



# Amarillo Chamber eNews

1000 SOUTH POLK - AMARILLO, TEXAS

AUG 2009

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Gary Molberg

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Lupe Fasano  
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K. Lynn Kiihn

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Tiffany Redinger  
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Ann Beach  
Kay Cochran

PO Box 9480  
Amarillo, TX 79105  
806.373.7800  
806.373.3909 fax  
Amarillo-Chamber.org

## Get Fired Up

### Good Times Celebration Barbecue Cook-Off is September 10th

By: Gary Molberg, President & Chief Executive Officer

[gary@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:gary@amarillo-chamber.org)

I love the smell of barbecue in the morning! Especially when it means it's time for our 14th Annual Good Times Celebration Barbecue Cook-Off. It's hard to believe we are less than six weeks away from having over 100 businesses and cooking teams firing up grills for mouthwatering ribs, brisket, chicken and other one of a kind treats at this great event.

Once again we have three key sponsors to thank for helping us host this event: Tyson Foods, Inc; Great Western Distributing/Coors of Amarillo; and Arctic Glacier Premium Ice. These companies provide the majority of the meat to be cooked, the refreshments served, and the ice needed to keep it all safe, and without them an event of this magnitude couldn't be possible. In addition to the big three, we have countless others that contribute both financially and with in-kind services. There is still time to get involved and have your company name associated with our celebration. Become a sponsor by contacting Andrea McClintock, *The Barbecue Queen*, about the opportunities that work best for you. Sign up as a sponsor by August 14th and you'll be included on the event poster and in the September and October eNewsletters. We will also include our sponsors on our website and are adding more every week.

Tickets go on sale soon for \$20 each, but don't wait till the last minute to get them. They go to \$30 THE DAY OF THE EVENT. But there isn't a better deal out there for all you can eat, drink, and network. We'll even provide the entertainment with live music from Tom Velasquez and the Global Nomads Band.

**Thursday, Sept. 10th**

**5pm - 8pm**

**For more information on participating or sponsoring, call Andrea at 342-2007.**

[andrea@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:andrea@amarillo-chamber.org)



## Thanks To These Sponsors

*\* as of July 31st*

Tyson Foods  
Great Western Distributing Company  
Arctic Glacier Inc.

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Chambers Electric, LLC  
Texas Department of Criminal Justice  
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KAMR - TV  
Sam's Club Amarillo  
Sprouse Shrader Smith, P.C.  
Street Toyota  
SuddenLink Business  
Wal-Mart Supercenter Georgia  
Wells Fargo Bank of Amarillo  
Xcel Energy

Poole Building  
The Global Nomads Band  
United Supermarkets

Carpet Tech  
First United Bank  
The Education Credit Union

# Mark Your Calendar

Aug 17	Women's Council Luncheon
Aug 20	Round-Up Club Luncheon
Aug 27	Head Cook's Meeting (Barbecue)
Sep 10	Good Times Celebration® Barbecue Cook-Off
Sep 21	Women's Council Luncheon
Oct 22	Mega Market (Fall)
Oct 27	Teachers & Students Touring Businesses Day
Nov 19	Top Twenty Under 40 & Top Small Business Awards Banquet
Dec 1	Ag Appreciation Lunch
Dec 4	Educator for a Day
Dec 7	Women's Council Christmas Lunch
<hr/>	
May 4	BusinessConnection
May 13	Ready for the Real World
May 18	Top Two Percent Awards
May 22	Golden Nail Awards



**AMARILLO  
CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE**

The *Chamber eNewsletter* is published by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, 1000 South Polk, Amarillo, Texas 79101. It is provided free of charge to Chamber members. Address correspondence to Chamber Communications at the address listed above, or call 806.373.7800, fax 806.373.3909.

## 2008-09 Board of Directors Executive Committee

Chair	Kelvin Betzen
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Business Council	David Hemphill
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Ag Council	Leon Church
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**Visit our website at:**  
***Amarillo-Chamber.org***

**Penni Bentley, Editor**  
[News@Amarillo-Chamber.org](mailto:News@Amarillo-Chamber.org)



# HONORING OUTSTANDING YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce would like to thank those that submitted a nomination for the Top Twenty Under 40 or Top Small Business Awards, saluting the achievements of Amarillo's young professionals and small businesses.

