

# Dayton Crossroads Magazine May 2022 Issue 10



We are looking for your ideas, photos, recipes, and events to share with your community.

Do you know a Dayton family, student, or citizen that should be celebrated?

Email info@DaytonTxChamber.com or call 936-257-2393 with your information and ideas.

If you would like to advertise please contact the chamber at info@DaytonTxChamber.com or call 936-257-2393. You can find more information at www.DaytonTxChamber.com

We would like to say thank you to all the citizens and businesses who have contributed to this issue.

Contributors

Lee College

Pastor Mike Hill

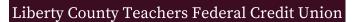
Jessica Sims

**Burleigh Family** 

**Dayton Chamber of Commerce** 

Executive Director Jessica Sims Administrative Assistant Shelby Eiland

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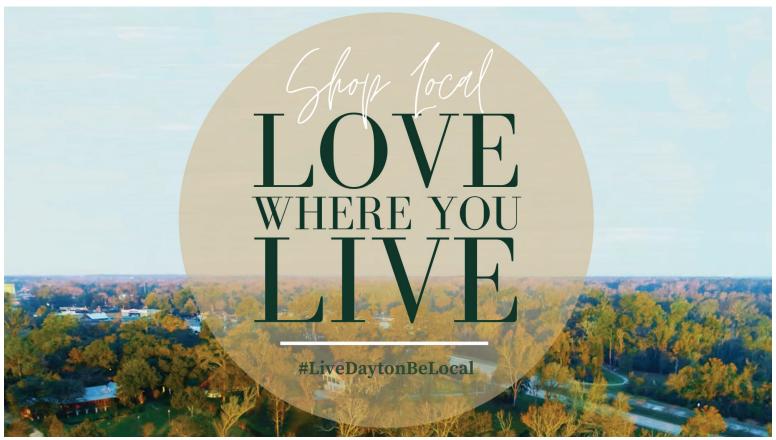




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# THANK YOU

for voting the Dayton Chamber of Commerce as "Best Chamber of Commerce in Liberty County"



Dayton Chamber of Commerce & The Lions Club of Dayto
Presents

### FLAGS OVER DAYTON

Represented Holidays: MLK Day, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, 9/11 Memorial, Veterans Day 1 Flag: \$35 2 Flags: \$60

Contact the Dayton Chamber of Commerce at **936-257-2393** to reserve a flag for your home or busines





























Photos: Liberty Gazette

### **Banquet Awards**







Award Photos: Bluebonnet News

### **Noticing Our Local Non-Profits!**



#### Universal Agape Love Silver Lining of Liberty County

The mission of Universal Agape Love is too provide community supports by aiding the holistic individual development of our clients; through peer support programs, counseling, advocacy, training, education and outreach. Our vision is to go beyond the paved path of assisting clients by creating sustainable help for those in need.



#### Trinity River Food Bank

The Trinity River Food Banks mission is to unite the community to fight hunger. They are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization that collects and distributes usable surplus food to hunger-relief charities who provide the food to the people they serve in the Liberty, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker counties. They have a Gold Star rating from the GuideStar Navigator, are a member of the Texas Food Bank Network, a partner with the Houston Food Bank, and a certified member of Feeding America.



#### Liberty VFW Post 5621

The Liberty VFW are at heart an organization dedicated to providing a place for all of those who have sacrificed in our nation's conflicts abroad. While they are a national organization, they express this dedication through their local posts and programs to support veterans service members, and their families.



#### CASA of Liberty & Chambers County

The mission of CASA of Liberty & Chambers Counties is to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children in the court system, and promotes activities purposed to raise the likelihood of their future success as responsible adults, through



#### Heaven's Army - Home of Amazing Grace

Heaven's Army – Home of Amazing Grace Women's Discipleship Program (HOAG), is a residential Christian character building & Discipleship program for women ages 18-60 years old. Women accepted into Home of Amazing Grace will dedicate the next 12-18 months of their life to establishing a personal relationship with Jesus, discipleship training, developing a knowledge of God's Word, and learning to live for God. Living in the Home of Amazing Grace is a new lifestyle for all women. Here, a safe place for healing has been created that will help women overcome life traumas.



