

**Board of Directors**

- Ms. Rosemarie L. Selman, Chair
- Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Vice Chair
- Mr. Paul Madison, Sr., Secretary
  - Mr. John A. Bond
  - Mr. Andrew Nelson
  - Mr. A. Bentley Nettles
  - Mr. Buppy Simank
  - Mr. Jason Bienski, Ex-Officio
  - Mr. Kevin Boriskie, Ex-Officio

**General Manager**

Gary Miller

**Executive Directors**

- Doug Lyles
- Randy Trimble
- Wes Williams
- David Werley, Chief Business Officer

**Division Managers**

- James Bodine
- Nick Cook
- Shawndra Curry
- Ken Lindberg
- Clay Lindstrom
- Gary Massey

**City of Bryan**

- Kean Register, City Manager
- William J. Smith, Chief Financial Officer

**Important Numbers**

**Billing/Collections/Connects**  
 (979) 821-5700

**Electrical Outage/Lines Down**  
 (979) 822-3777

**Line Design**  
 (979) 821-5770

**Social Media**

- BryanTexasUtilities
- BTU\_BryanTX
- cityofbryan

## Regular Board of Directors MEETING NOTES | May 13, 2024

**Purchase of a Backyard Unit**

The Board approved the purchase of one 2024 Altec DB41B backyard unit trailer from Global Rental Company, Inc.

**Contract for Transmission Right-of-Way Projects**

The Board approved a contract with Martin Right of Way, Inc. for miscellaneous transmission right-of-way projects.

**Adjustment to Regulatory Pass-Through Costs**

Mr. Doug Lyles, Executive Director of Customer Operations, presented a review of BTU's City and Rural Systems Regulatory funds as performed by NewGen Strategies. Based on the review, staff proposed adjustments to the pass-through costs associated with utilization of the ERCOT transmission system. The Board approved the adjustments to be effective June 1, 2024.

**Lake Bryan Updates**

Mr. Doug Lyles presented an update regarding Lake Bryan, including a master plan completed by The Arkitek Studio, Inc. Based on recommendations, patrons will now pay upon exit instead of entry to improve safety and efficiency. The fee structure will be \$5 per person with children under age 10 free, instead of per vehicle. He also discussed adding amenities and improving infrastructure.

**Pole Inspection Process**

Mr. Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented an update regarding BTU's pole inspection, repair, and replacement process. He stated that BTU inspects 10% of poles annually and determines what actions should be taken for each pole.

**Recognition of Awards**

Mr. Gary Miller, General Manager, notified the Board that BTU had earned three prestigious awards recently, including two awards from the American Public Power Association for a Certificate of Excellence in Reliability and a Safety Award of Excellence. The third award was Texas Electric Cooperatives' Loss Control Award recognizing one year of operations without lost work time due to injury.

**BTU KIOSKS**

Pay using cash, card or check at any one of our three convenient locations by entering your account number, listed on either your bill or your reminder letter, or by scanning a keycard provided by BTU. Keycards can be requested in the BTU main office.

**KIOSK LOCATIONS**

- BTU Drive Thru – open 24 hours
- HEB at Texas Ave. & Hwy 21 – open 6am-12am
- HEB in the Tejas Center – open 6am-12am



# 5 REASONS LAKE BRYAN SHOULD BE ON YOUR SUMMER BUCKET LIST!



1

**THERE ARE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL TO ENJOY!** Lake Bryan has nearly 850 acres of water for boaters, skiers and swimmers to enjoy. The Park boasts more than 24 miles of mountain biking and hiking trails graciously constructed and maintained by the Brazos Valley Mountain Bike Association. Patrons can enjoy an afternoon paddling on the water by renting paddleboards or kayaks through Paddle EZ's convenient self-serve station.

**EXPERIENCE NATURE AT YOUR FINGER-TIPS!** A bird and wildlife watcher's delight. Bald eagles have been rumored to visit Lake Bryan on occasion. Or wet a line and try your luck at fishing. Lake Bryan has partnered with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for several years to stock the lake with gamefish and improve fish habitat.



2



3

**IT'S CONVENIENT!** Lake Bryan is the only public lake and boat ramp in Brazos County. A quick trip from Bryan/College Station transports you into a more relaxed, natural setting. Purchase an annual pass to enter the Lake prior to the regular opening at 9:00 a.m., and to get the best value if you visit often.

4

**THERE ARE HOT EATS AND COLD DRINKS!** The Cadillac Ranch Bar & Grill serves up delicious food and beverages alongside lively entertainment. Catch live music and take a spin on the dancefloor every weekend throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons.