The Chamber received an overwhelming number of nominations, proving that Amarillo is fortunate to have many outstanding young professionals and small businesses working to make our business community flourish. Because of the overwhelming response, the award selection process will be a challenge, but a true honor to those award recipients selected. However, all award nominees should be honored by the employer, employee, co-worker, friend or professional associate who showed their appreciation for your professional excellence or success by submitting your nomination.

The Top 20 Under 40 award recipients will be selected based on their professional excellence, community service, and personal achievements only. Therefore, the name of the nominees will not be revealed to the award committee during the selection process. The Top Small Business award recipient will be selected based on their success in our business community and support of our community at large, while demonstrating a commitment to outstanding business practices. To be considered as an award recipient, nominees are required to respond to the Chamber's request for additional information by Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Award recipients selected will be notified in September and honored at the Chamber's Celebrating Business Excellence Social Event on November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm at the Sunset Center. The formal invitation will be distributed late October. Reservations will be required for all attendees.

If you have questions or would like information about sponsorship opportunities contact Kim Woolsey at 806-342-2009 or [kim@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:kim@amarillo-chamber.org).



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# Welcome New Members—Thanks for Joining in July

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(806) 353-1808  
[www.aerodynamicmassage.com](http://www.aerodynamicmassage.com)  
Twenty years of military medicine for your benefits of massage. Gliding smoothly into a new healthier body through relaxation.

## Alley Katz Antiques

Patsye & Stanley Dodge  
2807 W 6th  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 342-5432  
[www.antiquesalleykatz.com](http://www.antiquesalleykatz.com)  
We are located on Historic Route 66 and have two full stories of antiques, gifts and collectables.

## Brock Thompson Trading

Brock Thompson  
2525 Lakeview  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806) 350-2400  
Fax: (806) 350-2404  
[www.brockthompsontrading.com](http://www.brockthompsontrading.com)  
Provide risk management services to agriculture clients through various commodity markets - managed money programs for investors looking to diversify portfolios.

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[www.rrclassicevents.com](http://www.rrclassicevents.com)  
We're separating and expanding allowing us to keep the level of service that you have come to know and expect. Separating tools from the party & wedding rentals located next door.

## DBH

Dean House  
10320 Climer Circle #5  
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[www.DBHTX.com](http://www.DBHTX.com)  
We sell and service equipment. Air compressors, auto and truck lifts, tire machines, balancers, brake lathes. Turnkey installs of bulk oil and air systems.

## Family Medicine Centers, LP.

Janice Hodges  
Mike Hughes  
1301 S. Coulter, #400  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 355-8900  
Fax: (806) 355-2453  
[www.fmc-clinics.com](http://www.fmc-clinics.com)  
17 clinic sites provide medical care throughout Texas. Over 65 providers are affiliated with FMC, providing both primary and specialty care services.

## Hamilton, Dee

Dee Hamilton  
P O Box 51721  
Amarillo, TX 79159

## Hampton Inn & Suites

Eileen Poisson  
6901 Interstate 40 West  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 467-9997  
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AAA Rated, 64 room property, meeting space, indoor pool, jacuzzi and sauna. Hot breakfast and 100% satisfaction guarantee.

## Historic 6th Street on Route 66 Association

Dora Meroney  
Clint Culwell  
Dale Johns  
2700 W 6th Ave  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 373-1427 Dora  
[www.amarillo66.com](http://www.amarillo66.com)  
Eat, Drink, & Antique... with our 16 Antique shops, 11 restaurants, specialty stores galore and 8 bars we can keep you entertained from Breakfast to Bedtime!

## Jump-N-Jive Inc.

William Grisham  
Tiffany Cooper  
7302 West 34th  
Amarillo, TX 79121  
(806) 367-8954  
[www.jnjama.com](http://www.jnjama.com)  
We are Amarillo's only indoor inflatable playground. We bounce birthday parties, church groups, field trips and fundraisers.