#### FamilyTime Crisis & Counseling Center

FamilyTime's vision is to advocate for women, men and children in crisis situations and offer them the vital services they need in order to regain control of their lives. Services include counseling, case management, assistance with legal matters, and shelter from an abusive situation. In order to contribute through social change, we raise awareness in the community through education and training to prevent sexual violence and help break the cycle of domestic violence



#### Bridgehaven Children's Advocacy Center

Bridgehaven Children's Advocacy Center is a nonprofit organization that was created to help minimize the trauma associated with child abuse investigations. They are an organization that offers programs to help victims of child abuse and neglect. Their purpose is to coordinate the work of the multidisciplinary partnership and to ensure that child victims are not re victimized by the system designed to protect them. Bridgehaven CAC provides a neutral, child-friendly, non-institutionalized environment in which each victim can feel safe telling his/her story and immediate services can be provided to both the child and their non-offending family members.



# First Responders Luncheon Presented by: Enterprise Products & Chicken Express



**Police Officer of the Year Christopher Duos** 



Firefighter of the Year Jaime Villegas













### Is Social Media a Stepping Stone or Stumbling Block in Your Life By: Pastor Mike Hill

Is social media consuming our ability to actually socialize with our neighbors, our family, our businesses, our community development all together as far as building unity as a people?

Social media is a great tool for communication, advertising and daily work questions that need quick answers, but it is not good for building compassion, unity, love, and human touch which is vital for mankind to build trust and long term relationships. Being able to see each other's heart, look into each other's eyes as we share our dreams, our pains, or fears, and comforting and encouraging each other through real communication.

People seem to have gravitated to church online for their weekly fill of spiritual fulfillment. It's a shame because the bible tells us not to forsake the assembling, (coming together), and even more as we see the day approaching. It's easy to hide your sins and guilt when you don't have to look in your Pastor and your brother and sisters eyes, but conviction is healthy for spiritual growth and healing.

Social media has answers for everything, it tells us where to eat and shop, how to increase your love life, and even what drugs can make you sleep better or have more energy. It seems all life's answers can be met on your phone or computer.

We were created by God, and not for our purposes, but for His, so the only true answers to life's questions are in God's word, the Bible, Colossians 1:16-17.

In Psalms 139:13-16 It says that all our days are written in a book before any were ever seen. That means God has a purpose and a plan for us that will affect the people and territory we live in.

Psalms 138:8 says The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me, Your steadfast love O Lord, endures forever.

Phillipians 2:13 says It is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

It is He who puts the idea and desire in your heart, (your spirit), and it is He who fulfills the task thru you. How awesome is that?!

We are saved by grace through faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. A lot of Christians drop grace off at that point and don't realize how much of our lives should be influenced by grace.

Grace means God's ability to do in and through you, what would be impossible for you to do without it. It is because of His great love for us.

So many Christians love the fact that Jesus is our Savior, because everyone wants a free get out of Hell ticket. But have we seriously ever made Him Lord, master, director of our life, so that He can fulfill His purpose in us? Do we wake up every morning and say, "Lord, it's a new day. I'm grateful to be awake and available for your plan and purpose in me today, have your way!"

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven, but He who does the will of my Father who is in Heaven."

Paul wrote in Ephesians 3 that this grace was given to me for you. He knew God was doing in and through him what he needed to share the mystery of Christ to the Gentiles.

Are we relying on God's grace to produce in us what we need to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ in this generation or have we just given up because it's too hard? In our flesh it is not only hard, it is impossible.

The world is walking around with its head focused on a screen of Social Media, (propaganda), promoting lust, division,

fear, hatred, and being bewitched by its power to keep us out of God's word and time in His presence.

God wants to speak to you personally through His word and His Spirit, the things He has for us is spiritual, not physical and must be obtained by the Holy Spirit.

I once saw two young people who had an interest in each other, and we were going to a place to eat. I told the young lady don't stay on your phone all the time, talk to your friend. Later, I saw her on her phone and I said, "why aren't you talking to your guy friend?" She said, "we are talking, we're texting each other." (By the way, they were sitting right beside each other.)

Social media is supposed to be a tool only, but it is taking the humanness out of us and dulling our emotions. Keep Social media as a working tool, it has its value, but you weren't created to serve a screen and live 4-5 hours a day downloading junk in your spirit.

