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The deadline for this great seminar is fast approaching on December 4th. You don't want to miss the opportunity to brush up on your leadership skills and learn some great tips and tricks for dealing with difficult employees, managing Generation Y and millennials, delegating successfully, and making yourself a hero. Good leadership is essential to success, and speaker Glenn Shepard will teach you how to move beyond simply managing to truly leading your team. This seminar is for every type of business or organization and will give you tools and ideas to implement immediately. You'll learn the simple but powerful strategies you need to solve your worst workplace problems, energize your people and be the manager other managers envy and bosses can't wait to reward!

Executives around the country have paid \$1,295 to hear Glenn speak. Chamber members get the exclusive price of **\$129 per person** (\$149 for non-members) and anyone buying 3 seats, gets the 4th seat free. Got a whole management team that needs this program? The best deal is to get 10 seats for \$1,000.

To register for this event, visit Amarillo-Chamber.org/Leadership-Seminar.html

Questions or assistance submitting your reservation? Call 806.373.7800

For more details on Glenn Shepard, visit GlennShepard.com or follow him on Facebook.

"Your level of success in every area of life will be greatly affected by the people you surround yourself with, so choose wisely."

- Glenn Shepard



Tuesday, December 8th

830am-12pm

Amarillo College Downtown Campus

Business & Industry Center Bud Joyner Auditorium (Room 111) 1314 S Polk

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Thanks for Joining in September

Abbeville Dentistry & Denture Care Center

Claudia Aguilar Renae Taylor 1915 S. Washington, Space 100 Amarillo, TX 79109 (806) 533-8400

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Full service dental office for your entire family. We do what it takes for patients to have a happy healthy smile.

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Stay up to date by frequently checking our Chamber and Community Calendar online. You can even add your own events to the online community calendar.

http://bit.ly/AmarilloChamberCalendar

The Chamber cannot guarantee your success or your profitability, but it can guarantee the right business climate for you to succeed.

- Author Unknown



Ribbon Cutting & Groundbreaking Ceremonies in September & October

Click on http://bit.ly/RibbonCuttingsSept2015 download these pictures.



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices 3300 Danvers Drive



ER Now 2101 S Coulter



Panhandle Independent Living Center 417 W 10th



Plains Land Bank 5625 Fulton Drive

Be sure to look for our Ribbon Cutting photos in

AMARILLO GLOBE-NEWS



Contact Lindsey at 342-2006 for information on holding your own Ribbon Cutting or Ground Breaking event.



Abbeville Dentistry & Denture Care Center 1915 S Washington, Space 100



Amarillo Grape & Olive 7402 SW 34th



Appleseed Junction 3307 Bell



Arrow Child & Family Ministries 4655 S FM 1258



Back to Basics Massage & Personal Training - 3714 Olsen Blvd.



C&B Marketing Solutions 2400 SW 6th



Creative CAD Designs 3505 Olsen Blvd. Suite 103



Ribbon Cutting & Groundbreaking Ceremonies in October

Click on http://bit.ly/RibbonCuttingsOctober2015 download these pictures.



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DFB Insurance Group 301 S Polk, Suite 600



Embassy Suites Hotel 550 Buchanan



Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers 5225 S Coulter



Keller Williams 3955 Soncy



Liberty Mutual 2201 Civic Circle, Suite 211



Medley Material Handling 10460 Interstate 27



Northwest Emergency at Town Square Soncy & Hillside



Texas Heartland Insurance Services 3505 Olsen Blvd. Suite 103



Tina Spohn-Ledford Family Practice Clinic 713 N Taylor



Vermeer Texas-Louisiana 12260 I-27



Walmart Neighborhood Market 2711 SW 58th

Thanks for Joining in September

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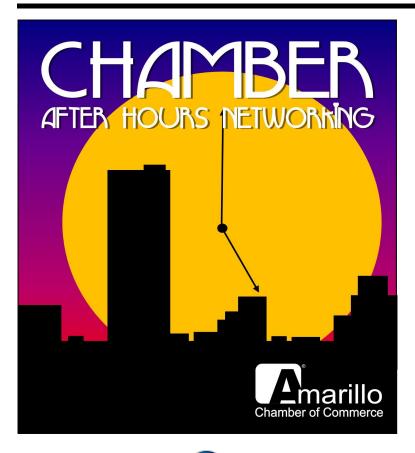
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Full service Real Estate Brokerage: real estate investments, seller & buyer representation, & property management.