## Keller Williams/Laura Brooks

Laura Jean Brooks  
7304 SW 35th, #1  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806) 457-4815  
[x306565.yourkwagent.com](http://x306565.yourkwagent.com)  
I work as a professional real estate agent for Keller Williams Realty. I enjoy working with First-Time Home Buyers, Listing properties to be sold and with people who want to "Claim Ownership" of their Ultimate Dream Home!

## Lile Art Gallery

Bob Lile  
3701 Plains Blvd., Gallery 82B  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 644-3089  
[www.artatamarillo.com](http://www.artatamarillo.com)  
Our mission is to enlighten inspire and educate the citizens of Amarillo & the Tri State area about art, Historic Route 66 & barbershop harmony. "Art is for everyone"

## Lowery's Saloon & Dancehall

Danny Lowery  
Bobby Bouyea  
609 S. Independence  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 467-8500  
[www.myspace.com/439384800](http://www.myspace.com/439384800)  
A great place for great country music, great atmosphere for dancing and having a good time with friends. Live music on Weekends - Wed & Thur - Karaoke - Jammin' Sundays.

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*Amarillo Chamber of Commerce  
Women's Council Meeting*

*"Life Lessons For Lunch"*

Guest Speaker: Krista Gerlich  
WTAMU Women's head Basketball Coach

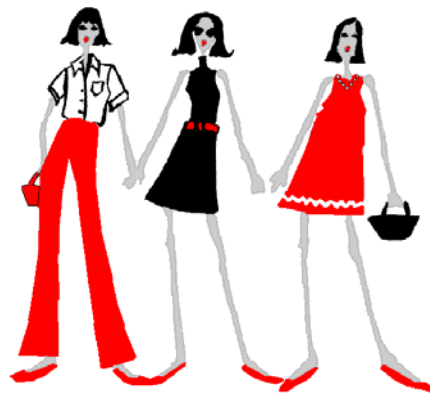
Monday, August 17, 2009

11:45 a.m.

Fifth Season Inn  
6801 Interstate 40 West

Joe's Catering

\$12.00 per person



RSVP BY: **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 13th** to Lupe Fasano by phone 342-2003, fax 342-2065 or by email: [lupe@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:lupe@amarillo-chamber.org). It is imperative to RSVP by the deadline.

**Remember "a reservation made is a reservation paid."**

**NOTE:** If your birthday is in the month of **AUGUST** please, provide a door prize by bringing a gift to this meeting.

## Social Media

**Keep up with the  
Chamber on the web  
or your smartphone.**

become a **FAN** on

**facebook**

search **Amarillo Chamber**



follow us on

**twitter**

@ **AmarilloChamber**

view event photos on



**flickr**

photos/**amarillochamber**

**Watch Chamber Videos on**



**You Tube**

**AmarilloChamber**

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**KGNC-AM**

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# Volunteer of the Quarter

## Quality of Life Council Salutes

Paul Turner, Outback Steakhouse

It was 15 years ago last month that Amarillo had a national chain restaurant open its doors for business. And since 2001, when Paul Turner took over as the owner, he's been opening his heart and his wallet to this community ever since.

Chances are one of your school kids has had a PTA fundraiser with the help of juicy Outback burgers, or been on a Kid Tour at the restaurant. And most of the AISD elementary schools have a Quality kid program in place courtesy of Outback and Paul Turner.

Other organizations benefiting from his civic generosity include the Ambucs Southwest Chapter for the Outback Derby Days, American Breast Cancer Society Harley Bike Run, and the Vietnam Veterans Parade.

One of the Chamber's largest events, and the city's largest one-day charity golf event, has carried the Outback logo since 2003. The Chamber Open Golf Tournament has become the premier event for business networking on the golf course with 256 golfers, and Outback provides both lunch and dinner to our players and staff on the course. "Paul and his staff do an outstanding job at the golf tournament. We appreciate the support he gives to the Chamber and to the community," commented Becky Zenor, VP of the Quality of Life Council.

