

Calendar

May 11, 2016

Program—Speaker— Steve Davidson —11:45 am—1 pm Petroleum Club

May 25, 2016

Business Meeting—Election of Officers—Members Only—11:45 am—1 pm Reliance Energy Building, Wagner & Brown -Suite 500 - Conference Room—Brown Bag

June 8, 2016

Installation of Elected Officers Program Meeting—11:45 am—1 pm —Petroleum Club—Sit down meal

Tentative Date

July— Start of our New Year

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President's Letter

Spring showers bring May flowers, but in West Texas they bring weeds!!! I know many of you ladies have probably been working on spring cleaning your homes, lawns, offices, etc. and I'm sure it feels like a "fresh start." Sometimes, that's what we working women need is something to kick start a new outlook and perspective on work, home, and life. So whatever your vice is for a fresh perspective, I hope it had you off to a great start as we enjoy this new spring season!

Spring has been GREAT to Uptown BPW! Annette Dozier and her "Bunco" committee have done an OUTSTANDING job with this year's event. Beer and Bunco raised over \$5,500 for our scholarship funds! The committee secured 11 table sponsorships, hosted a silent auction that generated \$1,473 for scholarships, and was the best bunco game in all of West Texas! We are so proud of all the ladies who served on this year's event committee: Annette Dozier (chair), Deborah Williams, Emily Weinberg, Jean Jones, Shellie Robins, Stacy Nelson, and Tyna Gober. You all did a fantastic job at raising awareness and money for our BPW scholarship program!

Not only are our events succeeding, so is our membership! We are currently at 39 members and growing!!!! I do believe this is a testament to the hard work of the membership committee, as well as the BPW members as a whole. I heard a new member say just the other day how impressed she was with the women of BPW. It was so great to hear that from a new member, because when I was recruited three years ago I felt the exact same way. We are working women – who want to make a difference! I'm so proud to be a part of such a great organization of amazingly talented ladies. If you know someone who might be interested in joining – bring them to our next program meeting! Or if you're looking for information to share about BPW – check out the website www.MidlandBPW.com

One last thing.....we will begin committee sign-ups in June, so be thinking about ways you'd like to get involved more with the mission and business of Uptown BPW. We will be sending out committee information in the coming weeks so you can make your selections! I do hope you'll each consider serving, as it takes everyone to create long-term success. If you're anxious to learn more about the committees please feel free to reach out to anyone of the officers for more information. Thanks - SM

Stephanie Murphree
Uptown BPW
President 2015-2016



Behind every successful woman is HERSELF!

Member Happenings

Cason's 1st Easter

By
Stephanie
Murphree

We celebrated Cason's "1st" Easter with lots of family activities! We traveled to Rotan to visit my in-laws where he got in a swimming pool for the first time. He looked very GQ in his shades and diaper.

We also celebrated in Midland with my family and had our first Easter egg hunt. While all he wanted to do was put the eggs in his mouth, I do think it made for some lifelong memories!

The other photo is a professional photo that was too cute not to share! Proud momma of Cason Murphree - Steph P.S. I had no idea boys could be so much fun!!!

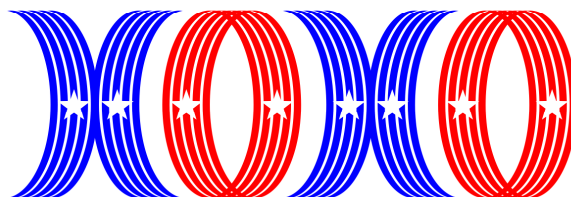


MEMBER UPDATE:

Jonna's last name is now "Smoot" - with new work email address of

JSmoot@WTNB.COM

Remembering on Memorial Day
Thank You, Veterans!



Congratulations to Emily Weinberg and

UTPB SBDC lauded for job, business creation



Reynald Lops, deputy district director with the United States Small Business Administration Lubbock-West Texas District Office, presents the 2016 Excellence and Innovation Award to the University of Texas of the Permian Basin Small Business Development Center, which includes Director Enrique Romero, center right, Spanish Consultant Larissa Reza, right, Assistant Director Emily Weinberg, center left, and Program Coordinator Kukina Hernandez, left, Thursday at the Odessa Chamber of Commerce.

Almost three years ago Gilbert and Rosie Ramirez started [Epic Collision Services](#) without ever running a business of their own before.

Since then, they grew their staff of five to 19 employees, and in the months ahead they plan to open a second location on Business 20.

[The University of Texas of the Permian Basin Small Business Development Center](#) helped them do it. And on Thursday, the local resource drew accolades for such work from the federal [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) for its work helping hundreds of small businesses and creating hundreds of jobs.

The center won the 2016 Excellence and Innovation Award based on success stories like the Ramirez's, beating seven counterparts in a 71-county region.

The UTPB SBDC, at no charge and with a team of five, offers professional business counseling, technical and business plan assistance, training workshops and reference resources for people starting a business for the first time, pursuing a new venture or seeking to expand the company they have.

"The fear of starting was a big obstacle for me and for our family," said Gilbert Ramirez, who first visited the center in August 2012. In the months following, the center helped the couple get a loan and craft a business plan.

