

Raymondville Chamber of Commerce 2016 Newsletter

The Raymondville Chamber of Commerce serves and assists the City along with Willacy County and its surrounding areas with business promotion and attraction, tourism, networking opportunities and community issues and quality of life projects. The year 2016 was no different than others with good things occurring, great things occurring, and also challenges along the way paving our way to a better and stronger community.

We experienced a huge financial blow to our community with the closing of a large retail establishment employing approximately 150 local employees, and the effects were felt by both the City and County; however, the community came together, and with Workforce solutions as partners, were able to host several job fairs to assist and offer jobs to as many people as they could accommodate. Small business owners opened up slots for more employees and more entrepreneurs took the challenge and opened up small businesses.

We look forward to a great year and would like to share a few of our activities we took part in for the 2016 year.....This is a portion of the Progress in our Community, but there is more happening! The Raymondville Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and its Staff wish you a Prosperous and Happy New Year and join you in looking forward to a great 2017!

- Holiday Inn Hotel complete
- CVS opens its doors
- NAPWHOF (nature & photography center in its final stages)
- Raymondville Dollar Store opens
- Two Driving Schools now open in Raymondville

Networking Opportunities

- Hosted Two Membership drives
- Hosted Monthly Membership Networking Breakfasts
- Began hosting Lunch & Learns
- Held Annual Awards Chamber Reception and awards presentation highlighting businesses that have conducted business for decades

Business Promotion/Economic Development

- Ribbon Cutting for Raymondville CVS
- Ribbon Cutting for City Smile Thrift Store
- Ribbon Cutting Law Office of Ryan Solis'
- El Jefe Ribbon Cutting
- Holiday Inn Ribbon Cutting
- New Police Department Ribbon cutting
- Raymondville Veterans Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Grand Opening
- Casitas Los Olmos Ground Breaking
- RGV Credit Union Ribbon Cutting
- Continue to work with County on business prospects
- Continue to work Close with the City in upcoming business prospects
- Host a Website with chamber member listing
- Offer Email blast opportunities through Chamber contact list
- Worked with Valley Baptist Systems and EDC on wellness program

Community Events

- Partnered with RISD in coordinating a Wellness Health Fair
- Partnered with Raymondville Golf Course with Ryan Guillen Celebrity Golf Classic
- Attended Non Profit Summit at UTRGV
- Sponsored breakfast for New Teacher Reception
- Continued to work on overseeing Tourist Center Renovations
- Partnered with Raymondville Gear Up Program for a Youth Ambassador Program
- Hosted a Chalupa Night
- Hosted the Chamber Annual Planning Workshop
- Attended quarterly Community Relations meetings with CCA and MTC
- Serve as board member of MTC Community Relations board
- Serve on Industrial Foundation Board
- Hosted a Clay Shoot in April
- Hosted Open Carry Seminar in January for businesses
- Hosted a "Put Raymondville on the Google Map" seminar
- Hosted SBDC seminars on different subjects important for businesses

Tourism/Marketing

- Chamber Website updated weekly
- Partnered with VTX1 to create a Tourism Video
- New Tourist Guide/Chamber directory
- Partnered with RGV Food Bank with Farmer's Markets
- Hosted a July 4th Festival and round robin softball tournament
- Wild in Willacy Nature & Heritage Festival 2016
- Hosted WIW Children's Program/photography contests/tours to local ranches
- Hosted 2016 Annual Christmas Parade
- Hosted 2016 Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at Pocket Park
- Promoted community through advertising in Raymondville Chronicle, Valley Morning Star, and publications through South Texas Nature Inc.

