



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES

205 East 28th Street • Bryan, TX 77803

email: ContactBTU@btutilities.com

btutilities.com

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM

Board of Directors

- Mr. A. Bentley Nettles, Chairman
- Ms. Rosemarie Selman, Vice Chairman
- Mr. Pete J. Bienski, Jr., Secretary
- Mr. John A. Bond
- Mr. Paul Madison, Sr.
- Mr. Andrew Nelson
- Mr. Buppy Simank
- Mr. Jason Bienski, 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
- Vicki Reim

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

**Regular Board of Directors
 MEETING NOTES**

November 14, 2022

Approval of a Contract for Engineering Design of an Overhead to Underground Conversion Project

The Board approved a contract with McCord Engineering, Inc. for professional engineering services for a project to convert overhead electric distribution facilities to underground on two feeders out of the Shady Lane Substation.

Approval of a Contract for Design and Staking Services for FY24 CIP Projects

The Board approved contracts with Heart of Texas Utility Design and M&S Engineering for professional design and staking services for Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Projects.

Recommendation to the Bryan City Council for Property Purchase

The Board approved a recommendation to the Bryan City Council to authorize the purchase of property for the BTU Shady Lane Substation Rehabilitation Project.

Approval of a Contract for Printing and Mailing Services

The Board approved a contract with Xpedient Mail for printing and mailing services of BTU Bills and Payment Request Letters.

Discussion of Electric Vehicle Forecast for BTU Service Area

Mr. Wes Williams, Executive Director of Production and QSE, presented an evaluation of current trends and forecasts for electric vehicle utilization and adoption, and its impact to the BTU Service Area.

Approval of a Contract for FY23 CIP Projects

Mr. Randy Trimble, Executive Director of Energy Delivery, presented bid tabulations for the construction of Capital Improvement Projects budgeted for Fiscal Year 2023. The Board authorized a contract with Power Line Services for the construction of nine FY23 CIP Projects and a contract with Power Standard, LLC for the construction of four FY23 CIP Projects.



BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES KIOSKS

WAYS TO PAY **CASH** **CHECK** **CARD**

Bring your BTU account number, BTU bill, keycard or reminder letter. Payments can be made 24 hours a day via the "e-payment" option by calling 979.821.5700. Account number and credit card required.

BILL PAYMENT LOCATIONS

- BTU Drive Thru** – 205 E. 28th St. (Open 24 Hours)
- HEB Grocery** – Tejas Center on Villa Maria
- HEB Grocery** – Texas Ave. & Hwy 21



2023 GOVERNMENT-IN-ACTION YOUTH TOUR

Applications are NOW OPEN!

The Where

Students from Texas meet up in our state capital, Austin, TX, for a couple of days of touring memorials and museums to learn about state history. Students then travel by chartered flight to Washington D.C. for a week of fun-filled days touring attractions and historical sites.

The Who

Three local high school students will be chosen as winners for the trip. To be eligible students must be a sophomore, junior, or senior in high school and either live in or attend school in the BTU service territory.

All applicants must apply online at: btutilities.com/youthtour

Candidates will be judged on their responses to an essay question, their extracurricular activities, and academic and civic leadership.

The When

Applications are currently being accepted through February 1, 2023.

The trip will take place June 11-19, 2023.

The Why

The idea to send students to Washington D.C. came from President Lyndon B. Johnson, a Texan who advocated for rural electrification and youth development. In 1957, when he was still a U.S. Senator, Johnson suggested "sending youngsters to the national capital where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents."

This notion evolved in the 1960s into a nationwide effort to send young people on organized, fun and educational trips to the nation's capital. Today, electric utilities from nearly every state send more than 1,500 youths to Washington, D.C. each June. Since 1965, more than 50,000 students have toured the capital thanks to their local utilities.

Bryan Texas Utilities (BTU) is committed to powering and empowering the community we serve, and that means providing more than electricity. BTU also works to improve quality of life in the Brazos Valley, which includes investing in the area's young people.