Tune in to Fun 99.7 every Monday at 2:30pm to hear about the week's events, conventions & newest members. It's the most jam-packed three minute segment each week. If you miss it live, you can always check out the video recap with more information on our YouTube Channel,

<u>Facebook</u> page or on the <u>Week's Sneak Peek</u> page on our website.



Third Chamber After Hours Event Scheduled for December 3rd

After a long break, we have brought Chamber After Hours free networking events back to life with our first event in October held at Casey Carpet One. Earlier this month we networked at Proffer Surgical Associates. Coming up next week on Thursday, December 3rd Street Volkswagen will host the After Hours event in their brand new facility.

If you have yet to join us at one of these fun events, you can expect to meet some new faces, connect with some old friends, hand out some business cards, maybe win a door prize, enjoy some great food and beverages, and network, network, network. Best of all, they are FREE. We invite Chamber members to take advantage of this great way to meet new people who might want to know about your business.

For more information about this and more 2016 events, visit http://bit.ly/AmarilloChamberAfterHours.





December 3rd

5PM - 7PM

Chamber Members & Guests are invited to join us for another FREE Business Networking event. There will be hors d'oeuvres, drinks, & door prizes.

Adults only please.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Abbeville Dentistry Access Community Credit Union Ace Pest Control Amarillo Community Federal Credit Union Amarillo Globe-News Amarillo Little Theatre Amarillo Medical Services Amarillo Plastic Fabricators Amarillo Postal Employees Credit Union Amarillo Residence Inn by Marriott Amarillo Slims Pool Palace Amarillo Storage Station Amarillo Urology Associates Amarillo VA Health Care System American Legion: Hanson Post 54 **Anchor Power Services** Andrews & Associates IT Solutions, LLC Arctic Glacier USA A-Team Rentals Bell Trailerplex Bella Luna Aesthetic Center Big Texan Steak Ranch Borchardt's Coin Machines Brown & Fortunato, P C **Brown Graham & Company** Bubble Bath Car Wash Burger King - Amaregal Buzula Furniture Outlet Caprock Auction Group Caprock Realty Group Card & Party Factory Care Today Urgent Health Carpet World Amarillo Century 21 Boston & Company Chamber Music Amarillo Chicken Express Children's Learning Centers of Amarillo, Inc. City Federal Credit Union

Collier Property Management

Communication Connection Courtyard by Marriott Amarillo Downtown at the Historic Fisk Bldg. Cristal Robinson, Attorney Desperado's Catering Don Harrington Discovery Center Drury Body Shop, Inc. Elkins Ranch **Embers Steakhouse** Estacar Companies, LLC **Express Employment Professionals** EyeCare Plus, L. L. P. Famous Dave's of Amarillo **Golf Headquarters** Graham Brothers Jewelry Heaven's Rainbow Bridge Icon Graphics **IDEACOM of Amarillo** J Ferg Roofing and Foam Jane Juett Jim Hutson Agency JSW Properties, Inc. Ken's Amarillo Battery & Golf Cars **Kool Smiles** Krause Landscape Contractors LeFleur Transportation Leisure Leasing Motorhome Rentals Llano Estacado Management Company Lovett Chiropractic Pain Relief Clinic Manning Land, LLC Marcella Furs & Leather March of Dimes-Amarillo Division Mary Kay Cosmetics/Cathy Welch McCartt & Associates McCarty Hull, Inc