In Matthew 25 there is a parable of 10 virgins, 5 wise and 5 foolish, telling of a bridegroom coming to meet a bride with her light bright and oil full. You can only fill up your oil by the anointing of God, through worship, fellowship, prayer, the word and quiet time with God. None of the junk will be acceptable to replace the true oil and light your spirit produces. Get back in a church so you can fulfill your destiny and keep full of love and His word. That is where true happiness is!

5580 F.M. 1960 East Dayton, TX 77535

Email: ActionChurchInc.@gmail.com Facebook: @ActionChurchInc.

# LEE COLLEGE SETS THE STAGE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

A

As Michelle Camarata steps onto the ballroom floor, the spotlight comes up and her heart almost skips a beat. The music begins and, like a scene from a classic movie, she and her partner begin to tell a story with each movement as they step, slide, sway and spin gracefully across the floor in picture-perfect time. The crowd erupts in applause, the judges smile approvingly, and the whole thing feels nothing

short of an amazing dream come true.

Camarata, an adjunct Kinesiology instructor at Lee College, is also a professional ballroom dancer who competes in dance competitions with her husband, Kevin. The Camaratas met when they started competing professionally as dance partners in 2010. Since then, they have been competing together in some of the most robust dance competitions in the world, including the internationally acclaimed Dutch Open in The Netherlands.

The dancing duo competes in a style known as American Smooth, which is made up of four dances: Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot and Viennese Waltz. More interpretive than traditional style of ballroom dancing, American Smooth has been gaining popularity overseas and is grabbing the attention of more and more international competitions.

Camarata said the dance couple's goal over the next few years is to continue to learn and grow in the competition dance arena both in the U.S. and overseas, and ultimately be one of the top six finalists in the world.

"I adore how challenging dancing professionally is," she said. "I also love that we get to travel the world together and share our mutual passion with audiences that might not ever speak the same language as us. Dance is a universal art and getting to express ourselves without words is the most incredible feeling."



sional ballroom dancer, Camarata also works as a dance instructor at Maestro Dance Academy and is a yoga instructor and pageant coach. She believes having a wide range of interests and experience helps her excel in her teaching career as well.

"I not only teach about health and fitness, I live it every day," she added. "Dancing drives our eating habits to our workout habits to our sleeping habits. Our bodies are our instruments, so we must keep them in prime shape."

Michelle and Kevin will take time out of their busy competition schedule this summer to perform at "Dancing for our Stars" sponsored by the Lee College Foundation. The Foundation is Lee College's official fundraising organization which helps deserving students overcome financial barriers that may hold them back from their dreams of achieving a college education. \*\*



"I struggled financially for most of my life, so I know first-hand how it feels to make life-changing decisions based on what you are able to do versus what you desire to do. My contribution could possibly take the limits off for someone. Also, who doesn't love a good dance every now and then?"

Lee College Regent Gina Guillory

"I knew that giving students the opportunity to go to college would be life-changing. We all know that education can change lives. In fact, I was once a Lee College student. It gave be the foundational courses that guided me into becoming a teacher. You see, Lee College changed my life."

Dr. Jessica Johnson
Dayton ISD Superintendent





Presents

BENEFITING THE LEE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

### SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022 ★ 5:30 P.M.

### **DAYTON COMMUNITY CENTER**

**OUR DANCERS**Support your favorite dancer and raise scholarship funds for Lee College students at: **lee.edu/dancing** 



**Gina Guillory** & Derrick Anderson



**Earnest & Alicia Brooks** 



**Robin McDougald** & Sam Estrada



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## 2022 Chamber Ambassadors



Back Row Left to Right: Stacie Martin, Tera Aguero, Jennifer Billings, Andrew Landry Front Row Left to Right: Amanda Wessels, Susan Simmons, Alisha Dale Not Pictured: Tammy Alexander, Lauren Young, Mary E. Conner, and Norma Stephens



Stacie Martin DayNet



Lauren Young City of Dayton



Norma Stephens Keller Williams Elite Realty



Alisha Dale JLA Realty



Tera Aguero DCDC



Jennifer Billings City of Dayton



Mary E. Conner AConner Realty



Andrew Landry Clearent Payment Processing



Tammy Alexander City of Dayton



Amanda Wessels Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Premier Properties