We are working to shape tomorrow's leaders by proudly sponsoring three local high school students to attend the Government-in-Action Youth Tour.

Apply online today at btutilities.com/youthtour

**BTU Spotlight**

POWELL PERFORMANCE HORSES, LLC

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Texas has long been home to some of the finest cowboys in the nation. A group of rough and tumble herdsman that make a living farming, ranching and caring for mother nature's countryside. With roots dating back to early settlers, cowboys managed livestock on horseback. The horse and rider worked as one unit to move, sort, herd, brand and tend to cattle in areas that often lacked fencing or pens. The rider must control the horse with little more than leg movements, shifting weight and a light touch on the reins, leaving his other hand free to rope livestock or motion to others in the work area.

★ ★ ★

The art of working livestock on horseback evolved into competitions where those learned skills were put on display. Several events such as tie-down roping and team roping have origins in ranch work. Another skill often exhibited is horse reining. Reining is one of the most complex western horseback skills. Competitions involve a horse and rider team completing a series of intricate, patterned movements. Each pattern includes small slow circles, large fast circles, flying lead changes, roll-backs over the hocks of the horse, 360-degree spins done in place and sliding stops. The scoring is based at 70 points with each entrant earning or losing points in increments for the execution of each maneuver. The pattern is judged on precision, finesse and degree of difficulty which takes into account the speed and agility at which each movement is performed. The event is equal parts mesmerizing and impressive to watch.

BAILEY ALEXANDER ©



To be successful in horse reining, both the rider and the horse must be highly trained. Enter Tommy Powell. Tommy fell in love with horse reining at age sixteen in his home state of Kentucky. His love of the sport led him to Victoria, Texas where he worked on a ranch training reining horses. There he met his partner, Pepper Turner, a registered nurse and barrel racer. When they decided to strike out on their own, they found Silver Horse Ranch just outside of the Bryan city limits off Carrabba Road. They purchased the ranch and accompanying facilities in 2019. The location is now home to Powell Performance Horses, LLC, and boasts 20 acres of pasture, 42 stalls in a stable and a large arena. When the pair purchased the facility, they had eight training horses. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and recent inflation, they have grown to about 70 riders and horses, with a waitlist. According to Tommy and Pepper, TV shows like “Yellowstone” have brought attention to the sport of reining. In the series, reining horses are regularly filmed performing slide stops and other impressive reining maneuvers.

Tommy is a recognized expert in the field of horse training. He is the only National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) professional trainer in the Brazos Valley region. Customers travel far and wide for Tommy to train their horses. Many of his former clients from the Victoria area have followed him to Bryan for his services. The client that came the farthest for help with their equine was from Costa Rica.

“That horse had been to five or six different trainers and was still exhibiting bad behavior,” Tommy said of the situation, “but there hasn’t been one horse I couldn’t fix.”

Tommy is not only an expert trainer, but an awarded competitor in the sport of horse reining as well. This past July, Tommy and his beloved stud horse, Concho, won the world championship title at the American Buckskin Registry Association’s reigning event in Tulsa, Oklahoma. When asked why his favorite event is reining, Tommy said it is because it is the hardest thing to do on horseback and he loves a challenge. He compares the complexity and precise nature of the event to ice skating. The judges are hypercritical of each movement and attention to detail is paramount. Tommy applies the same work ethic and meticulousness to training horses.

“It takes a lot of patience. I love to learn the horse’s personality,” Tommy said. “I learn to speak their language.”

Powell Performance Horses, LLC does not just cater to those in the reining field, they are a multi-disciplined training facility. With about ten total employees, there are three who host most of the students. Tommy trains the horses and some western-style and advanced riders. Pepper trains barrel racers. Robyn Matejka, a member of the Powell Performance Horses training staff, works with beginner riders in western, jumping and all levels in English-style riding. There are few facilities who offer such a range of disciplines that cater to all ages and skill levels. Their oldest rider is in her 70s.

