



Happy Holidays from The Duncan Chamber of Commerce



We're excited to announce a new partnership between the Duncan Chamber and The State Chamber of Oklahoma to provide affordable group health coverage to our members through Oklahoma Chamber Blue. Through Oklahoma Chamber Blue, businesses, like yours, can choose the right health care plan, priced within your budget, with the physicians and health care providers you trust. With eight different plans to choose from, as well as vision and dental coverage, Oklahoma Chamber Blue gives small businesses the buying power

of big business to secure affordable coverage for their employees. The plan will begin accepting enrollment in November for coverage beginning January 1, 2019.

The program offers small businesses access to affordable group health coverage and is available to Duncan Chamber of Commerce members with 2-25 employees through our Small Business Chamber Alliance partnership program with The State Chamber of Oklahoma. Through our insurance carrier partner, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK), the association health plan (AHP) will offer a variety of benefit options to our small business members, including 8 medical plans, 1 dental plan and 1 vision plan, for small businesses, their employees and families.

The DuncanChamber is committed adding value to your membership and to the success of your business. For more information on how you can take advantage of this membership benefit, contact Chris Deal for more details.



[LEARN MORE](#)



Duncan Chamber of Commerce

911 W. Walnut

P.O. Box 699

580-255-3644

www.duncanchamber.com

Leadership Duncan Class XXIII had their Local Government Day on November 13th at the Duncan Police Department Training Center. Julie McKinney, Mayor of Central High, Nate Schact and Kenzie Wheeler of the City of Duncan arranged an outstanding day that included great speakers, engaging exercises, and lively discussions. November's class session focused on the workings of local government. The objective of the day was to identify the principles of trusteeship as they pertain to local government and examine the complexities and scope of the City of Duncan and Stephens County. Chris presented Trusteeship or Boardmanship as the Leadership Development skill for the day. Kenzie Wheeler presented City Government 101 focusing on management and planning. Nate Schact present a class activity on solving policy issues and a discussion on Duncan Sounds Off (Raw). Kenzie Wheeler lead the class through a city budget exercise and discussion. The class toured the water plant, the Stephens County Jail and E-911 communications center. District Attorney Jason Hicks discussed County Government's structure, management, and finance. An afternoon panel centering on the way tax dollars are collected and distributed was entitled the "Money Chase". Julies McKinney served as moderator for the panel consisting of County Commissioner David McCarley, City Manager Kimberly Meek, Assistant State Auditor Ricky Branch, and County Assessor Dana Buchanan.



NOVEMBER COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation (DAEDF) sponsored our November Chamber Breakfast. Jeannie Bowden, Business and Industry Specialist for DAEDF, reported on the continued progress DAEDF is making in diversifying industry while leveraging sales-tax dollars through pursuing every opportunity and raising awareness of Duncan through the economic development field, media and to companies looking to expand or relocate. DAEDF continues to work as a liaison to connect industry and education continuing partnerships with Duncan Public Schools in Career Pathways, STEM, and the development and creation of internships locally. DAEDF hosted the Youth Engineering competitions for students on November 12th. Students compete for money award in the areas of engineering, the fastest CO2 racecar, overall and people's choice. Major sponsors of the race include local partners/manufacturing businesses - Halliburton, Cameron-Schlumberger, NOV/Wilco Machine & Fab, Duncan Machine Products, INC, and Southern Machine Works, Inc.. This contest is possible because of DAEDF's partnership with our local middle schools, high schools, Red River Technology Center - Duncan, Oklahoma, and Cameron University. Duncan's Dream It Do It Oklahoma Initiative is a manufacturing career pathway associated with the Manufacturing Institute and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM).

Community updates were provided to attendees with news from the Mayor Ritchie Dennington, Marlow City Manager Jason McPherson, Chisholm Trail Arts Council, Charis Pregnancy Center, 905 Railroad Museum, The Simmons Center and the Duncan CVB, and many others. Leadership Duncan XXII presented a checks the Duncan Heritage Trails and Douglass Eastside Senior Center. DLT performed a songs from their newest show "Nuncrackers".

Please join us for our next community breakfast at 6:45 a.m. on Thursday, December 6th at The Simmons Center. You could win \$75 in the drawing if you are present.

Don't forget! The first Chamber Breakfast of 2019 will be on Thursday, January 10th at The Simmons Center.

Chamber Annual Banquet Recognizes Duncan's Best

SAVE THE DATE

The Duncan Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet will be held Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Simmons Center. Please join us for a celebration of our city's best accomplishments during 2019. From businesses that have made a significant impact in improving our community and fostering free enterprise, to individuals who have exemplified true community spirit and contributed their talents to the benefit of others, our annual awards presentation seeks to highlight and reward these admirable endeavors.

Nominations are being accepted now for Woman of the Year that recognizes a woman whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan; Man of the Year that recognizes a man whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan; Community Improvement Award that recognizes a business establishment that has made a significant improvement to the physical appearance of their property during 2018; the Free Enterprise Award that honors individuals or organizations that have strengthened and fostered the development of free enterprise; and the Al Hinshaw Community Spirit Award recognizing individuals who **exemplify the enthusiastic "Can Do" spirit of Duncan through their volunteer efforts to accomplish great challenges** for the benefit of the community.