Milan Institute of Cosmetology

Milan Institute/ I-40 National Home Health Care NTS Communications, Inc. OHMS Cafe & Bar On The Border Cafe Orkin Exterminating Company Palo Duro Retirement Village Panhandle Dental, LP Pan-Handlers Cafe & Catering Park Central Retirement Community Pro Chem Sales Quality Inn Medical Center Rabern Rentals Randall Technology Services Ray Electric Company Ravne Water Conditioning Reagor-Dykes Mitsubishi Amarillo Red River Steakhouse Rockrose Development, LLC Saltgrass Steakhouse Santa Fe Federal Credit Union Schlotzsky's / Cinnabon Schooler Funeral Home Select Staff Shafer Investment Management, LLC Slate Group **Smart Chemical Services** Spicy Mike's Bar-B-Q Haven SportClips—Georgia SportClips—Soncy State Farm/Bill McDonald State Farm/Brian Moore State Farm/Kay McMinn Sylvan Learning Center Taco Villa #5 Tascosa Business Forms Texas Musical The Craig Senior Living The Salvation Army at Amarillo Therapy 2000 Tru Trading Company **Tumbleweed Sound**

Underwood Law Firm, P.C.
Valet Cleaners
Virdinski's Rub Shack
Walmart Supercenter
(Canyon Drive)
WBI General Contractors
Wells Fargo Bank of Amarillo
Will Rogers Range Riders
Witt Flooring Center
Wolflin Vision Clinic
Wyndham Garden Amarillo
Zip Print

Your Chamber's
September
membership
retention rate of
0
0
puts us in the
top 10 Chambers
in the nation
for our size.

Thanks for renewing
your membership in
September and for
your continued
support of the Chamber.

REMEMBER: You can pay your Chamber invoices online and even update your membership listing, including address, phone, fax, email, website, description of services and more. Visit the MEMBERS ONLY section of our website or email Christy@amarillo-chamber.org for your login name and password if you have forgotten it. Need help? Give her a call at 342-2004.

Click here to go to the Members Only Login Section: http://bit.ly/MembersOnlyLogin

Thanks for Joining in October

Amarillo Education Foundation

Susan Stephenson 7120 Interstate 40 west Amarillo, TX 79106 (806) 326-1480

www.amarilloed.org

The Amarillo Education Foundation has been created to support the educational program of the Amarillo Independent School District with the missions of "GRADUATING EVERY STUDENT PREPARED FOR SUCCESS BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL."

Amarillo Grape & Olive

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Amarillo Grape and Olive offers a tasting gallery with large selection of premium olive oils, balsamic vinegar, and spices. Gift baskets and corporate gifts available.

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Joseph B. Peterson Jr. 6107 S Coulter, Suite 400 Amarillo, TX 79119 http://bit.ly/EdwardJonesPeterson

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Long Wooden Spoon Brewing

Rick McElroy Jared Read 4098 Business Park Dr Amarillo, TX 79110 http://lwsbrewing.com/

Long Wooden Spoon was first created and developed with one main goal in mind. Quality. Simply fed up with commercial quantity and lack of quality, LWS was created with two friends, a cluttered garage and an undying passion for craft beer. Starting with basic knowledge, basic equipment and well, basically nothing, we created our first brew. In the fall of 2009, receiving steam burns while stirring a pot of boiling wort with a wooden spoon, the comment was made, "man, I wish we had a long wooden spoon!" The name stuck.