“Just like the Lego slogan of ages 4 to 99, if you can physically ride a horse, we can teach you,” Pepper and Robyn joked.

This year, the Powell Performance Horses team hosted several clinics at Silver Horse Ranch. Riders from across the nation traveled to Bryan to participate in the competitions, supporting the local economy by bringing tax dollars to local hotels and restaurants. While Tommy is said to run a tight ship at the facility and takes an all-business approach in the arena, there is room for fun, too. Students and teachers join in a light-hearted event to celebrate Christmas each year.

Tommy and Pepper are happy that they settled in Bryan. They love the convenience and central location of Bryan, with the small-town charm that still feels like home. The entire Powell Performances Horses, LLC team looks forward to what the future holds for the competitive horseback field and all of their students. With most of their business acquired by word of mouth, Tommy and Pepper encourage those interested in rider and/or horse training to look them up on Facebook under Powell Performance Horses, LLC or email: **powellperformacehorsesllc@gmail.com** for more information.

Tommy says, “Once you ride a reining horse, you will never ride anything else.”



BIGSTOCKPHOTO.COM ©

BRYAN TEXAS UTILITIES IS NOW RECEIVING POWER FROM ONE OF THE LARGEST PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR INSTALLATIONS IN THE NATION.

The Samson Solar Energy Center, owned and operated by Invenery, spans three counties in northeast Texas. Construction began in July of 2020 with phases being energized as they were completed.

Invenery's ambitious project will have the capacity to generate 1,310 megawatts of sustainable energy upon its completion. That is enough electricity to power about 300,000 homes. The size of the solar farm allows Invenery to take advantage of economies of scale and offer energy at prices lower than smaller installations. By aggregating such a large facility, they are able to utilize benefits from bulk material purchases, reduced land prices and lower labor expenses to maximize the cost-efficiency of the energy produced.

BTU has a diverse generation portfolio that includes solar, wind and natural gas facilities. Diversity is essential to providing dependable and reasonably priced power to the Bryan/College Station community. BTU's Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is for 125 megawatts of power generated from the Samson solar farm. Partnership in the Samson Solar Energy Center helps BTU meet a goal of providing reliable energy at an affordable cost.



Samson Solar

Invenery

BIGSTOCKPHOTO.COM ©



REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

If you are thinking about reducing your carbon footprint in the New Year, consider signing up for our RENEWability rate-rider. This option, available to all residential and commercial customers, certifies that 100 percent of the power delivered to your meter comes from renewable sources, such as wind and solar. Customers who register for the program must remain on the rate for a minimum of one year. Customers may enroll in the next 12-month period or opt out of the program at the end of the initial year. This option is designed for those who wish to reduce their carbon footprint, but would like an option other than solar panels. It is also advantageous for customers who rent their homes or commercial buildings.

Find out more at **btutilities.com**



BRYAN TEXAS

LEGENDS

EVENT CENTER


LEGENDS EVENT CENTER IS OPEN


Located in the heart of Travis Bryan Midtown Park, Legends Event Center will draw events from all over Texas and the southwest region, and be a place for residents to enjoy.

