



Bryan Texas Utilities
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Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 7 AM - 6 PM

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Secure 24-hour Access

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George Bush High School Public Service Scholarships Awarded

Story by Louellen S. Coker

The George Bush Presidential Library, along with partner, Bryan Texas Utilities, recognized three Bryan-College Station area high school seniors for their commitment to bettering the community. The scholarships, which honor the career of George Bush and his dedication to public service, seek to inspire future leaders to serve the public.

Scholarship recipients for 2006 are Lillian Cowden, Aubrey Eyeington and Audra Smith. These ladies' scholarships include a one-time stipend of \$2000, payable to the college of their choice. Each of their high schools will receive a \$2500 grant to be used for academic purposes.

"We are delighted to assist our community's students," said Dan Wilkerson, BTU General Manager. "BTU is proud to encourage our youth's participation in public service through our support of the George Bush Public Service Scholarships."



Lillian Cowden

Ms. Cowden recently graduated from Saint Michael's Academy where she served as a class representative and Vice President of the Student Council. She pushed her peers to achieve fundraising, recycling and community service goals as well as volunteering at the Brazos Valley

Natural History Museum and winning numerous academic awards. Ms. Cowden plans to attend Texas State University and major in Anthropology.



Aubrey Eyeington

A recent graduate of A&M Consolidated High School, Ms. Eyeington was a member

of numerous clubs and helped with many community service projects. Through church and local organizations, she participated in regional and international service projects. Ms. Eyeington plans to attend Texas A&M University and major in Business.



Audra Smith

During her Bryan High School career, Ms. Smith maintained a top 10% rank in her class while displaying an

uncommon dedication to her community. She was a 2005 Jefferson Award nominee and worked to bring the *Shattered Dreams* program back to BHS. She plans to attend Texas A & M University and major in Business.



Louis M. Newman, Jr. filled a need for printing services when he founded Newman Printing Company in 1950. The company has been a leader in the industry for more than 55 years.

Newman Printing Company (NPC) is a Texas-owned, full-color, full-service, award-winning commercial printer with an exceptional offering of additional non-printing services. NPC stands out for its high-quality commercial printing, dedication to its customers and reputation of excellence in the printing industry. Over the past fifty years, NPC has won hundreds of quality printing awards for its commercial print jobs at the state, regional and national levels.

NPC is a family-owned commercial printing company founded right here in Bryan, Texas over 50 years ago by Louis M. Newman, Jr. who first came to Bryan as an instructor pilot at the Bryan Air Force Base. After his military service, he returned to Bryan as the editor of a small bi-weekly newspaper. When the newspaper closed, Mr. Newman along with his partner, Mark Norton, started Norton-Newman Printing Company in 1948. In 1950, when the partnership

Newman Printing Company

Celebrating More than 55 years of Family Service

Story by Susan Haverty

dissolved, Newman Printing Company was incorporated and has remained in business under continuous single family ownership since that time.

Brothers, Louis M. Newman, III and Mike Newman, NPC's current President and Vice President, respectively, have worked in and around the printing business since they were young. Louis took over from his father in the early 1980s and Mike joined the company in 1994.

Newman Printing Company has always prided itself on having quality people and excellent equipment with which to work. One of their guiding principles, according to Louis, is "Good people and good equipment make their own market in the printing industry." NPC enjoys the very best of both.

NPC transitioned from letterpress printing to offset printing technology in the mid 1970s. In the early 1980s, NPC introduced the first 4-color press to the Brazos Valley. In 1995, NPC began a technological transformation within its prepress department which has today established NPC as one of the most advanced printing operations in the state of Texas.

The services offered by NPC cover every aspect of their clients' needs. Full color commercial offset printing, in-house bindery, in-house CASS certified mailing, in-house fulfillment (warehousing), NPC Xpress online

print procurement, prepress and design, sign graphics and digital archiving, all come together to create the perfect solution to any job requirement.

Although NPC does not sell printing over the Internet, their e-business offering allows clients to access them via the Internet. They are fully web-supported and can provide all of their services locally as well as across the country via the Internet. "Our web-supported e-commerce, NPC Xpress as we call it, has really taken off and is working out very well for us," declared Louis.