Paul and his wife of 11 years, Shanda, took a little time away from the 2008 golf tournament to bring their son Cole Montgomery Turner into the world. Now a year old, Cole joined Paul and Shanda and the Outback gang at our tournament last month.



As for life outside of Outback, Paul says, "I enjoy riding our Harley, spending time with family, and just working around the house. Life is awesome and everyday is a new day and a new adventure."



## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

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<b>BIRDIE</b> BlueCross BlueShield of Texas Glazer's MH WEST TEXAS GOLF CARS	<b>HOLE IN ONE</b> GDS PPS TOYOTA STREET





**Co-Chairs, Al & Brice**



**Golf Shirts Provided by: UniFirst**



**Beer Barns Provided By: State Farm**



**Refreshments Provided by: Budweiser**



**Burgers & Steaks Provided by: Outback**



**256 Golfers at Ross Rogers**

## 2009 Chamber Open Winners

### Front 9 Division:

1. Budweiser  
Miles Warner  
Shawn Morrison  
J.R. Dickerson  
Dean Morrison
2. Amarillo Nat'l Bank  
Mark Ewing II  
Dennis Spear  
Alan Bolden  
Ross Macon
3. Ben E. Keith  
Jeff Yarber  
Josh Fuller  
Larry Neal  
Jim Mullane

### Back 9 Division:

1. McCarty Hull  
Jon Permenter  
Mike Soria  
Gerald Gaines  
Ted Westlake
2. Xcel Energy  
Scott Perry  
Mark Barton  
Mat Watson  
Phillip Fetzer
3. UniFirst  
Rick DeLeon  
Perry Allred  
Tate Allred  
Aaron King

View more event photos at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amarillochamber/sets/72157621734070213/>



# CITY OF AMARILLO RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS BOND RATING

By: Donna Makhavane, City of Amarillo

Standard and Poor's Rating Service just elevated Amarillo's general obligation (GO) bond rating to "AAA", the highest rating a municipality can receive. This marks the first time in the City of Amarillo's history to achieve such a rating. Less than 1% of city and county governments in the nation have or will ever achieve this outstanding bond rating. The "AAA" rating allows the City of Amarillo to borrow money at the lowest interest rates available, in turn providing taxpayers significant savings on municipal capital projects.

"Despite current economic downturns, the City of Amarillo is especially honored to receive this designation. It will help us be well positioned in these changing economic times, when we need to continue improving our infrastructure and providing service to the people of Amarillo," says Mayor Debra McCartt.

The upgrade from Amarillo's previous "AA+" was based on the city's strong and stable economic base, coupled with good management policies and historically strong financial performance according to the Standard & Poor's Ratings Direct Report. Earlier this summer, City staff invited rating analysts to tour Amarillo and get a sense of the community first hand. Analysts also met with City staff to discuss organizational management policies, leadership principles, financial policies, budgeting, performance and anticipated economic outlook.

"This is GREAT news! In today's financial world, to be upgraded to the highest possible rating is unbelievably significant. A lot of communities and corporations are going the other way. This is a result of prudent, well-thought business practices by City staff. This upgrade will save us a lot of money," says Jim Simms, Commissioner Place 4.

Donna Makhavane  
Community Relations Coordinator  
City of Amarillo  
806.378.3549 Office  
806.584.5751 Cell  
[donna.makhavane@amarillo.gov](mailto:donna.makhavane@amarillo.gov)  
Visit us at [www.amarillo.gov](http://www.amarillo.gov).



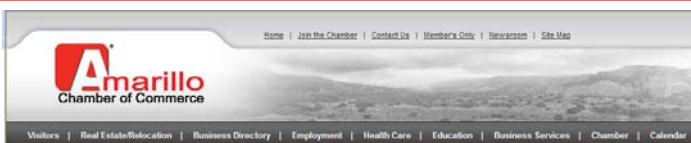
A new face at the front desk of the Amarillo Convention & Visitor Council is Dulcy Carden. Technically titled Administrative Assistant, she really acts as a master clearinghouse of Amarillo information for visitors and residents alike.

