

Outlook

The Austin Area Chamber of Commerce supports our members by promoting local commerce, advocating business perspectives and establishing relationships for business and community success.

Connecting Young Professionals in the Community



The Connecting Young Professionals (CYP) Board and members had the opportunity to connect with a much younger crowd at the beginning of March. Neveln Elementary invited CYP in for Read Across America Week.

"It's great seeing the level of engagement our members have in the community, including at events like Read Across America at Neveln." said Board Member, Sean Williams.

When people make the time to read with children, especially parents, members of the community, and local celebrities, children get the message that reading is important. Making time to read helps motivate kids to read and celebrate the diversity in their community and country.

Board Member, Jaclyn Bird, recalls her experience; "as a previous Neveln Knight, I was so excited to participate in Read Across America. I remember always looking forward to that week in school. As a young professional in our community, it is important to show young students that there are opportunities in Austin and that it's a great place to come back to!"

CYP's mission is connecting young professionals in the Austin area and empowering their growth and success in the community. CYP can help you develop relationships with other Austin area young professionals, expand your business connections, enhance your leadership skills, and provide opportunities to get involved in our community!

If you are interested in more information about Connecting Young Professionals, please contact any CYP Board Member or call the Chamber directly at 507-437-4561.



Connecting Young Professionals Founding Board Member, Jaclyn Bird

Ribbon Cuttings



Ambassadors had a ribbon-cutting celebrating a new location for Bursch Travel. Cutting the ribbon is Mary Jo Follmuth. Bursch Travel is located at 204 Oakland Ave W in Austin.



Bell Bank Mortgage had a ribbon-cutting and Grand Opening to celebrate becoming a member of the Chamber. Kelly Ratzloff is cutting the ribbon. Bell Bank Mortgage is located at 329 North Main Street, Suite 202 in Austin.

ACCESS Scholarships Awarded

The Chamber's Business Education Committee held its 33rd Annual ACCESS Scholarship Banquet on Sunday, March 8, at the Hormel Historic Home. Winners were selected by the Chamber's Business Education Committee through a three-step process: written applications, interviews and speech presentations.



Twelfth grade winners are Abigail Muller (\$1,500), Kathryn Lillemon (\$1,000), Shenali DeSilva (\$750) and Goamaar Paul (\$750).

Eighth grade winners are Abby VanPelt (\$500), Julie Nesvold (\$375), Elayna Blust (\$250), Claire Bliese (\$250), Zaki Nawras (\$200) and Rose Garry (\$200).

Scholarship awards are made possible from the financial contributions of Chamber member sponsors. Sponsor list to date includes:

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Overby Orthodontics
Potach & Mitchell Dental Clinic
Quality Pork Processors
Sterling State Bank
Sweet Reads
US Bank
Wealth Management Solutions
Worlein Funeral Home

If you would like more information as to how you can get involved on the Business Education Committee contact the Chamber at 437-4561 or Committee Chair Adam Houck, 433-7394.

100 Club Event

The Chamber held its 100 Club event on Friday, March 6. The 100 Club event is a fundraiser for the Independence Day Parade, the gathering is a limited ticket event featuring games, raffles and door prizes. Participants also enjoyed heavy hors d'oeuvres and beverages while joining in on the fun.

This year's event was held at the Austin Country Club with Dave Thompson as Master of Ceremonies. Big winners for the evening included Carter Rosenthal (Innovative Signs) and Justin Bickler (Simplified Tech Solutions), winning the top prize of \$1,000 each. The \$500 prize went to Doug Nuckolls (Frist Farmers and Merchants). A number of \$125 door prizes winners were also drawn, and there were many other games of chance. More than \$5,000 was raised toward the Independence Day Parade for 2020.

The 100 Club Committee begins meeting in January each year to plan the annual event. Members of the committee include; Nan Hanegraaf, Jackie Bumgardner, Dick McIntosh, Steve Murley, Dan Marmsoler, Jeff Baldus, Dave Thompson and Elaine Hansen. A special thanks to the volunteers who helped with games and registration; Duane Dahlback, Matt Laack, Scott Fox, Danielle Morem, Jaelyn Bird, Bill Budion and Sue Nields.

Participants have the first right of refusal on tickets for upcoming years, but tickets occasionally become available. If you are interested in getting your name on the waiting list for next year, please contact the Chamber at 507-437-4561.