

# Quality News YOU CAN USE

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

SECOND QUARTER 2010

## Economic Incentive Grant Awarded to New Downtown Project

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Based on the Community and Economic Development Committee's review and proposal, City Council approved a \$15,000 economic incentive grant to HomeTown Bank, N.A. for the development of a 7,864 square foot, one-story building that will be located downtown at 600 S. Friendswood Drive in the Friendswood Village Shopping Center. The grant will reimburse HomeTown Bank, N.A. for costs related to the construction and development of the project including providing downtown landscaping improvements.

The new downtown branch will be constructed on a .9641 acre tract of land in the City's downtown neighborhood empowerment zone (NEZ#1) created by City Council in 2008 to encourage development, redevelopment, and employment in the downtown area. By locating in NEZ#1, approximately \$9,284 of City-related development fees, water and wastewater impact fees for the project will be waived. The site will provide downtown pedestrian improvements that include landscaping, paved sidewalks, street lighting, and benches. Upon completion of the building at the end of this year, the new \$1.6 million bank will occupy 4,779 square feet of the building and lease the remaining 3,085 square feet. Mayor David Smith said, "We are excited that some of our own local businesses are looking to Friendswood for expansion. In particular, they have embraced the value and opportunities our downtown area affords."



The City offers continuous assistance to business owners to help them expand or relocate their businesses to the city through a variety of economic development incentives, such as property tax abatement, municipal grant incentives and tax increment financing. For more information on economic development opportunities in Friendswood, call 281-996-3250 or visit [www.friendswood.com](http://www.friendswood.com).

### COORDINATOR'S CORNER



**Karen Capps, CEcD**  
Economic Development Coordinator

The City of Friendswood offers competitive business incentives for relocation or expansion that includes a municipal grant program, tax abatement with special green building provisions and a downtown neighborhood empowerment zone that waives City development fees. To see if your business qualifies for these programs, call 281-996-3250.



## Dunn Brothers Coffee Shop is Coming to Downtown

A new Dunn Brothers Coffee is coming to downtown at 201 S. Friendswood Drive and is slated to open in November 2010. The 1,980 square foot coffee shop will have an outdoor patio, paved sidewalks and benches in the front and rear of the building, as well as a drive through for folks on the run. This project is located in Friendswood's Downtown

Neighborhood Empowerment Zone #1 which waives all City fees related to construction and development of the project in addition to water and wastewater impact fees.





## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**June 27-29, 2010** Southwest Foodservice Expo, Houston, TX  
**September 26-28, 2010** International Economic Development Council Annual Conference, Columbus, OH  
**October 6-8, 2010** Texas Economic Development Council Annual Conference, Houston, TX  
**November 17-19, 2010** International Council of Shopping Center Texas Conference and Deal Making, Grapevine, TX



**Featuring Holly Mickler,  
Owner of The Green Event Center**



The City of Friendswood is a proud member of:



Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership

[www.bayareahouston.com](http://www.bayareahouston.com)



Galveston County Economic Alliance

[www.gcea.us](http://www.gcea.us)



Friendswood Chamber of Commerce

[www.friendswood-chamber.com](http://www.friendswood-chamber.com)

The Green Event Center is a natural fit for the Friendswood community with its professionally decorated dramatic interior finishes and spacious layout for up to 250 seated guests. It's the perfect place for business meetings, specialty events, wedding receptions, or private corporate functions.

Located at 2000 W. Parkwood in the Jacob White Building, the Green Event Center takes advantage of the progressive technology incorporated into a LEED's certified structure including a "green roof" with a garden and shrubs. The interior lighting and sound/ projection system in this 5,000 square foot facility will make any occasion a memorable event.



Holly and Jeff Mickler met in Friendswood in 1968 and have lived here most of their lives. They are very familiar with the great business climate yet the small town atmosphere the community provides.

When Holly conceived the idea of this unique facility, she had two distinct advantages and made good use of them both. Jeff has been in the commercial construction and development markets all of his professional life and was the best person to help with the location. Ann Curry is an executive chef with all the answers for your menu whether it's continental, southern, trendy, down

home Texan, or just something a little health conscious. Ann has arranged menus for various U.S. presidents, movie stars and their directors, medical centers, private up-scale restaurants, and even...spacemen. Holly remarked about the advantage of having a business in Friendswood is "that it's close to home and there is no other place like The Green Event Center in town or around the area."

The Green Event Center is now a part of Friendswood, a place where employers recognize their employees, life long commitments are celebrated, business meetings are conducted, or maybe just families and friends arrange for good times together.

The Green Event Center - Owned and operated by people who live and work in Friendswood.



Contact  
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## Chase Bank Constructs New Branch

Chase Bank is building a third bank branch in Friendswood. The new 4,200 square foot branch will be located at 255 W. Parkwood Avenue in the HEB Shopping Center. The new branch plans to open in the Fall of 2010 and will employ nine persons.



## Business News

### Coming soon:

- Disiere Office Park, 205 E. Edgewood Dr., 4,854 sq. ft.
- Boatwright Marine, 3280 W. Parkwood Ave., 7,538 sq. ft.
- Edward Jones, 1309 W. Parkwood Ave., 1,340 sq. ft.
- Purple Box Theater, 1305 W. Parkwood Ave., 1,340 sq. ft.
- Victoria Hopkins, M.D., 1305 W. Parkwood Ave., 2,500 sq. ft.
- Frank's American Pie, 108 W. Edgewood Dr., 900 sq. ft.
- Smart Cellular, 101 E. Edgewood Dr., Suite B.

## Residential Development

### Residential subdivisions planned or under construction:

- West Ranch West Lake Section I—49 lots
- The Dominion at Friendswood Lakes—10 lots

### 2010 Single-family home building permits

Month	#Homes	Valuation (in millions)
January	19	\$5.07
February	18	\$5.38
March	18	\$6.05
April	17	\$5.56
Total	72	\$22.06

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