5

**YOU CAN KICK YOUR SHOES OFF AND STAY AWHILE!** There are 24 tent campsites and 13 RV campsites for those who want to get away. Sites can be rented online at [lakebryan.com](http://lakebryan.com).



**Visitors should note that entry to Lake Bryan has changed!** Beginning May 24, 2024, all daily entry patrons will pay upon exit to mitigate traffic at the entrance. Patrons will proceed into the park without need to stop at the entry booth unless they have questions or are camping. Patrons will stop at the booth to pay with cash or card before exiting the park. Customers that visit the Cadillac Ranch Bar & Grill will enjoy free exit with a valid receipt of purchase from the restaurant.



# BTU EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATES IN YOUTH STEM CONTEST

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South by Southwest®, held annually in Austin, Texas, is self-described as a set of conferences and festivals that “celebrate the convergence of tech, film, music, education, and culture.” While the event is more widely known for its music festivals, South by Southwest® was also host of the US Army Application Laboratory’s Youth STEM competition. For those unfamiliar with the acronym STEM, it is a common abbreviation for four closely connected areas of study: science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



ADOBE STOCK ©



**Mike McMillan**  
BTU Senior Electrical Engineer

On Saturday, March 16, 2024, many elementary students from the Austin area came together to compete in an exciting yet challenging engineering event. The competition pitted ten youngsters, aged eight through thirteen, against one another to complete a series of timed tasks designed to assess their technical skills and innovation abilities by designing and constructing a remotely operated robot within a two-hour timeframe.

US Army Major Chad Stoermer, an electrical engineer with the 75th Innovation Command and a previous BTU employee, developed the competition. He invited Mike McMillan, BTU’s senior electrical engineer, to serve on the panel of judges. Mike said that Maj. Chad Stoermer was “seeking out individuals with engineering and scientific backgrounds,” and asked Mike if he would like to help judge the competition. He agreed to serve as a judge because “he loves working with kids and he is always surprised by the range of personalities.”

Mike mentioned that many kids have no interest in participating in a structured Saturday activity, so he was eager to encourage those interested in STEM. Mike was happy to contribute to the kids who thrive on structure and problem solving. Dr. Parastoo Maleki, a semiconductor process engineer and molecular biophysicist, served as a judge in addition to McMillan and Stoermer.

The event evolved from Army Futures Command’s General James Rainey’s vision to encourage STEM education for children from all over. Participants for this event came from elementary schools in the Austin area involved with the Youth STEM program run by iCode and E.S.T.E.A.M Academy.

The objective of the contest was to build a mobile platform with an electric drive motor per a specific design. The platform would then be fitted to a compact computer. The contestants could choose to have the compact computer



be controlled by either a hard-wired handheld controller or with a wireless Bluetooth iPad controller for remote control. If the students participating chose the Bluetooth controller, they would then have to establish a wireless link between the computer and the iPad. They could even go as far as to add accessories to their mobile platforms if they so desired.

iCode provided contestants with materials for the competition including LEGO components, compact control computers, electric drive motors and iPad computers. Mike told us that one contestant arrived 20 minutes late due to transportation issues. Once arriving at the competition, the student immediately went to work without a smidge of panic, and took third place.

The judges ranked the contestants' platforms on a scoring system based on the progress of their build in specific time intervals, direct control versus remote control, contestant demonstration of the mobility of their build, and extra points for customization. All of the students impressed the judges with their ability and ingenuity. Notably as the United States pushes for women in STEM, three girls took first, second, and fourth places. The winner was ten-year-old Louella Cathell from Austin's Kirby Hall Elementary. She crafted a multi-directional LEGO robot that displayed problem-solving and technical skills. Second place, nine-year-old Josie Schliemann, was only a few seconds behind. Mike commented that he was grateful to be a small part of nurturing the interests of young students by having a role in a competition that brought a meaningful experience to everyone involved.



# CAN YOUR SUMMER BUCKET LIST

# SAVE YOU MONEY?

*Here are some simple no- or low-cost energy tips to keep utility bills down during the summer.*



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## Take advantage of public spaces

Escape the heat and give your AC a break by spending time in public air-conditioned places like libraries, malls, and museums. Many of these locations offer free or low-cost entry, providing a cool retreat. Be sure to raise the setting on your thermostat if you will be out of the house for the day.