Another obvious factor for Newman Printing Company is that they are located in Bryan, Texas where they provide printing and other services to Texas A&M University. "That has certainly had a major impact on our growth," Louis stated. "Currently, A&M is not engaged in the manufacturing of printing on their campus. We're proud of our long-standing relationship with Texas A&M and we look forward to our continued mutual success."

Digital archiving has been a part of NPC's offering for the last five years. A contract with Brazos County as well as the Sheriff's Department and other offices over a two-year period provided proof that the archiving process is quite successful. If a business or institution decides to go to a paperless environment, NPC can scan and index their old records and provide them back to the

client in digital format, creating significant savings.

In December 2005, Newman Printing Company was awarded the Benjamin Franklin Award, the highest honor in the 2005 Premier Print Awards, for its entry of the Texas A&M University Bonfire Memorial Dedication program. The Premier Print Awards, the graphic arts industry's largest and most prestigious worldwide printing competition, recognizes outstanding achievement in print production. Louis and Dr. Robert M. Gates, President of Texas A&M University, jointly received the award.

"Our close relationship with the community and Texas A&M University makes this award even more meaningful," said Louis. "It is especially gratifying to know that our company's efforts to achieve the world's highest printing standards were recognized through the quality of the Texas A&M University Bonfire Memorial Dedication program."

Competing with over 5200 entries from printing and graphic arts firms around the world, the Benjamin Franklin Award recognizes excellence in independent printing. Newman Printing Company was the first business of this type, located in the Houston, Gulf Coast region, to have received this rare

designation in over ten years. "Sharing this recognition with Texas A&M, our employees and our community, is an incredible honor," Louis reflected.

With the distinction of having been awarded the Best Workplace in America award on three separate occasions, NPC is a very special place. The award, sponsored by the Master Printers of America, a division of Printing Industries of America, Inc., judges in the areas of employee recognition and rewards; health and well-being programs; financial security; personal/work-life balance; work environment; organizational culture and training and development opportunities.

With 44 staff members in its two Bryan locations and one Brenham location, Newman Printing Company offers an exceptional workplace for their current and future employees. At NPC, there is no one single voice, but many. Workers are encouraged to succeed and are given the opportunity to help shape the future of the company. NPC knows and believes that the success of any company is directly related to the success of its employees.

Newman Printing Company believes in being involved in the community. "Our people contribute in leadership positions in the community," Louis explained, "as well as by providing print services wherever possible." Louis has served as president of the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce, chairman of virtually every economic development effort in the community and worked on the George Bush



Newman Printing Company, Inc.

“Good people and good equipment make their own market in the printing business.”

Presidential Library committee. He was the first man to be honored with the Citizen of the Year Award in 1988 by the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce.

In keeping with their excellence-in-business practices, NPC offers clients several methods by which they may be contacted. For information on Newman Printing Company's products and services, you may call Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM toll free at (800) 900-3922. Newman Printing Company is located at 1300 E. 29th Street, with the Sign Graphics Division at 306 West 28th Street both in Bryan. The Brenham office is located at 701 Austin Street. You may reach the NPC office locally by phone at (979) 779-7700 and by fax at (979) 779-1589, or visit www.NewmanPrint.com.



Louis M. Newman, III, President of Newman Printing Company (left), and Dr. Robert M. Gates, President of Texas A&M University (right), holding the 2005 Benjamin Franklin Award received for the Texas A&M University Bonfire Memorial Dedication program.

BTU Sends Four High School Students to Washington, D.C.

Story by Louellen S. Coker

Bryan Texas Utilities awarded four area high school students a trip to Washington D.C. as part of its 2006 Government-in-Action Youth Tour program.

The program sprang from extemporaneous comments made by then Senator Lyndon B. Johnson in 1957 as he addressed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) in Chicago. As a result of his comments, states began sending groups of students to visit the nation's capital each summer so they could learn through being a part of the government in action. The NRECA has coordinated the program since



Charles Herrmann

Mr. Herrmann will be a junior at Bryan High School this fall. He feels that the four basic freedoms defined by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941, "together represent America and everything that Americans are entitled to: freedom of speech and expression, freedom to worship God in his/her own way, freedom from want and freedom from fear."

"I look forward to seeing first hand," stated Mr. Herrmann, "how my country has and continues to work toward a friendly, civilized society."

May Hung

A junior at A&M Consolidated High School, Ms. Hung expressed of her trip to Washington, D.C., "Being a Vietnamese American, I am particularly eager to visit the Vietnam Memorial and honor those who died for my freedom."