MCMC Mary Coyne Marketing Communications, LLC

Mary Coyne 3807 Doris Drive Amarillo, TX 79109 (806) 670-7440

www.mcmc-marketing.com

MCMC-Mary Coyne Marketing Communications, LLC, is an integrated marketing communications company that exists to provide great service to clients and make their businesses successful. As your partner, we expect to care as deeply about your business issues

Moster Law Firm

Charles Moster 112 SW 8th Ave #301 Eagle Centre Amarillo, TX 79101 (806) 350-5256

www.mostlaw.net

The Moster Law Firm provides general counsel services to businesses and their owners in the areas of business law, business litigation, trademarks, intellectual property, and estate planning. Mr. Moster is an AV rated attorney with 29 years of experience having previously served as an attorney in the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

Mark Your Calendar:

12/2	Ag Appreciation Lunch & Symposium
3/10	Spring Mega Market
4/7	Golden Nail Awards
4/14	DC Days in Austin
4/19	Partners in Education Dinner
5/19	BusinessConnection®
6/16	Summer Celebration
7/28	Amarillo Chamber Open Golf Tournament
9/8	Good Times Celebration® Barbecue Cook-Off
9/TBD	Chamber Challenge Clay Shooting Tournament
10/20	Annual Banquet & Business Excellence Awards
11/10	Fall Mega Market



Convention & Visitor Council 2015-16 Year-To-Date Statistics **Tourism** Occupancy Rate (October) 61.9% Group Tour Buses (Fiscal YTD) 46 Visitor Center Guests (Fiscal YTD) 205 **Film Commission** Information requests (Fiscal YTD) 2 **Sport & Convention Groups** # of Conventions/Groups in Amarillo (Fiscal YTD) 8 Delegates (Fiscal YTD) 2,150 783 Room Nights (Fiscal YTD) Convention Delegates Booked-Future Conventions 5,120 (Fiscal YTD) Convention Delegate Room Nights Booked (Fiscal YTD) 1,900 Attendees Booked-Future Sport Events (Fiscal YTD) Room Nights Booked (Fiscal YTD) **Communications / CVC Website CVC Website Visits** 20,828 (Google Analytics—October) CVC Website Unique Visitors 17,116 (Google Analytics—October) CVC Website Page Views 49,333 (Google Analytics—October) CVC Website Average Visit Duration 1:44 (Google Analytics—October) **Social Media**

Facebook Page Likes Thru October

(VisitAmarilloTX)

WELCOME THESE SPORT & **CONVENTION GROUPS TO AMARILLO**

November

Novem	<u>ber</u>			
5-7	National Junior Bull Riders Association NJBRA Year-End Finals 2015	250		
12-15	Working Ranch Cowboy Association WRCA 20th World Ranch Rodeo	1000		
25-29	Miss Texas Latina 2015 Pageant Cradle of Queens	50		
27-28	Texas USA Wrestling Panhandle Nationals Wrestling Tournament	400		
28	Outlaw Promotions 5th Annual Turkey Bash Demolition Derby	100		
<u>December</u>				
1-3	IDEAg Group LLC Amarillo Farm & Ranch Show	1500		
3-5	Kids Inc. Tournament of Champions	240		
29-31	BR Rodeo Productions 2015 Championship Roughstock Challenge	160		
Januar	¥.			
7-10	Family Reunion/Wedding Party Peiris Wedding	15		
<u>February</u>				
12-14	Texas Society of Architects 2016 Design Conference	40		
18-21	Ink Life Tour Tattoo & Music Festival	300		
holds s why no for thei sales o	are a member of an association or group that tate, regional or national meetings, at bring those groups to Amarillo r next gathering? Contact the ffice to find out how they can the planning and group.	ocal.		

help with planning and group incentives. Contact Tina at 342-2008 or email <u>Tina@visitamarillo.com</u>

36,426

World Championship Ranch Rodeo Renews Contract With Amarillo

By: Eric Miller, CVC Director of Communications eric@visitamarillo.com

Amarillo's signature event, the World Championship Ranch Rodeo (WCRR) produced by the Working Ranch Cowboy Association, has renewed its contract with the city for the next three years, from 2016 through 2018.

Future dates covered by this new agreement are Nov. 10-13, 2016; Nov. 9-12, 2017 and Nov. 8-11, 2018.