- When does TEXAS end for the summer? (Aug. 15)
- How many new rides are there at Wonderland this year? (Three)
- Where is Historic Route 66 located in town? (Sixth between Georgia & Western)

If she doesn't know the answer, she's on top of it quickly.

Carden graduated from Amarillo High School and both Amarillo and Hillsborough Colleges. She comes to the CVC after a career with Cooper Crouse-Hinds, a local manufacturer of electrical fixtures. She loves being with her family, all arts & crafts, gardening and, not surprisingly, traveling.

Stop by and give her your best question. Chances are she has the answer.



Check out our Chamber and Community Calendars online. You can submit events to the Community Calendar. This is a great way to show locals and visitors to the city the many things to see and do in our community. *Please keep in mind the Chamber reserves the right to include or exclude events as we deem appropriate.*

[www.Amarillo-Chamber.org](http://www.Amarillo-Chamber.org)





Why travel when everything you need is right here at home? The benefits of meeting at home are doubled when you consider it not only saves you money-but boosts our local economy. Not to mention, saving yourself the time, money and stress that goes along with travel. So, hunker down now and meet at home, because after all, it just makes sense.

Go to [www.visitamarillotx.com](http://www.visitamarillotx.com) to see ideas of hosting a convention in your home town. There's sure to be some options that maybe you've never heard of, or simply taken for granted.



**(806) 374-1497**

1000 S. Polk  
Amarillo, Texas 79101

[www.visitamarillotx.com](http://www.visitamarillotx.com)

## WELCOME THESE CONVENTION GROUPS

### AUGUST 2009

1-2	Amarillo Area Tennis Association August ZAT Tournament	150
15-23	West Texas Cutting Association Futurity	1000
31-6	AQHA Select Bayer Championship Show Select Bayer Championship Show	2500

### SEPTEMBER 2009

9-4	Iglesia Apostolica Congreso Distrital	350
11-13	Episcopal Diocese of Northwest Texas	400
24-26	USS Passumpsic 2009 Reunion	90

### Convention & Visitor Council 2008-09 Year-To-Date Statistics

#### Tourism

Occupancy Rate	55.39%
Room Nights	747,840
Overnight Visitors	1,147,582
Visitor Center Guests	6,280
Group Tours	278
Inquiries for Amarillo Information	56,018
Overnight Travel Impact (\$)	\$216,125,930

#### Film Office

Information requests	12
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#### Conventions

# of Conventions/Groups in Amarillo	51
Delegates	26,500
Room Nights	19,900
Delegate Spending (\$)	\$13,109,254.00
Delegates Booked-Future Conventions	29,174
Delegate Room Nights Booked	22,039

#### CVC Website

Web Site Visits / July	28,244
Web Site Page Views / July	260,209





## Block Party

August 15  
4pm—Midnight

\$10 in advance  
\$15 at the Gate

call 372-6744 for details

## Sensible Solution...an Alternative Coverage to Workers' Comp

For more info: [Dianne@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:Dianne@amarillo-chamber.org)

Policy highlights are available on the chamber website [www.amarillo-chamber.org](http://www.amarillo-chamber.org) under the HEALTH CARE tab and [INSURANCE COVERAGE](#) quicklink. An exclusive panel of local insurance agents will assist the Chamber membership with sales and service.

Edmond Deaton & Stephens	356-6000	<a href="http://www.edsinsurance.com">www.edsinsurance.com</a>
Fuqua-Bryson Benefits Group	350-6660	
Hilb Rogal & Hobbs Co of Amarillo (HRH)	376-8275	<a href="http://www.hrh.com">www.hrh.com</a>
Neely Craig & Walton	376-6301	<a href="http://www.neely.com">www.neely.com</a>
PIA Insurance	374-4621	<a href="http://www.piainsurance.com">www.piainsurance.com</a>
Upshaw Insurance Agency	468-0400	<a href="http://www.upshaw-insurance.com">www.upshaw-insurance.com</a>
Williams-Boyce Agency, LLP	376-4247	<a href="http://www.williamsboyce.com">www.williamsboyce.com</a>
Willis HRH	376-4761	<a href="http://www.hrh.com">www.hrh.com</a>



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Back when the Texas Rangers coined that motto times were simpler.  
Today, complex issues demand a team that stands tall and is Texas tough!