She wrote, "America was among the many saviors to my parents and other Vietnamese refugees at the end of the Vietnam War. I have learned that living in the United States is truly a privilege." She concluded, "I'd like to thank BTU for this opportunity to learn more about America."



1964, with nearly 1500 students and chaperones participating each year.

The 2006 winners wrote a 750-1000 word essay exploring the topic "What America Means to Me." The four winners are Charles Herrmann, May Hung, Rebecca Phinney and Ryan Sorrels. They gathered for a "meet and greet" at the BTU office in May before they visited Washington, D.C. in June.

For information about the 2007 Government-in-Action Youth Tour competition, please contact Mike Connor at mconnor@btutilities.com or (979) 821-5830. You can also visit www.btutilities.com.



Rebecca Phinney

America means freedom from fear to A&M Consolidated junior, Rebecca Phinney. She wrote, "What a bounteous freedom America gives her people; the knowledge that each day, because men and women in uniforms are protecting us at home and abroad, we can live in a homeland of peace and security. ... America means freedom from fear in our homes and our communities."

She looks forward to visiting the place that ensures she is able to "...find peace in my backyard, joy in my opinions, and comfort in my rights."

Ryan Sorrels

An aspiring writer and senior at St. Michael's Academy, Mr. Sorrels finds that America offers him freedoms not found elsewhere. He wrote, "Freedom of speech is as much a tool to me as are my pen, keyboard and mind. ... As an American, I have the freedom to write what I want and be honest about my thoughts and feelings."

He looks forward to visiting the Korean War Memorial as well as where our elected officials reach their decisions. He commented, "I value the fact, that as a citizen, I have the right to speak out against what I think is wrong."

Meet Your Bryan City Council

Ben Hardeman, Councilmember Single Member District 5

Story by Louellen S. Coker

Ben Hardeman, Councilmember, Single Member District 5, is a Bryan native who has been making a difference in Bryan his entire life. He has stood out among those around him because of his dedication to his city, family, business and antique Model T and Model A Fords.

Councilmember Hardeman is a 1964 graduate of A&M Consolidated High School who went on to attend Texas A&M University (TAMU) and receive a degree in Industrial Distribution

in 1968. He set himself apart in high school by being the only person in his class to drive a Model T.

“I visited my cousin in Missouri just as I was getting my driver’s license,” he explained, “and fell in love with the 4-door sedan he owned. Shortly after that visit, I purchased and restored the Model T I drove through all of high school and university. From that first one, I’ve been hooked on Model T and Model A vehicles.”

Council Member Hardeman

continues to be an enthusiast—though that is possibly an understatement—and developed his second successful business, Texas T Parts starting in 2001. He and three employees manufacture and distribute parts and accessories for Model T and Model A Fords in addition to providing restoration and engine repair services.

His zeal for this antique vehicle goes far beyond his business. He regularly tours with other enthusiasts and has traveled across the country, including two trips to Alaska, behind the wheel of his Model T. He was also instrumental in bringing the 25th annual Texas T Party, to Bryan-College Station in 2002. The Bryan-College Station Visitors and Convention Bureau named Councilmember Hardeman a Hometown Hero that year for bringing more than 100 Model T Fords and their owners to the community.

When asked about how driving this classic car has helped him in his life and businesses, Councilmember Hardeman replied, “As you drive your Model T or A, there is no question that something is going to break. Much of the satisfaction of the journey is coming up with an innovative solution to an unexpected delay so that the trip can continue.”

He affirmed, “I receive fulfillment from serving my community for much the same reason. The other city council



members and I work closely together to ensure that Bryan is the best it can be today and in the future. We are all dedicated to one thing, the good of the city. Bryan couldn't have a more dedicated group of individuals influencing the direction of the community."

While he has served as Councilmember of Single Member District 5 since May 2003, he is no stranger to the Bryan City Council. He served previous terms from 1984-1991. Prior to that, he was very active in the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce. During that time, he helped develop the original Leadership Bryan Program—through which people from the area experience the opportunity

1967 as the result of a TAMU class project and a good faith loan, produced custom signage and awards from bronze, brass and aluminum.

"I sold my first business in 1999 because I remembered what my professors at TAMU told me," he said with a smile. "They taught us that the best time to sell a business was when you didn't want to sell and everything was good with the



“Bryan couldn't have a more dedicated group of individuals influencing the direction of the community.”

to learn about local government from the inside.