We will also present the Lifetime Achievement Award to recognize a man or woman whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan during their lifetime. Please submit your nominations for outstanding businesses and individuals in our community that you believe to be deserving of recognition. It is important that you explain why your nomination should be considered for the award. Please mail, fax, or email your nomination form, found on our website and inside this newsletter, prior to February 15, 2019.

Entertainment (Star) Sponsorships, table and half table sponsorships are available for \$1,000, \$600 and \$400 respectively. Individual tickets are available for \$50. For more information, call Sandy Stewart at 580-255-3644 or email duncancc@duncanchamber.com.

2018 Award Nominations

Lifetime Achievement Award – Recognizes a man or woman whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan during their lifetime.

Woman of the Year - Recognizes a woman whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan during 2018.

Man of the Year - Recognizes a man whose outstanding civic contributions and leadership have been in the pursuit of an improved quality of life in Duncan during 2018.

Community Improvement Award - Recognizes a business establishment that has made a significant improvement to the physical appearance of their property during 2018.

Free Enterprise Award - Honors individuals or organizations that have strengthened and fostered the development of free enterprise during 2018.

Al Hinshaw Community Spirit Award - **Recognizes individuals who exemplify the enthusiastic "Can Do" spirit of Duncan through their volunteer efforts to accomplish great challenges for the benefit of the community during 2018.**

For more information, please visit www.duncanchamber.com

EFFECTIVELY BRANDING YOUR BUSINESS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4
10:00 to 11:30 AM
Red River Technology Center
Duncan, Oklahoma

REGISTER
www.reiwbc.org



When branding your company or non-profit, you need to understand the principles that make brands effective today, and the pitfalls to avoid. In this workshop you'll be introduced to the core of successful branding, creative techniques to employ when crafting your brand, examples of successful brands, and common mistakes to avoid. You will leave with a firm grasp of what a brand is, how it works, and how you can successfully create a brand for your organization. Included will be how a brand is not a logo, developing a brand promise, monitoring your brand, fonts, colors, and keeping consistent brand communication in overall marketing.

Investment: \$15

Red River
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

DUNCAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FAST TRACK TO SUCCESS
DUNCAN
NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

REI
WOMEN'S
BUSINESS CENTER

NeighborWorks
CHARTERED MEMBER

Presenter: Stephen Koranda, Back to You Marketing
For more information, contact Marla Herndon, REI WBC, at 800.658.2823.



Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Small Business Administration, WBC's, SBA 7j, and PRIME programs and services are provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities and language assistance services for clients with limited English proficiency will be provided if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact Lori Smith, WBC Assistant or Cassidy Gilmore, PRIME Coordinator at P.O. Box 1335, Duncan, OK 74702 or call 800-658-2823.

COMPREHENSIVE QUICKBOOKS

Wednesday, January 23
Red River Technology Center
3300 West Bois D'Arc
Duncan, Oklahoma

REGISTER
www.reiwbc.org



QuickBooks 2018 Laptops will be provided. QuickBooks software is perfect for small businesses that manage their own inventory, sales and other business transactions. Participants in this hands-on workshop will learn how to examine accounts, enter and pay vendors, record deposits, reconcile bank statements, customize reports and other business accounting functions. You will enter the information on the computer using practice sets and will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive guidance on how and why. Desktop version will be used for the training. Attendees will receive a coupon for a discount when ordering software from Intuit.

Investment: \$115 - Includes class and lunch.

Seating is limited to 12!

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Presenter: MJ Brienen, Certified QuickBooks Pro Advisor
For more information, contact Marla Herndon, REI WBC, at 800.658.2823.



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Economic Indicators

Stephens County Labor Force Data

	Sept. '18	Sept. '17
Employment	17,545	17,374
Unemployment	653	996
Labor Force	18,198	18,370
Unemployment Rate	3.6%	5.4%

City of Duncan Statistics

	Nov. '18	Nov. '17
Sales Tax Receipts	\$1,122,274.35	\$1,068,626.89
Use Tax Receipts	\$101,670.02	\$86,059.27
Stephens County Receipts	\$332,992.77	\$363,621.10

Red River Technology Bid Assistance Center

	Sept. '18	Sept. '17
Number of Clients	86	83
Bids Submitted	20	6
Contracts	0	6
Total Value of September 2018 Contracts		\$0.00
Total Value of contracts since July 2018		\$177,008.45

December 2018

Chamber Calendar of Events

- 4 Effectively Branding Your Business
10:00-11:30AM, Red River Tech Center
- 6 Chamber Breakfast, 6:45-8:00AM,
Simmons Center
- 11 Leadership Duncan Social Services,
8AM-5PM, The Well
- 13 Chamber Executive Committee Meeting,
1:30PM, Chamber of Commerce
- 17 Leadership Duncan Steering Committee,
12PM, Chamber of Commerce
- 20 Chamber Board Meeting, 3:30PM,
Chamber of Commerce
- 24-26 Chamber Office Closed for Christmas
- 31-2 **Chamber Office Closed for New Year's**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
DUNCAN COMMUNITY EVENTS:
Visit www.duncancalendar.com



P.O. Box 699/911 Walnut, Duncan, OK 73534-0699

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