



## Quote of the Day

“Five years from now, you will be the sum of the books you read, the knowledge you consume, the music you listen to and the people you surround yourself with.”

- Ron Kitchens

## Leaders are Readers

My friend, long time Chamber member and the Queen of Gardening, Katherine Smith of [Smith's Gardentown Farms](#), sent me the following note: “I recently read a very short book I would like to recommend to all entrepreneurs and to all parents (and if the parents are also entrepreneurs, so much the better).”

The book Katherine referred to, "Don't Tell Me I Can't," was penned under the pseudonym of Cole Summers. It is an autobiography, written when the young boy was less than 14 years old. In those short years, he started several businesses, bought farms and houses in his own name and became the breadwinner for his disabled parents. He never attended school — he said he was "unschooled" because he learned to seek out whatever information he needed to accomplish the task he needed to perform. He was a remarkable kid. I say "he was" because I learned about his life and his book by reading his [obituary](#) in the Deseret News.

When a successful leader, businessperson and ray of sunshine tells me to read a book, I immediately order it. I must concur with Katherine; you should do the same.

Always Forward.

- Ron Kitchens

## What Are You Doing To Make Your Workplace Stand Out?

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When you think about your organization, what is it that brings people to your doors? Is it the pay? Perhaps the culture, or just simply the work you do? Could it be your renowned leadership or hiring team? What makes you proud of your team, and what would help you take it to the next level so that you can grow?

Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe once said, "A great person attracts great people and knows how to hold them together." We want to learn what makes our local manufacturers and employers like the "great persons" that Goethe refers to. What are you doing to keep your team happy and healthy, so that we can better serve your industry. Call our office or shoot an email with your engagement strategies or request to chat with [Moriah Williams](#) of the Jobs Team.

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## Chamber Happenings

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### **Resilience and Unity: Overcoming the Storm's Impact on Our Community**

Our local community experienced a significant upheaval on the fateful Thursday of August 10th. While our fervent prayers for rain were answered, we also faced the unwelcome arrival of a powerful and destructive storm. The aftermath left a trail of devastation, particularly affecting numerous businesses that now grapple with the challenge of building closures due to the severe damage incurred.

In the face of this adversity, the Chamber of Wichita Falls stood in solidarity with our community, profoundly saddened by the sight of the harm inflicted upon our vibrant tapestry. Among those deeply affected were esteemed Chamber members such as Pueblo Boxing and El Primo. Their physical establishments may have been dealt a serious blow, but what truly shines as their enduring strength is the safety and well-being of their cherished people. These resilient entities, though shaken, stand united as they embark on the journey of rebuilding. Temporary locations will provide a stepping stone towards the eventual restoration of their enterprises.

In the event that your own home suffered from the storm's wrath, it's heartening to note that the City of Wichita Falls has instituted minor and emergency repair programs aimed at providing essential aid. Further details can be found in the informative graphic provided below.

In these trying times, our gratitude swells for the valiant efforts of our firefighters, police officers, city officials and the dedicated team at Oncor Electric. Their unwavering commitment to the welfare of our city is a testament to the spirit that defines us. Amidst the darkness that engulfed us, the Oncor employees toiled tirelessly, working through the night to restore the lifeblood of electricity. The firefighters displayed unparalleled bravery in their rapid response, safeguarding our community. Our vigilant police officers maintained the sanctity of our roads, while our city officials demonstrated wisdom in their decisions, thereby shielding the very essence of the city we hold dear.

As a collective voice, the Chamber wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude to every individual who played a role in this triumphant process of recovery. It's in times like these that we witness the immense power of unity and compassion, affirming our shared love for the city we proudly call home.

### **Celebrate With the Chamber at These Upcoming Events**

Catch up with your favorite Chamber Team and Chamber members at these upcoming events where you're bound to see some familiar faces and meet new acquaintances!

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- Thursday, August 17 at 4:00 p.m. for a [Ribbon Cutting](#) at [COI Group Furniture](#) at 4017 Seymour Highway
- Tuesday, August 22 at 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. for [Wake Up Wichita Falls](#) at [Kairos Restorative Medicine](#) at 1912 Loop 11

### **You Officially Have Plans Now For Friday, August 25**

Come downtown for an [MSU Texas Night Out Downtown](#) on Friday, August 25 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Once downtown Wichita Falls, you can explore and learn about the various businesses, art and entertainment located in our community. The event is being held in conjunction with the Hotter'N Hell Hundred [USAC Criterium Races & Street Party](#) happening between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. These Men's & Women's Pro Cat 1 & 2 races will start and finish at the corner of 8th St and Travis St. Food and beverages will be available at 8th St Coffee House and at the Street Party on Travis St between 8th and 9th. Consider yourself officially booked for the whole evening!