Susan Simmons Dayton Resident

# 2022 Dayton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



From Left: Secretary - Contancy Onemany D.M.D, President - Lucas Gaskamp, Past President - Jordan Thibodeaux, Vice President - Howie Howeth



Top Left: Sherri Schmidt, Lucas Gaskamp, Jimmie Cullars, Jordan Thibodeaux, Howie Howeth, Jeff Johnson

**Bottom Left:** Meadow Noyer, Gabrielle Keene, Constance Onemany D.M.D, Sherisa Hoy, Stacey Herrington, Jennifer Garcia, Shelby Eiland, Jessica Sims

Not Pictured: Bill Monk

DAYTON Family life





### Hello from the Burleigh Family!

### Tell us about your family.

Shane is the Lieutenant at the Dayton Police Department and Tammy is the HR Director at the City of Dayton.

Their family consists of oldest son Lance, daughter Hailey, son Reilly, and youngest sons Terry and Ian, and of course, their pet Yorkie, Paris.

### **How Did You Meet?**

Shane and Tammy met while both working at the Dayton Police Department in 2006 and have been together ever since. Tammy has lived in Dayton since 1979 and is a graduate of Dayton High School Class of 86. Shane moved to Dayton in 2005. They both agree that one of the best parts about living in Dayton is the hometown feel. They live, work and play in Dayton and are involved in several community organizations and activities. They believe Dayton is a great place to raise a family.

# MEET THE BURLEIGH FAMILY

# What is a typical weekend like for your family?

On the weekends, when they aren't volunteering their time at various events, they enjoy being at home working in the yard and relaxing in their pool. When the Burleighs aren't involved in their Dayton lifestyle, they enjoy spending time at their hunting ranch in Rocksprings. The family loves to hunt turkeys, axis deer, whitetail deer, and wild hogs. During the summers they fish and swim at the Nueces River, which is not far from their ranch.





# What do you love about Dayton?

Being a part of the Dayton community is one of the reasons the Burleighs call Dayton home. Dayton is a close-knit community that pulls together when the need arises. Dayton is the kind of town where the Burleighs feel they belong, a place where they feel safe and supported, and a place where they can grow as a family.



TASTE OF DAYTON

# ROAD TRIP

ACROSS AMERICA

Thursday, June 9th 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

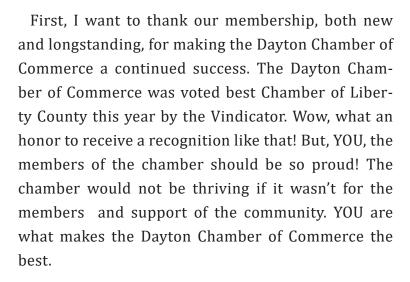
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# Executive Director Jessica Sims



Since the dreaded word, COVID, we have done nothing but take 10 steps forward and pushed through what we thought was going to be the toughest time for us. I personally feel that what 2020 put us through only made us stronger and better. Now we continue to stay strong and stay persistent with Grand parkway coming in and all the exciting growth. I can't wait to see what our town will be like in the next 5 years. Being a hometown girl of Dayton, I grew up with Dayton always being a little shadowed by other neighboring towns and always thought, when will it be our time to shine? The time is now and is continuing. We are a sought after town to many businesses and residents. That's why it is so exciting to be apart of this organization because of what all you get to see and who all you get to meet! Not only do I enjoy visiting our existing businesses but also enjoy welcoming the new businesses. What better time to join the Dayton Chamber.



We, at the Chamber, plan to offer a host of various networking opportunities and training courses. We recently are looking for more ways to help benefit you. If you are a new member or a long-term member and have not been able to attend an event, I encourage you to get out and get involved; seek out a board member, an ambassador, or even the chamber staff and introduce yourself. Again, thank you for the support and we will continue to strive for greatness in all that we do at the Chamber.

Jessica Sims

Jessica Sims, Executive Director



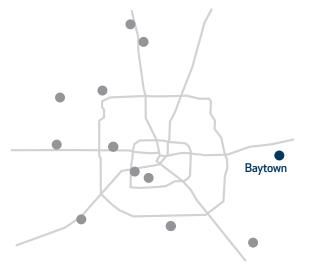




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