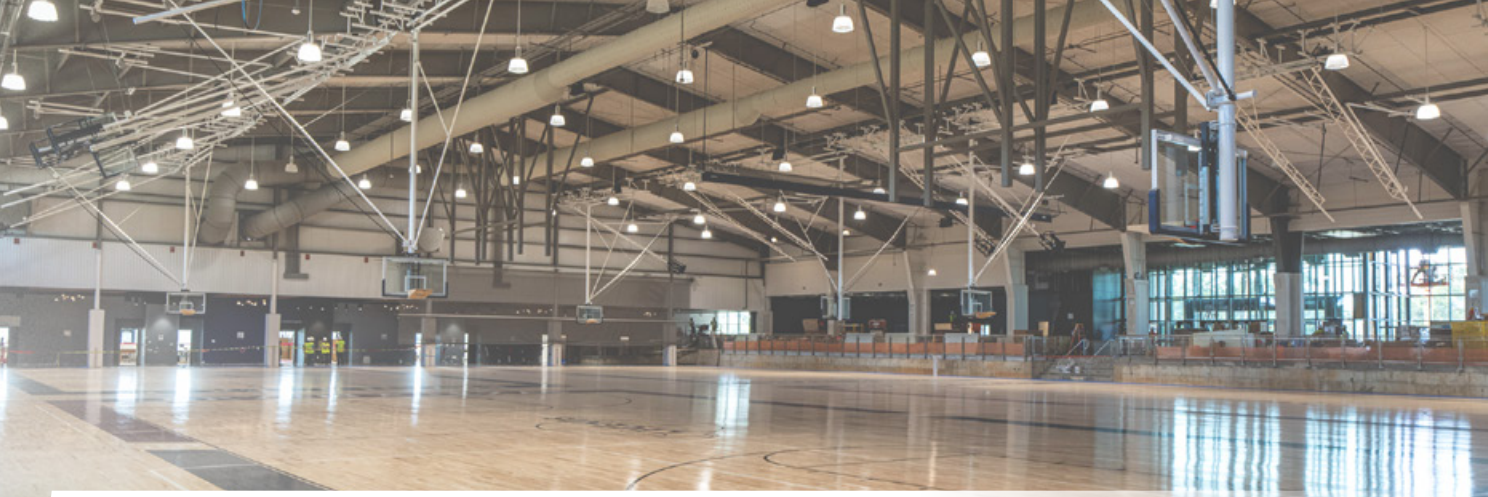
The state-of-the-art, indoor sporting and event facility celebrated its grand opening on Dec. 10 and is ready to host your next event. It is capable of hosting:

- *Volleyball and basketball tournaments*
- *Cheerleading and dance competitions*
- *Sports practices*
- *Birthday parties / reunions*
- *Trade shows*
- *Esports competitions*
- *Banquets / receptions*
- *Corporate events*
- *And more!*

*Stay updated on their events
by following them on social-*

/BryanLegendsEventCenter 

@BryanLegendsEventCenter 



LEGENDS EVENT CENTER FEATURES:

Technology/Scoreboards- Legends Event Center features the latest in technology to elevate your event experience. This includes 12 LED video boards, 32 televisions, and five projector screens.

Court Space- This 65,000-square-foot event floor with maple hardwood courts, features 16 volleyball courts overlapping eight basketball courts with backboards, nets and referee stands all suspended from the ceilings. Spectator seating is available for each court.

Legends of Aggieland Mural Wall- The walls outside of the flex rooms honor local sports legends whose accomplishments made an impact on athletics in Aggieland.

Full Concessions- Enjoy refreshment while watching the game.

Gaming Arena & Party Rooms- The arena features a virtual reality system and multiple arcade games, and is connected to three party rooms. It's the perfect option for a birthday party.

Turf Area- The 2,500-square-foot indoor turf is an optimal space for pickup games, free play, yoga, performance training and other exercise activities.

Esports Lounge- This dedicated space is equipped to handle up to 18 participants competing in single-player or team events at once.

Flex Rooms- A versatile 5,500-square-foot area that can be partitioned into separate rooms that open up to the Lakeview Plaza, which overlooks the Midtown Park Lake. Each room is outfitted with a drop-down projector screen. This is the ideal option for meetings, banquets, receptions and other small gatherings.

Catering kitchen- Conveniently located near the flex/meeting space, the world-class catering kitchen offers quick access for meals to be brought out to attendees.



Interested in hosting your next event at Legends Event Center?

For more information, visit:

BryanLegends.com/rentals

The center is owned by the City of Bryan, operated by The Sports Facilities Companies, and is a member of the SF Network, the nation's largest and fastest growing network of sports facilities.

To learn more about what is going on at Travis Bryan Midtown Park, visit: **Bryantx.gov/MidtownPark**