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Chamber honors Lyondell Chemical as Industry of the Year

By:ANDREA TANTILLO , News Editor

Each year the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce pays tribute to a member of the area's industrial community.

This year, Lyondell Chemical Company's Bayport Underwood and Choate plants were honored as the 2005 Industry of the Year.

"We appreciate you being here and in the community," said Bill McCoy, president of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. "One of the reasons we have this award is to say thank you. Pasadena, Texas has always appreciated its petrochemical industry."

Lyondell Chemical Company celebrated its 20th year in operation in April, and James W. Bayer, senior vice president for manufacturing for Lyondell, said the company is proud to receive the chamber's honor in conjunction with the company's birthday celebration.

Lyondell began as a refinery off State Highway 225 in Pasadena and an olefins plant in Channelview in 1985. Since that time, Lyondell has grown to more than 10,000 employees on five continents.

"This year, we've increased our product depth and breadth," Bayer said. "We touch your lives many times, every day."

Bayer explained that while Lyondell may not make products that may be familiar to many people, the company makes products that make common products better, such as paint, cosmetics, cars and seat cushions.

In addition to providing quality products, Lyondell also strives for a high quality of life for its employees and the community.

"We are very proud of the people who work at Lyondell," Bayer said. "One fact that hasn't changed (over the years is) our dedication to our neighbors in the community."

Bayer said the employees in the Bayport Industrial District plants work with Armand Bayou Nature Center, area schools and the city of Pasadena.

"(Our employees) are helping to make a difference with their hands and their hearts," Bayer said.

Lyondell workers will participate in Global Care Day on Saturday at Armand Bayou Nature Center by planting marsh grass, building a deck in the children's area and picking up trash.

Bayer invited all Lyondell volunteers to stand and be recognized during the luncheon Thursday.

"It's very easy to be very proud of these people," he said.

The next membership mixer for the chamber will be June 21 at 7 a.m. at Cowboy Ranch Restaurant.

For more information about the chamber and chamber activities, call (281) 487-7871.

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