Charities." In addition, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and government agencies are eligible to receive deductible donations, even though they often are not listed in Publication 78.
- For individuals, only taxpayers who itemize their deductions on Form 1040 Schedule A can claim deductions for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available to people who choose the standard deduction, including anyone who files a short form (Form 1040A or 1040EZ). A taxpayer will have a tax savings only if the total itemized deductions (mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, etc.) exceeds the standard deduction. Use the 2008 Form 1040 Schedule A, available now on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov), to determine whether itemizing is better than claiming the standard deduction.
- For all donations of property, including clothing and household items, get from the charity, if possible, a receipt that includes the name of the charity, date of the contribution, and a reasonably-detailed description of the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation that includes this information, as well as the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation and the method used to determine that value. Additional rules apply for a contribution of \$250 or more.
- The deduction for a motor vehicle, boat or airplane donated to charity is usually limited to the gross proceeds from its sale. This rule applies if the claimed value of the vehicle is more than \$500. Form 1098-C, or a similar statement, must be provided to the donor by the organization and attached to the donor's tax return.
- If the amount of a taxpayer's deduction for all noncash contributions is over \$500, a properly-completed Form 8283 must be submitted with the tax return.

For additional information on charitable giving:

Visit [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) and click on "Charities & Non-Profits.": See IRS Publication 526: Charitable Contributions; Review the on-line mini-course, Can I Deduct My Charitable Contributions?

## United Way of Hays County & FamilyWize help you with DISCOUNTS on Prescription Drugs

This is a FREE program. ANYONE can use it. You don't have to apply, qualify or wait for a card to come in the mail. And it's valid for your whole family. The discounts and savings you receive are provided voluntarily by the more than 53,000 participating pharmacies that have agreed to accept this card. Please remember to thank them for their participation and the difference they are making for you, your family and your community when you fill your prescription. Just present this card and prescription to a participating pharmacy. You pay either the discounted price with the card or the pharmacy's retail price, whichever is lower. Use as often as needed and take advantage of:

- 35% average savings for the entire family
- Covers all prescription drugs
- For people with no insurance, or for medicine not covered by insurance, Medicaid or Medicare
- Accepted at most pharmacies nationwide
- No enrollment, activation or fees
- No age or income restrictions
- Photocopies accepted. May be photocopied for family, friends and co-workers



VISIT [WWW.FAMILYWIZE.ORG](http://WWW.FAMILYWIZE.ORG) FOR A LIST OF PHARMACIES, DRUG PRICES AND COMPLETE PROGRAM INFORMATION.  
FOR STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH COVERAGE INFORMATION, CALL 877-KIDS-NOW

### Plum Creek Would Like Your Pictures!

There is a public Plum Creek group on flickr where residents and anyone else with Plum Creek pictures are encouraged to post them for all to see.

This would be a great resource to push as everyone has a digital camera these days and it would be fun to see what life in Plum Creek looks like through the eyes of residents. That public group page is here - <http://www.flickr.com/groups/plumcreek/>. To view the Plum Creek flickr page, go to: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pfrench99/sets/72157600049560566/>

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Local Family Receives a Refurbished Chevrolet

San Marcos, TX, December 17, 2008 – Chuck Nash Auto Group, along with San Marcos & Kyle Head Start Programs, and community businesses, surprised a deserving Hays County family with a newly refurbished vehicle, along with many other gifts and incentives. Melanie Montoya of San Marcos was awarded a 2003 Chevrolet Malibu and chosen this year's Chuck Nash Auto Group "Driven to Help" Responsible Parent. The reception and ceremony took place at Chuck Nash Auto Group on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Special guests Mayor Susan Narvaiz and Blue Santa congratulated each family for their dedication to their children.

Community Action Head Start nominated seven parents who are committed to their children's education. Each parent completed an acceptance packet including a letter on why they deserve to be



this year's "Driven to Help" award recipient. All technicians who donated their time, talent and labor to refurbish the vehicle reviewed the letters and selected the recipient. All nominees' names and locations were kept confidential until a recipient has been chosen. This is the second year Chuck Nash and Head Start have partnered to give a vehicle to a deserving family.

Everything from the paper plates to the insurance was donated by local businesses. This program couldn't have been successful without the kind hearts of the Hays County community businesses. Their support and generosity was greatly appreciated. Donations made by The Beck

Group, Design Electronics & anonymous donors were able to provide each nominee gift cards for the holidays. Gifts for the children of all families were made possible by Blue Santa and Farm Bureau.



Thank you to all the Chuck Nash technicians for your hard work, devoted time & talent.

Richard Solalinde  
Pete Aprias  
Cedric Alexander  
Johnny Torres  
Jonathan McKey

Terry Tidwell  
Paul Viernes  
Mickey Auberry  
Steven DeLeon  
Steven Pena

Jerry Brown  
Richard Reynaga  
Jose Moreno  
Jaime Sanchez  
Tim Braune

Robert Hernandez  
Jeff Griffin  
Hector Vera