



Chamber Chatter

February 3, 2009

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

Kyle, TX 78640

www.KyleChamber.org
512-268-4220

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2009

5 6:00pm – Ambassador's BASH – Free Networking Event sponsored by the City of Kyle Economic Development Department – Train Depot

5 10:00am – Lowe's Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – 5753 Kyle Parkway

5, 6 & 7 7pm – Hays CISD presents *The Music Man* – PAC – Call 268-8443 for tickets

7 11:00am – Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kid's Sake – Sunset Bowling Lanes

10 12:00pm – Kyle Chamber Ambassador Committee Meeting – Depot

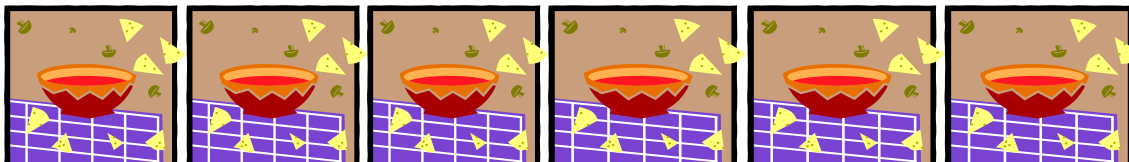
10 All Day – Free TxState Small Business Development Center Counseling – Kyle Chamber Office - CANCELLED

11 6:30pm – Kyle Leadership Academy – Now Accepting Participants – Kyle City Hall – Contact Jerry Hendrix 262-3921

14 7:00pm – St. Anthony's Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance Gala – St. Anthony's Church Hall

16 All Day – Kyle Chamber office closed in observance of President's Day

24 11:30am – Kyle Chamber Monthly Luncheon sponsored by Plum Creek Development Partners – Hays CISD Performing Arts Center – [RSVP Today!](#)



Na-cho Ordinary City! Ambassador's BASH

Thursday, February 5

6pm-9pm

Train Depot in Downtown Kyle

(100 N. Front St.)

You are invited to the first
Networking Mixer of 2009!

Bring plenty of business cards and enjoy free food, free drinks, door prizes and live Mariachi music!

Please join the Kyle Chamber Ambassadors and the City of Kyle Economic Development team and experience for yourself why Kyle is Na-Cho Ordinary City!

Sponsored by:



B.A.S.H. stands for Business Advancement Social Hour. Now booking BASH locations for 2009! For more information on sponsorship opportunities, including door prize donations, contact Rudy Barnes, Chair at 512-699-5566.



Now Opening in Kyle!
Lowe's of Kyle invites you to join them
Wednesday, February 5 at 10am
For a Board Cutting Ceremony

Come celebrate the Grand Opening of the newest location in Kyle, Texas. Enjoy refreshments and see the new store!

To RSVP for this event, contact Julio Gonzalez at 268-3240. Lowe's of Kyle is located at 5753 Kyle Parkway in Kyle.

Apply Now for the 2009 Envision Central Texas Community Stewardship Awards!

The Envision Central Texas (ECT) Community Stewardship Awards program has been created to recognize and honor the innovative people, projects and processes that are addressing the growth challenges facing our region in ways that will move us closer to a vision for our future that preserves and enhances our natural resources, economic vitality, social equity, and overall quality of living.

Local non-profit and community organizations, businesses, cities, counties, developers, builders, designers, media, neighborhood groups and others based in the five-county Central Texas region (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties) are encouraged to submit applications for the annual ECT Community Stewardship Awards. Self-nominations or nominations by others are welcome. The award categories are New Development, Redevelopment, Pioneer, Public Planning & Policy, Raising Public Awareness and the W. Neal Kocurek Legacy Award. Award recipients will be selected by a jury made up of recognized experts from around the country. The jury's decisions will be based on how applicants exemplify or reflect some or all of the seven elements of the [Envision Central Texas Vision](#). Awards will be presented on May 8, 2009 at the annual awards luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Austin. Read more by viewing the [Call for Entries](#).

Visit the [ECT website](#) to download the application. The deadline for applications is Noon on February 20, 2009.