Councilmember Hardeman was reelected this year. "I ran for another term because there are many things I was a part of starting and would like to be a part of ensuring the projects are completed," he commented. "I hope to help make the Villa Maria underpass, Traditions and downtown Bryan development projects come to fruition."

Councilmember Hardeman, in addition to being active in local government and having a successful retirement business, founded and ran a successful business for 32 years. OMC Industries, which was formed in

business. I had reached that point and sold it."

In addition to running successful businesses and promoting the city's growth, Councilmember Hardeman takes time out for his wife, Nancy, and family. He is the proud father of two daughters, Jennifer and Ginger, and one stepdaughter, Tricia. He spends as much time as possible with his daughters and wife. This goal is made easier by the fact that they all share his love for the Model T.

His oldest daughter, Jennifer married Ross Lilleker, from Hasland, England, whom she met during Model T tours throughout the country. He is now Texas T

Parts' master mechanic. After graduating from a New York cooking school, she opened the T Garden located at 106 North Avenue E in Bryan. Diners enjoy delectable food and Model T décor, including original car advertisements aimed directly at women buyers.

He, along with his wife and daughters, take at least one trip annually. This spring, they participated in four tours, including a drive from Texas to New York and Massachusetts in their Model T. "Tours are a phenomenal way to travel," he professed. "You see things you would never see in a regular car. We stick to the back roads to avoid getting rear-ended and are able to witness incredible beauty and meet very friendly people."

Constituents can reach Councilmember Hardeman by calling (979) 209-5003, stopping by City Hall located at 300 South Texas Avenue or visiting www.bryantex.gov.

Using Generators Safely

Story by Randy Trimble, PE

Lightning, ice, wind storms and traffic accidents can cause interruption of your electric service. During outages, portable generators may be beneficial. Every year, people die in incidents related to portable generator use following prolonged electrical outages. Bryan Texas Utilities encourages its customers to exercise extreme caution when operating generators.

“These generators are useful when temporary or remote electric power is needed,” stated Larry McConkey, BTU Safety Manager, “but they can also be hazardous. Improper installation and use of standby and portable generators can threaten the safety of your family and property, the general public, emergency service personnel and BTU crews involved in the restoration of your electric service.”

Avoiding “Backfeeding” your Generator

Portable generators that you use only during extended power outages are not typically sized to run all your appliances. Use them for a minimum amount of cooking or lighting and, during very long outages, to protect the food in your refrigerator and freezer.

Permanently installed generators require a control panel and a transfer switch. The transfer switch must be capable of disconnecting the building’s electrical load from the BTU service wires and transferring the load to the standby generator. The switch must “break” the circuit with BTU’s service wires before “making” the circuit with the generator.

When using a temporary or portable generator, please remember,

- Never plug a portable generator into a home outlet or connect it with building wiring, a practice known as “backfeeding.” This could send electric current through the outlet, presenting an electrocution hazard to utility workers and neighbors.
- Plug grounding type extension cords into the generator and run appliances from those extension cords.
- For safety and fire protection, use the properly sized extension cords and make sure the appliances plugged into the generator have overcurrent protection provided at the generator.
- When installing a permanent generator, you must have a qualified electrician install it in accordance with local electrical codes.
- Choose a generator large enough for the expected load. Do not overload the generator.
- Operate your generator outside to avoid hazardous exhaust fumes and carbon monoxide build-up.

Avoiding Dangers from Carbon Monoxide (CO)

Never use a generator in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces. Generators can produce high levels of CO very quickly, which you cannot smell or see. If you start to feel sick, dizzy or weak while using a generator, get to fresh air right away. Do not delay. The CO from generators can rapidly lead to full incapacitation and ultimately death.

If you experience CO poisoning symptoms, get medical attention immediately. Inform medical staff that CO poisoning is suspected. If you experience symptoms while indoors, have someone call the fire department to determine when it is safe to re-enter the building.

Follow these safety tips to protect against CO poisoning:

- Never use a generator indoors (homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces and other enclosed or partially enclosed areas) even with ventilation.
- Follow the instructions that come with your generator. Locate the unit outdoors and away from doors, windows and vents.
- Install CO alarms in your home, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Test your CO alarms monthly and replace batteries regularly.