"Thank you for allowing us to think big," Gilbert Ramirez told the center's staff at an award ceremony Thursday. "Thank you for allowing us to take that opportunity. It is very important to continue. It is very important to have this in this town, because it gives small people like us an opportunity to make something a reality, a dream a reality."

The staffers at the SBDC are Director Enrique Romero, Assistant Director Emily Weinberg, Business Consultant Danny Hughes, Spanish Consultant Larissa Reza and Program Coordinator Kukina Hernandez.

**UTPB
SBDC**

**Cont'd
From
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Reynald Lops, the deputy district director of the U.S. Small Business Administration in Lubbock, said the agency does not always give out the award if centers fail to meet performance measures like jobs created and counseling hours provided.

“I know specifically what they are supposed to do, and I’ve got to tell you they do not care to do that — they far exceed it,” Lops said. “I know personally Enrique will go to the bank with a person who needs to get a loan and help them through that process. Nobody does that. Nobody.”

Lawana Smith said the center helped her buy [L’Oven Expressions Bakery](#) and reopen it in 2011, after a previous career in management and consulting including for the cookie company Mrs. Fields.

“I didn’t know anything about putting together a business for myself,” Smith said, adding the center helped inspire her to take risks and assisted her efforts to secure financing.

Odessa Chamber of Commerce CEO Mike George nominated the SBDC for the award. The chamber’s chairman-elect Austin Keith lauded the center for fostering the sort of entrepreneurship he described as foundational to Odessa.

“Out here in West Texas, I always tell people, we hang on a small tree out here,” Keith said. “We are together. It’s a little bitty mesquite. That’s what our chamber of commerce brings, that’s what our development corporation brings, that’s what SBA brings to the table. That’s what ya’ll bring. It helps get people into business.”

Odessa Development Corporation board member Jimmy Breaux proclaimed Thursday “UTPB Small Business Development Center Day” on behalf of the city. The ODC supplements the state and federal funds the center receives with local tax dollars and regularly praises the center’s results.

In 2015, for example, the center reported providing more than 1,900 hours of business consulting to 436 clients. The team helped secure more than \$8 million in financing, helped entrepreneurs open or buy a total 53 businesses in the area, and they created 289 jobs. Lops said the jobs figure is almost certainly an undercount, because the center is only allowed to count jobs created when a business it helps opens, not the jobs added later.

The center serves a 16-county region, but Romero said about 65 percent of those results represented businesses in Odessa.

“We don’t take money from anybody, we don’t,” Romero said. “I think we are probably the only organization that I’ve seen, where the vested interest in us is that you succeed. You have to open your doors. You have to get funded. You have to, in order for us to check something off and say, Look, we got results.”

For his part, Romero thanked his team and said the measure of their success lies in the businesses and jobs they help create.

“It’s not free,” Romero said. “We are taking tax dollars here, so we’ve got to give back.”

From Odessa American Online

Bunco Fundraiser Pics - 4/18/16



Orval and Mona Bethany Celebrate 50th

Orval and Mona Bethany were married on April 9, 1966. Along with family and friends, they recently celebrated 50 years of marriage with a party hosted by their daughter and son-in-law, Mark and Brandey Peck. Orval and Mona have lived the majority of their married life in Midland. They have two grandchildren, Ryan and Morgan Peck.

Orval has retired from both IBM and AT&T and is currently working with XEROX. Mona is employed with T. Bob Amthor Company in Midland.



Left—Mona and Orval

Right—Stacy and Jessica - Jessica is going on 3 plus years with her new kidney donated by Stacy



Texas Artists TodayDiane K. Browne



And you can view my art in the halls of Shared Spaced Monday thru Friday 8a-5pm at 3500 North A Street. Except for my two larger pieces, these change out quarterly with the next opening reception Thursday, June 16.

Two of my pieces were accepted into the Midland Arts Association "Texas Artists Today" juried art exhibition. The show is held at the Museum of the Southwest, which has just been completely renovated, 1705 W Missouri, Midland. Opening reception will be May 17 from 6-8pm with show running thru June 12.



Deadline for submitting articles for the June Newsletter is Friday May 27th!!
Never too early to submit an article or photos or both!


Report of the Nominating Committee.....

President	Katie Presley
Vice-President	Deborah Williams
Secretary	Shirley Harris
Treasurer	Emily Weinberg
Director	Tyna Gober
Director	Jonna Smoot

These ladies have graciously agreed to serve if elected.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor on the day of the elections at our Closed Meeting (Members Only) on May 25, 2016

Committee Chair.....
Stephanie Murphree



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Happy Birthday

Women in History

- 5/4 Sylvia Young
- 5/11 Yvonne Reyes
- 5/21 Mona Bethany



- 5/4 Joy Hancock 1896-1986
Director of WAVES, 1946-1948, as Chief of Naval Personnel. 1948-1953 advised on women's affairs
- 5/11 Ethel Weed 1905-1975
Helped establish women's rights in Japanese Civil Code
- 5/21 Frances Densmore 1867-1957
Ethnomusicologist recorded songs of Native Americans

Our Mission

The mission of this organization is to equip all women for success in the workplace through education and information, and to recognize and honor the accomplishments of working women.