"This is a home-grown success story. The World Championship Ranch Rodeo started small but with dedication and determination has grown every year. It is a great example of working together to build an event that benefits the entire city," Dan Quandt, Vice President of the Amarillo Convention & Visitor Council, says.

"Cowboys are loyal. They honor their commitments and sign their deals with a hand shake. This hand shake with the City of Amarillo continues our partnership. We like having all our events under one roof at the Amarillo Civic Center Complex. We trust and appreciate the friendly and hard-working staff at the Amarillo Civic Center Complex. We are excited about the future of downtown Amarillo. And we love the citizens of Amarillo," Randy Whipple, a member of the WRCA Board of Directors, says.

The WCRR total attendance is 40,000 each year for four days of rodeo action and top-notch trade shows. It represents direct visitor spending of \$6 million with most of that from out of town guests. Those dollars reach our hotels, restaurants, attractions, gas stations, retails shops, dry cleaners, stock suppliers, veterinarians, feed supply shops and many more businesses and people.

The World Championship Ranch Rodeo is the real deal, and it will remain in Amarillo through 2018.

Photo (Upper Right): UK photographer David Sinclair visited Amarillo during the World Championship Ranch Rodeo. Among the thousands of images he took is this poignant moment. Several cowboys pause to pray for a competitor and his horse during the ranch bronc riding competition. To see more of Sinclair's work, go to www.shootshorses.com/Texas-2015.



promotion



We are proud to announce that Stephanie Andrews has been promoted to Convention Services Manager for the Convention & Visitor Council. Stephanie joined the Chamber/CVC staff in April 2013 and previously served as a sales and servicing assistant.

Stephanie brings an unbelievably energetic and friendly attitude to not only our office, but the entire city with the convention delegates and planners she works hand in hand with.

Contact Stephanie at: 806.342.2014 Stephanie@visitamarillo.com

Congratulations to these Prime Service Award Winners in October

Members of the CVC's Convention & Tourism Committee as well as other Chamber volunteers recently dropped in on the following businesses to deliver an **AMA Prime Service** lapel pin to these employees who provided someone with PRIME customer service.

If you receive outstanding service at an area business, nominate that person for a Prime Service award.

Just call the CVC office at 374-1497 or visit http://bit.ly/PrimeService.

PRIME SERVICE

Esai Zamora Jason's Deli

Ken Spencer
Royal Limo Service

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Command Center

Computer Services Inc.

Connor McMillon Mitchell & Shennum PLLC D & K Automotive Damron's Jewelry Guns & Pawn Daphne's Tour & Travel Davis Insurance Agency Inc. Denton & Baker Agency DHY Enterprises LLC Document Shredding & Storage Dotsy's Boutique Downtown Amarillo, Inc. Dr. Bret D. Errington **Education Credit Union** Faith City Ministries Fireplace Center/Patio Shop First Baptist Church of Amarillo Fogg and Associates LLP FOUST INC. dba Whitney Russell **Printers** French & Company Realtors G & P Associates Gowdy Flooring Griggs Schooler-Gordon Funeral Directors H & H Print Wear Harris Financial Group, Inc. Harvey's Precision Body Shop Inc. High Plains Water District Hoarel Sign Company Holiday Inn Express - Canyon ICAM Institute of Amarillo International Paper Joe Daddy's Junior Achievement of the High **Plains** Kabuki Romanza KFDA NewsChannel 10 CBS Kirby Smith Machinery, Inc. Law Office of Cynthia Barela Graham Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation Lemert Holder & Ohm, PLLC Leon Church Lone Star Windows & Siding Lovell, Lovell, Newsom & Isern, L.L.P. LX Cattle Co. M & R Liquor Makie Black Boutique Martha's Home