Shared Work
Unemployment Compensation Plan

Shared Work Compensation offers an alternative to employers facing a reduction in force. Instead of laying off employees, the employer reduces the hours of work among a specific group of employees. Wages lost to the worker as a result of reduced hours is supplemented by a partial unemployment benefit amount.

An interested employer submits to the Commission a [Shared Work Plan Application and Employee Participant List](#) by mail or fax. If the plan is approved, workers who qualify for unemployment benefits will receive both wages and Shared Work benefits. The workers will receive the percentage of their regular benefits that matches the percentage of reduction in the employer's plan.

Benefits paid under shared work plans are charged back against employers' accounts for use in computing general (experience) tax rates. Thus, they affect employers' tax rates in the same manner and to the same extent as other chargebacks of benefits.

Kyle Library Offers Free Tax Assistance

Beginning this Saturday, free assistance with tax preparation will be available to you at the Kyle Library. You can take advantage of this program every Saturday between 10am and 1:30pm.

Appointments are filling up fast and the next available appointment is on Saturday, March 21.

Walk-ins are welcome but there is no guarantee that you will be seen. For more information or to make an appointment, contact the Kyle Library.

Kyle Community Library
409 W. Blanco Street / P.O. Box 2349
Kyle, Texas 78640
512-268-7411

IRS Helpful Tips for Choosing a Tax Preparer

- Be cautious of tax preparers who claim they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers.
- Avoid preparers who base their fee on a percentage of the refund.
- Use a reputable tax professional who signs the tax return and provides a copy.
- Consider whether the individual or firm will be around to answer questions about the preparation of the tax return months, or even years, after the return has been filed.
- Check the person's credentials. Only attorneys, certified public accountants (CPAs) and enrolled agents can represent taxpayers before the IRS in all matters, including audits, collection and appeals. Other return preparers may only represent taxpayers for audits of returns they actually prepared.
- Find out if the preparer is affiliated with a professional organization that provides its members with continuing education and resources and holds them to a code of ethics.
- Ask friends and family whether they know anyone who has used the tax professional and whether they were satisfied with the service they received.

For more information, visit www.irs.gov.



Big Brothers Big Sisters



February 7, 2009

11am-1pm

Sunset Bowling Lanes (1304 Hwy 123)

Bowl for Kids' Sake is about having fun to help kids. It is our most important fundraising event. Teams, with a maximum of five members, raise \$500. All you have to do is register your team on site, then ask people you know to support you in your fundraising efforts. It's that easy! All money raised goes directly toward matching children with carefully-screened, caring Big Brother and Big Sister volunteers.

If you are a donor, know that your support is helping put Big Brothers and Big Sisters in children's lives, right here in your community. If you are a bowler, enjoy a fun outing with friends — as well as the satisfaction of knowing you're making a big difference to kids right here in Hays County.

Anybody can be on your team, it's all about having a little fun while raising money to help kids, right here in Hays County! For more information, go to www.bbshays.org or contact Meghan Jones at 512-472-5437!

~STEEPLECHASE PARK & CREEK CLEAN-UP~

March 7, 2009

9:00am

Once a year the City of Kyle' Parks and Recreation Department organizes a "Steeplechase Park & Creek Clean-Up Day".

This event is co-sponsored by the State of Texas's "[Keep Texas Beautiful](#)" program.

This event is a perfect opportunity for the civic organizations in the area to do community service projects that help the environment.

This event is open to Scout Troops, Church Groups, Home Owners Associations, School Groups and Clubs, Environmental Organizations, Sports Teams and Clubs and anyone willing to help.

Park Department Staff will begin at 9:00am, Saturday, March 7, 2009.

All major equipment and materials will be provided. All we need is you.

Contact Parks Department at:
(512) 262-3939
parks@cityofkyle.com

St. Anthony's Women's Organization presents:



Valentine's Day Dinner & Dance Gala

*Please join us on February 14, 2009, in the church hall, for a romantic sit down dinner to celebrate the season of love!
Surprise your "LOVED ONE" for an unforgettable night!**



**A three course dinner will be served from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.
and will include the following:**

- First course: A crisp green salad**
- Second course: Sautéed chicken with sauce, mashed potatoes, green beans, & roll**
- Third course: An eloquent variety of desserts**
- *Coffee & tea will be provided**

The dance will follow the meal from 8 p.m. to 11p.m.
Door prizes and contests!