### **New Member Mentions**

This week's new member shout out goes to [Delta Hotels by Marriott Wichita Falls Convention Center](#). Check out the area's brand new hotel located in downtown Wichita Falls, right off I-44 and next to the Wichita Falls Multi-Purpose Event Center (MPEC).

### **Help Us Spread This Good News Far and Wide**

Are you enjoying our newsletter? If so, we encourage you to share it with your friends, family and co-workers. We are proud of our community and want everyone to know it! New subscribers are encouraged to email [Candice Kumor](#) to get their email address added to our subscription list.

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## **Military Matters**

### **Heads Up! There's a New Squadron on Base!**

The 82nd Training Support Squadron (TRSS) was activated in mid-July, after the inactivation of the 982nd Maintenance Squadron. Major W. Frank Larkins Jr. will lead the way as the commander of the new 82d TRSS. Learn more about this exciting organizational change [here](#).



### **Free Professional Headshots for Military Spouses**

Are you a military spouse in need of a professional headshot? Brought to you by the [Military Spouse Professional Network](#) and thanks to [Leigh Sweeney](#), real estate professional with eXp Realty, and the Wichita Falls Chamber, you can receive a headshot for free! Photos will be taken by Jess Herring of [Just Jess Photography](#) on Thursday, August 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Wichita Falls Chamber office at 900 8th Street, Suite 100. Sessions will last 10 minutes, and you will receive two images. Register for this event [here](#).

### **International Partner of the Month: Qatar**

Did you know that Qatar's capital city, Doha, is a coastal town which was once the center for pearling? During its days of pearling supremacy, the pearl industry constituted three-quarters of the region's exports. However, once oil and gas were discovered, along with the rise of Japan's cultured-pearl industry, pearling as a major industry all but disappeared in Qatar. A testament to the legacy of pearling is Qatar's only UNESCO World Heritage Site — [Al Zubarah](#) Archaeological Site.

Yet not all is lost! There are some Qatari's who are working at [keeping the tradition alive](#), as well as another: Pearl divers also practiced the art of singing sea shanties. This genre of music, known as [nahmah](#), has virtually disappeared, but the government of Qatar has made efforts to preserve it.

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## **Jobs Board Highlights**

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### **This Week's Featured Job**

Are you a meticulous and reliable individual who takes pride in transforming spaces into sparkling havens? If so, J&H White Professional Cleaning Services, LLC has the perfect opportunity for you! The eco-friendly home and office cleaning service company is currently seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic [Residential House Cleaner](#) to join its team. If you're passionate about maintaining a clean and inviting environment for clients, they want to hear from you. To review the list of responsibilities, qualifications, benefits and application, [visit this listing](#) on the Wichita Falls Chamber [Jobs Board](#) where you can find additional opportunities.

- [Medical Assistant](#) – CMA, Texas Oncology
- [Restoration Supervisor](#), SERVPRO of Wichita Falls
- [Sheppard Bowling Center Cook](#), Sheppard Air Force Base
- [Relationship Banker](#), Texoma Community Credit Union
- [Museum Curator](#), MSU Texas

## In Other News...

<https://www.newschannel6now.com>

### Wichita Falls mayor reacts to storm damage

Mayor of Wichita Falls Stephen Santellana spoke to News Channel 6 this morning about combatting the extensive damage to city businesses, homes, and other establishments.

[Read More](#)



### Texas Economic Development Council

#### Webinar: Creative Approaches for Financing Industry & Redevelopment / Texas Economic Development Council

The Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) is an Austin-based, statewide, non-profit professional association dedicated to the development of economic and employment opportunities in Texas. Our diverse members share a common goal -- bringing new investment and jobs to Texas.

[Read More](#)

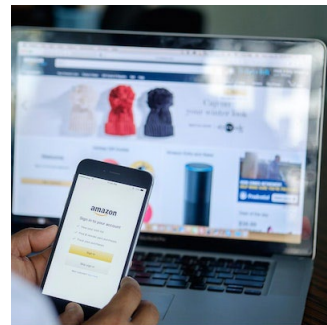


### Entrepreneur

#### 9 Reasons You Should Have an Amazon Brand Storefront

Amazon offers a powerful tool to help brands differentiate themselves with the Amazon Brand Storefront. Here are nine of the most essential benefits Amazon Storefronts offer consumer brands.

[Read More](#)



**Isn't it time you joined the  
Wichita Falls Chamber?**

Start making the  
right connections  
today to take  
your business to  
the next level.



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Grow your business in  
Wichita Falls.



Contact us at  
940.723.2741 or [wichitafallschamber.com](http://wichitafallschamber.com).



Wichita Falls Chamber  
900 8th Street, Ste. 100, Wichita Falls Chamber, TX, USA, 76301

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