Mary E. Bivins Foundation Microtel Inn & Suites Miller of Amarillo MMM Plumbing, Heating, & A/C Morris Gift Shop MVC, Inc. **New Day Productions** Nielsen Communities Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Co. Panhandle Producers & Royalty Owners Association Pantera Energy Company Parie Designs Pat Davis Properties Pharis Structural Engineers Plains Plumbing Co., LLC Pope Reproduction & Supply Potter County Courthouse Pour House Realty Central Red Robin Amarillo LTD. Reed Beverage River Falls Bed Breakfast Lodge & Retreat Rusty Roush CPA, P.C. Safe Money Solutions Group SERVPRO of West Amarillo Sharkys Burrito Co. Shemen Dental Group, LLP Shirley Thomas Sleep Inn & Suites West Southwest Building Materials, Ltd. Southwest General Contractors Stone Canyon Apts. Street Volkswagen of Amarillo Tascosa Office Machines & Office

Martin-Tipton Pharmacy LLC

Total Physical Therapy Turn Center United Filters International United Way of Amarillo & Canyon Universal Lending Corporation Vince Wirt Insurance-TWFG Walmart Supercenter East Wealth Insight Network West Texas Building Supply, Inc. West Texas Insurance Agency Whitaker Real Estate Whit-Co Checks Whit-Co Stamps & Engraving Williams-Boyce Agency, LLP Willow Creek Overhead Door Windstream Communications With You In Mind Publications WorldPav Zachry Engineering Corporation

Your Chamber's
October
membership
retention rate of
0 0 0
puts us in the
top 10 Chambers
in the nation
for our size.

Thanks for renewing your membership in October and for your continued support of the Chamber.

REMEMBER: You can pay your Chamber invoices online and even update your membership listing, including address, phone, fax, email, website, description of services and more. Visit the MEMBERS ONLY section of our website or email Christy@amarillo-chamber.org for your login name and password if you have forgotten it. Need help? Give her a call at 342-2004.

Solutions

Taste Dessert Bar

Texas Furniture

Association

Sciences Center

TNT Properties, Inc.

Texas Wheat Producers

Thai Arawan Restaurant

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Visit our website at:

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Thanks for Joining in October

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WTAMU offers select upper-level and graduate classes in downtown Amarillo at the new WTAMU Amarillo Center. Those who enjoy the face-to-face classroom experience will find the WTAMU Amarillo Center to be the perfect option for building a résumé or completing a degree with less drive time. We also rent out our rooms.



Check the Week's Sneak Peek for a list of upcoming ribbon cuttings, groundbreakings, committee meetings, and more! http://bit.ly/ChamberWSP



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Check out the Job Bank

Let us give you a hand when it comes to finding the right job or the right employee. Because Amarillo is a great place to live, learn, WORK and play, the Chamber offers a FREE Job Bank service on our website under the WORK tab. There's over 40 jobs in a wide array of industries currently listed and new ones added all the time!

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Got questions? Email Penni at penni@amarillo-chamber.org or call 806-342-2005. If your company is holding a job fair for the public, email me and I'll share the info on our website and social media.

Borlaug to keynote Texas Commodity Symposium GMOs, transportation and other agricultural issues to be **Discussed**

AMARILLO, Texas (October 20, 2015) - The fifteenth annual Texas Commodity Symposium will be held Wednesday, Dec. 2, in Amarillo in conjunction with the Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show in the Grand Plaza Room at the Amarillo Civic Center. The free event will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The symposium, which is hosted by the Corn Producers Association of

Texas, Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., Texas Grain Sorghum Association, Texas Peanut Producers Board and Texas Wheat Producers Association, will conclude with the annual Ag Appreciation Luncheon, presented by the symposium and the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Ag Council.



"The program again brings pertinent information to those in the agricultural Amarillo Ag Appreciation Luncheon industry, as well as the local commu-

nity," PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett said.