~BYOB~

**Adults Only Please*

Tickets are \$12.50 per person or \$25 per couple

Proceeds will be donated to ACTS and Lehman and Hays C.I.S.D Scholarships



Bordeaux's

Prime Steakhouse • Seafood • Martini Bar



Valentine's Day Wine Dinner!

It's time to celebrate that special love in your life and what better way to do so than Bordeaux's 5th Annual Valentine's Day Wine Dinner! Come experience what romance was meant to be like with a 5 course dinner for two including champagne, two different wine selections with dinner and complete with an outrageously delicious dessert paired with my favorite dessert wine ever!

The complete menu is posted on our [website](#). The cost is \$95 per person and is available by reservation only. This is an amazing dinner and one which sells out every year. Don't hesitate or you may not have a spot.

We'll have a number of different seating times available and we are allowing a generous 2 hours for you to enjoy your dinner so you don't ever feel rushed like many restaurants do on Valentine's Day.

Give us a call to make your reservations at 512-268-3463 today.

See you all soon,
Larsen & Kasey Wilkes
Chef / Owners
Bordeaux's Prime Steakhouse
512-268-3463

THE MUSIC MAN

February 5th, 6th, & 7th 7:00pm
February 7th Matinee 2:00pm

What would you like in your Treasure Chest?

Come into Old Town Gift Emporium and join our new Treasures Club just in time for Valentine's Day. Build your wish list and we'll keep it on file - for Valentine's Day or any day of the year!

January 31 - Wish 'n Wine Event - see other side for details.

February 7 - Brew 'n Buy Event - see other side for details.

OLD TOWN GIFT EMPORIUM

Save the Date:

January 31: Wish 'n Wine Event: Help us kick off our Treasures Club! Come in and enjoy a glass of wine from noon 'til closing - FriDaze Liquor will host a tasting of sparkling wines from 3-6. Pick out the things you'd like for your Treasure Chest, we'll start your wish list and let your sweetie know when they come in to buy your Valentine's Day gift!

February 7: Brew 'n Buy Event: Enjoy a Cool Brew from noon-closing as you buy that Valentine's gift - FriDaze Liquor will host a tasting of different beers from 4-6. Add to your Treasure List or get one started to make shopping easier for your loved ones on that next special occasion.

February 14: Build Your Own Valentine! It's not too late...our in-store professional artist, Dawn Delgado, will make sure your Valentine is unique and special. From 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., learn new collage techniques while making a gift from the heart - they'll never know it was last minute!

February 21: Creative Projects with Nicole! Celebrate President's Week by exercising your freedom to create. Pirate Chests, Princess Mirrors, Jig-



saw Puzzles and more...purchase a Melissa & Doug Project set (\$4.99-\$9.99) and have a fun Saturday afternoon craft time with your family & friends!

February 28: Game Day with Nicole! When was the last time you played Jacks? Pick Up Sticks? Well that is too long!!! Come recapture the fun of the "good ol' days" with your family and friends with fun games - Origami, too!

Local Artists...Imaginative Gifts...
Unique Antiques & Collectibles!
200 W. Center Street
Old Town Kyle
www.OldTownGiftsKyle.com

Open: Tues., Wed., Fri. 11-6; Thurs. 11-7, Sat. 10-6.

United Way of Hays County Seeks Partners for 2010 Funding

United Way of Hays County (UWHC) is currently accepting applications from health and human service agencies interested in seeking funding from UWHC for the 2010 funding cycle.

Agencies who are interested in applying for funding must meet the following requirements: be a non-profit agency, have a CPA audit or equivalent and have been providing services in Hays County for at least two years. Other requirements will be provided to agencies in the application packet. All current and past funded agencies must reapply for funding.

Agencies are asked to notify United Way of their intended application by March 6. The deadline for turning in applications is March 27. Interested agencies are asked to call Michelle Harper, United Way of Hays County, 512-353-1420 or email unitedway@centurytel.net.