

FACT SHEET



THE SETTLES HOTEL

200 E. 3rd Street
Big Spring, TX

SETTLES HOTEL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC

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Big Spring, Texas 79720

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MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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First Opened: October 1, 1930
Renovations to be completed: January 2010
Grand Opening: March 2010

BIG SPRING:

Named for its historic spring which once sustained early western wagon trains, the city of Big Spring was founded in 1882 and fully incorporated in 1907. The town flourished with the completion of the Texas and Pacific Railroad. Big Spring now sits on the Port-to-Plains corridor which facilitates the efficient transportation of goods and services from Mexico through West Texas. With a population of over 25,000 residents, it is the largest city between Abilene and Midland. It is also the county seat of Howard County.

CITY DEMOGRAPHICS:

- Population: 25,233 (2000 Census)
- Annual average temperature: 77 F
- Median age: 36.4
- Median income for a household: \$28,257
- Median income for a family: \$35,448
- Major employers: Big Spring State Hospital, Big Spring ISD, Cornell Corrections, Inc., Veterans Administration Hospital, Price Construction, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, Star Tek, Wal-Mart, City of Big Spring
- Attractions: Comanche Trail Park and Amphitheatre, Historic Spring, Heritage Museum, Signal Mountain, Big Spring State Park, Sandhill Crane Feeding Area, Hangar 25, Vietnam Memorial, Scenic Mountain, Historic Potton House, Wind Farm, Moss Creek Lake

CITY GOVERNMENT:

The City Council provides legislative leadership in establishing ordinances, resolutions, and other policies designed to provide effective administration of City departments, to ensure orderly development of the City, and to promote the safety and welfare of the Citizens of Big Spring.

MAYOR:

Russ McEwen
310 Nolan
Big Spring, TX 79720

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council@mybigspring.com

COUNCIL:

District 1- Stephanie Horton
District 2- Manuel Ramirez, Jr.
District 3- Jo Ann Staulcup
District 4- Gloria McDonald
District 5- Troy Tompkins
District 6- Greg Biddison

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HISTORY:

Sitting on what once was railroad property, the corner of 3rd Street and Runnels has been through many changes over the years. The land was once a haven for wildlife and cowboys until the oil boom of the late 1920's when W.R. Settles bought the property and began the construction of this historic building.

The cost of original construction was a reported to be \$500,000, a fortune in those days. Opening in October of 1930 to great fanfare and support by the local community, The Settles Hotel was often compared to the finest hotels of its day. In its prime, the Settles hosted dignitaries and celebrities such as Elvis Presley, Lawrence Welk, Herbert Hoover, and many others.

The hotel, which remains an important historical structure in West Texas, has been vacant since the 1980's. In 2006, Big Springs native and CEO of Ryan & Company, G. Brint Ryan, purchased the building in hopes of restoring the grand hot

MANAGEMENT GROUP:

The Settles Hotel Development Company (SHDC) was formed to acquire and restore the historic Settles Hotel property and involves a few of Big Springs' native sons:

MISSION:

"Our management is committed to the preservation of this remarkable building. We believe the Settles is a treasure in and of itself."

The group is working from the original set of blueprints and has begun an extensive process to bring back the beautiful details that evoke the craftsmanship and architectural details of a bygone era. Simultaneously, they are upgrading the heating, air conditioning, lift, and plumbing to today's modern standards. Restoring the original building signs and collecting many original artifacts from the building is also a priority. Their team of experts includes some of the region's leading authorities on historical restoration projects. They involve architects, historians, and specialty contractors who know they are not simply restoring an aging building—they are preserving a symbol for the entire Big Spring community.

G. Brint Ryan is the Founder and CEO of Ryan, the largest state and local tax consulting firm in North America. SHDC is owned and managed by Brint, a native and former resident of Big Spring, Texas. He is a certified public accountant and Alumnus of the University of North Texas.

Kristopher K. Ryan is the General Manager of the SHDC. Prior to his position with SHDC, Kris was employed as an accountant with eSports Partners, Inc., a web-based sports and entertainment merchandiser located in Dallas. Returning to reside once again in his hometown, Kris is an Alumnus of the University of North Texas and a member of the Big Spring Rotary Club.

SETTLES HOTEL RESTORATION FACTS:

- The ballroom and lobby of The Settles Hotel will be restored following the original architectural plans from the 1930s.
- The company is interested in recovering original building materials as well as significant items marked with the original Settles Hotel emblem.
- The Heritage Museum has offered to return the chandelier that once hung in the lobby.
- Once reopened, the hotel will offer guests a full service restaurant, a convention center, and fitness complex, as well as all modern amenities.
- SDHC's plans under consideration include space on the first and second floors for luxury retailers and service firms.
- Once fully restored, the owners hope to nominate the hotel for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.