Julie Borlaug, the associate director for the Norman Borlaug Institute for Agriculture at Texas A&M University, will present the symposium's keynote address during the Ag Appreciation Luncheon. Borlaug will speak on the role of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), food safety and food security at both a domestic and international level. The Norman Borlaug Institute designs and implements science based agricultural development and training programs that guide the phases of agricultural industry from production to consumption to fight hunger and poverty among smallholder agricultural communities of the developing world.

"As the granddaughter of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate Norman Borlaug, Ms. Borlaug has a strong foundation of understanding agriculture's role in sustainably securing food resources for the world's growing population," TGSA Executive Director Wayne Cleveland said. "Her unique perspective and insight is sure to be of interest to those both directly and indirectly involved in the agricultural industry."

Additionally, the symposium will examine a variety of issues that impact producers and the agribusiness sector. Featured topics this year include an update on transportation regulations, an agricultural issues panel, and program updates from NRCS and FSA.

The event is made free of charge for attendees because of the generous support of the symposium's sponsors, including ArmTech Insurance Services, Bayer CropScience, BNSF Railway, Capital Farm Credit, DuPont Pioneer, High Plains Journal, Monsanto, National Peanut Board, and Syngenta.

For sponsorship opportunities or more information, please call 800.647.CORN (2676) or email info@texascorn.org.

This press release was copied from TexasWheat.org.



By: Penni Bentley Senior Communications Director penni@amarillo-chamber.org

I remember a sales seminar once where the speaker said people are looking for the wiff-em (WIIFM). Everyone wants to know "what's in it for me". It seems there always has to be a gimmick or a freebie to get people to do anything these days. I realize that makes me somewhat of a hypocrite considering I just spent my lunch hour in a donor chair at

Coffee Memorial today getting my TWO free t-shirts AND free gallon of Plains Dairy milk in exchange for a little pint of blood that my body makes for free. But it's a great example of how people are more willing to show up for things if they feel like what they get in return for their time is fair.

If you're trying to get more customers in your door, you use coupons or BOGO (buy one get one) tactics and black Friday sales that have people losing their minds to feel like they are squeezing just a little more out of you to justify the money or their need for standing in freezing cold in the dark with the masses waiting for the doors to open.

As a boss, you try to find the right combination of salary and benefits and work environment that makes great employees want to work for you and come to work every day instead of sitting in their cubicle playing solitaire just to get in their full eight hours to collect their check and go home.

I'm not saying that people shouldn't expect to be compensated for their work, time or money, but as a society, it seems that the bar is being set higher and higher for what people expect while they put in less and less. As a mother, I try to not indulge every whim and want of my kids so I don't feed the sense of entitlement that somehow society has convinced them they deserve. Getting simple chores done around the house seems to involve negotiations of privileges, cash or new clothes instead of just their desire to help me or their own self-pride of not living in a pigsty. Which reminds me of a Glenn Shepard quote I read on his Facebook page that says, "The most enduring gift parents can give their kids is a strong work ethic. It's unfortunate so many parents don't love their kids enough to do this." But trying to wrap that up under the tree this season won't make me very popular with them either.

But back to my original point (if there was one). Wouldn't it be great if the best WIIFM for doing anything was just a warm fuzzy because you did the right thing? That we gave to charity and volunteered and fed and clothed the needy just because? And we gave that little extra smile and courtesy to coworkers or customers because it felt good or made them feel good? And wouldn't it be even better if that extended beyond just Thanksgiving and Christmas?

So I try to remind myself to not just be thankful in November or generous in December. The challenge is to ignore the date on the calendar and do the right thing all the time regardless of what's in it for you.

As always, tell us how we are doing. Give us your suggestions, feedback, and input. Feel free to write on our Facebook wall. Get involved. We are proud to be YOUR Chamber.





Thanks to everyone who supported our Annual Banquet & Business Excellence Awards on October 29th at the Amarillo Civic Center. A complete list of winners is in the printed Annual Report we recently sent out, and you can view, download or print photos from the event at http://bit.ly/AnnualBanquet2015Pics