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## *Ribbon Cutting & Ground Breaking Ceremonies in July*

Click on a photo or the Flickr link below to view and download photos.

### **Are you a new Chamber Member?**

Celebrating an anniversary year in your business?

### **Opening a new location?**

### **Remodeling or expanding?**

Contact [Linda](#) to schedule your Ribbon Cutting or Ground Breaking event! 342-2006

Did you notice? Our Round-Up Club has a new look. They have stepped up their style with new bright red jackets instead of the dated maroon. Round-Uppers are always representing the Chamber well at our ribbon cutting and ground breaking ceremonies, but now they really look great doing it.



Boot Hill Saloon & Grill  
909 Vega Blvd. - Vega



Fairfield Inn  
6600 I-40 West



Get Fit  
2311 S Georgia



Texas Tech Department of Family Medicine  
1400 Coulter



Wal-Mart  
5730 Amarillo Blvd. West

# THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

41 Productions  
A & S General Contractors, Inc.  
Adaberry Inn  
Allen's Tri-State Mechanical  
Alternatives for Healthy Living  
Amarillo College/Business & Industry Center  
Amarillo Country Club  
Amarillo Custom Gutter Co.  
Amarillo Globe News  
Amarillo Museum of Art  
Amarillo Protective Services  
Amarillo Slims Pool Palace  
Amarillo Soccer Association  
Amarillo Style Magazine  
Amarillo Youth Choirs  
American Red Cross  
Atlama Moving & Storage  
Atmos Energy  
Basden Bail Bond  
Beef Products Inc.  
Ben E Keith Foods  
Bolton Electric Inc.  
Bruckner Truck Sales, Inc.  
Burger King - Amaregal  
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China Star  
Choice Media  
Cintas Corporation  
Construction Services  
Coyote Bluff Cafe  
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Davis Family Investment Partnership  
Days Inn (West) Medical Center

Don Harrington Discovery Center  
Eagle Eye Enterprises, LLC  
Eddie's Napoli's V  
Express Employment Professionals  
Financial Freedom & Futures  
Gateway Capital Inc.  
Golden Light Equipment  
Grace, Shursen, Moore & Associates  
Great Western Distributing Company  
Hefner Painting, Inc.  
Holiday Inn of Amarillo  
Humana Market Point, Inc.  
Irish Springs Pools & Spas  
Irwin, Merritt, Hogue Price & Carthel, P.C.  
J C Penney Inc  
Kaleidoscoops Ice Cream & More  
Keller Williams/Shirley Perry  
KFDA NewsChannel 10 CBS TV/DT  
KVII-TV  
La Fiesta Grande  
Latham Hometown Realty  
Llano Cemetery Association  
Maxor National Pharmacy Services Corp.  
Metabolic Research Center of Amarillo  
Milan Institute  
Mission Dairy  
Navigation Financial Group of Amarillo  
Orkin Exterminating Company  
Panhandle Plains Historical Museum  
Panhandle Steel Buildings Inc  
Park Central Retirement Community  
Peterson Farris Pruitt & Parker  
Photos by Carol McKinney  
Pinnacle Financial Group  
Plains Dairy L.L.C.  
Poole Building  
Potter House, Assisted Living Concepts, Inc.

Pro Chem Sales  
Rabern Rentals Center  
Randall County Farm Bureau  
Remco Copy Service  
Robinson's Hay and Animal Nutrition  
Rouzbeh K. Kordestani MD/PA  
Sanford Rose Associates - Amarillo  
Schokolad Chocolate Factory  
Sell & Griffin  
Sir Speedy  
Southwest Sales Promotion  
Spellmann & Associates  
Splash Amarillo  
Stansbury Equipment Co  
State Farm/Bill McDonald  
Successful Money Management, Inc.  
Texas Firehouse Sports Bar and Grill  
Texas Panhandle Builders Assoc  
The Drawing Board  
The Greenways  
The People's Federal Credit Union  
The UPS Store  
The UPS Store #4558  
Thomas L. Moore & Associates Financial Services  
Top Notch Outfitters Inc  
Tunes & Tint  
Underwood, Wilson, Berry Stein & Johnson, PC  
Upshaw & Brown, L.P.  
Valmed Pharmacy Solutions  
Village Bakery Cafe  
Wayland Baptist University - Amarillo  
Wellborn Sign, Inc.  
West Texas Roofing  
Williams-Boyce Agency, LLP  
Wood Financial