## Outdoor cooking

Swap the oven for the grill. Cooking outside not only keeps your home cooler but also makes for a fun summer activity. Try grilling veggies, meats, and even pizzas outdoors to keep the heat out of the kitchen.



Lake Bryan

## Cool down with water activities

Spend afternoons at the local pool, splashpad, or lake. These activities can keep you cool and reduce the need to run fans or AC at home. Even setting up a sprinkler in the yard can be a refreshing way to beat the heat.

## Harness the power of shade

Plant trees or install awnings and pergolas to create shaded areas around your home. Shade helps reduce temperatures in and around your home. Take care not to block any utilities with structures or plants.



ADOBE STOCK ©

## Sleep smart

Switch to breathable, moisture-wicking sheets like bamboo or cotton. Consider cooling gel pillows and mattress toppers to keep your bed comfortable. A cool shower before bed can also help lower your body temperature for a better night's sleep.

## Get creative with DIY air conditioning

Place a bowl of ice in front of a fan to create a simple, DIY air conditioner. As the ice melts, the fan will blow cooler air, providing a quick, cheap cooling solution.



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## GENERAL ELECTION CALENDAR

**July 20** First day for candidates to file for a place on the ballot  
(July 20 is a Saturday – city offices closed)

**Aug. 19** Last day for candidates to file (5 p.m.)

**Aug. 26** Last day for a candidate to withdraw (5 p.m.)

**Oct. 7** Last day for voter registration for Nov. 5 election

**Oct. 21 – Nov. 1** Period for early voting by personal appearance

**Nov. 5** **Election Day**



## CALENDARIO DE LA ELECCIÓN GENERAL

**20 de julio** Primer día de presentación de candidaturas  
(El 20 de julio es un sábado – las oficinas de la ciudad estarán cerradas)

**19 de agosto** Último día de presentación de candidatura (5:00 p.m.)

**26 de agosto** Último día para retirar la candidatura (5:00 p.m.)

**7 de octubre** Último día para registrarse para votar para la elección del 5 de noviembre

**21 de octubre a 1 de noviembre** Plazo de voto anticipado presencial

**5 de noviembre** **¡Día de las elecciones!**





# **PARKS & RECREATION**

CITY OF BRYAN

In honor of July being  
**PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH,**  
let's take a look at our numbers:

**26**  
FULL-TIME PROFESSIONALS

**51**  
PARKS  
870+ ACRES

**40**  
MILES  
WALKING TRAILS



- Athletic Complexes: **3**
- Recreation Centers: **2**
- Rentable Pavilions: **26**
- Municipal Cemeteries: **3**



Neal Recreation Center



**LEARN MORE:**  
**BRYANTX.GOV/PARKS**  
**979-209-5528**



Bryan Aquatic Center

Swimming Pools: **3**

Splash Pads: **3**



Playgrounds: **33**

Swing Sets: **12**

Water Fountains: **45**

Picnic Tables: **141**

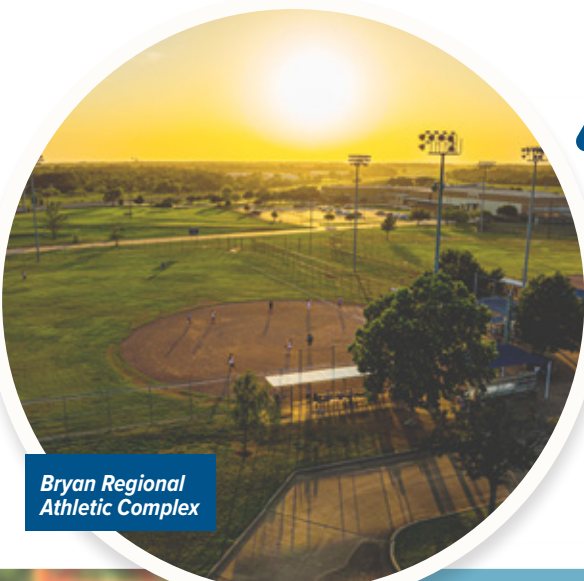
BBQ Grills: **134**

Benches: **179**

Dog Park: **1**



Sue Haswell Memorial Park



Bryan Regional Athletic Complex

Baseball / Softball Fields: **28**

Tennis Courts: **33**

Pickleball Courts: **16**

Basketball Courts: **28**

Soccer Fields: **9**

Sand Volleyball Courts: **13**

Golf Course: **1**

Archery Range: **1**

Disc Golf Courses: **3**

Horseshoe Pits: **37**

Workout Stations: **8**

Skate Parks: **2**