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



*The Amarillo Chamber of Commerce is a Celebrate Education partner.*



# Welcome New Members—Thanks for Joining in July

## Panhandle Quartz Fabricators

Josh Langham  
Tyson Askins  
2421 Amarillo Blvd. West  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
(806) 322-1033  
Fax: (806) 322-1034  
[www.panhandlequartz.com](http://www.panhandlequartz.com)  
Locally owned, Panhandle Quartz Fabricators brings a tradition of quality counter tops to your new or existing home. We offer granite, quartz and marble countertops.

## Pat Wallace Business Services

Pat Wallace  
3613 Torre Dr.  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806) 433-0261  
Fax: (806) 367-8712  
Working with small businesses and Non Profits to maximize modest advertising budgets. Services to suit clients' needs including scheduling, budgeting, copywriting and design.

## Sabaidee Restaurant

Sammy Sayakomarn  
Chanthaphone Sayakumane  
2313 S. Georgia St.  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806) 331-6720  
Fax: (806) 331-6753  
Sabaidee, located at 2313 S. Georgia, serves Lao, Thai, Chinese, and Japanese foods. We open every day for your dining pleasures.

## Stater Acres R.V.s

Brent Stater  
Star Stater  
Carroll Stater  
14301 Interstate 27  
Amarillo, TX 79119  
(806) 622-1544  
Fax: (806) 622-2798  
[www.stateracresrv.com](http://www.stateracresrv.com)  
Recreational sales, service and storage.

## SWS Financial Services/Bill Jenkins

Bill Jenkins  
112 SW 8th Ave., Ste 301  
Amarillo, TX 79101  
(806) 350-6790  
Fax: (806) 350-6551  
Financial advice and service, retirement planning, IRA's & rollovers, investments, personalized and customized investment strategies.

## Texas Cherokee Sweepstakes Bar & Grill

Chong Na (Johnny)  
Leo Nathan  
1547 E. Interstate 40  
Amarillo, TX 79102  
(806) 322-3000  
Fax: (806) 684-8934  
Bar & Grill with Mega Sweepstakes  
Open 24/7.

## The Right Angle

Ross & Susie Middleton  
4123 W 34th  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806) 359-5611  
Fax: (806) 359-1174  
[www.rightangleonline.com](http://www.rightangleonline.com)  
Amarillo's affordable custom picture framing. Where custom framing is more than just a custom size; it's a custom service.

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## Editor's Corner

By: Penni Bentley, Membership Communications Manager  
[penni@amarillo-chamber.org](mailto:penni@amarillo-chamber.org)

It's always nice to read or hear something positive about Amarillo and the economy in the news. In this newsletter we printed the City's release about our recent AAA Bond rating. (*Less than 1% of city and county governments in the nation have or will ever achieve this outstanding bond rating.*) Even if you don't fully understand what all that means, the top ranking is impressive nonetheless.

Last week's Amarillo Globe-News printed that Amarillo was number one on the top 10 hottest housing markets by a Florida Housing Predictor. The article explains that the accuracy of the ranking might be questionable, but it at least means that someone is sitting up and taking notice of positive things in our community. And with the economy rollercoaster we're on right now, anything positive helps us see the light at the end of the tunnel.

There is a certain amount of pride that comes along with your hometown gaining national recognition. We have taken these newsworthy events of the last year and put them on our NEWSROOM section of our homepage at [www.amarillo-chamber.org](http://www.amarillo-chamber.org) if you would like to read more. And if your local company gets national recognition, we'd like to hear about it and share it with others.

So as always, tell us how we are doing. Give us your suggestions, feedback, and input. Get involved. We are YOUR Chamber.