



Quote of the Day

The days I keep my gratitude higher than my expectations .. I have really good days.

-Ray Wiley Hubbard

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

This is my last opportunity to speak to you before Thanksgiving and I do so, with a grateful heart. As I write this, we have a new city council taking office this morning, and I am grateful for their willingness to lead our community, focusing on progress, growth and creating excellence. I also have a heart of gratitude for the people who sought election but were not successful. It takes an incredible amount of courage to run for office these days, not to mention the financial costs, and I really believe we should celebrate and lift up all people who are willing to lead in our community. I cannot tell them thank you enough for their willingness to serve and I hope they continue to look for ways to serve.

I am also incredibly grateful to celebrate my first year in this leadership position at the Wichita Falls, Chamber of Commerce. It has been incredible opportunity to get to know the community, to meet amazing men and women, to learn about new companies and be able to announce new companies in the community. We truly have an incredible future ahead of us. I'm truly grateful for the members of the Chamber of Commerce, for our Board of Directors, for the leadership of the city and the county, and for everyone who worked side-by-side with us this year in reinventing the chamber and reinventing how we do our work to create more and better jobs with a reminder that the greatest force for change is a job.

Most importantly, I am grateful for the businesses that call Wichita Falls home. The business of

Wichita Falls truly is not business without people willing to take chances, to take risks, and to believe in this community. Without them our goals of more and better jobs, better quality of life, lower taxes and achieving the American dream. And for that, I am incredibly grateful for everything you do every day.

May this Thanksgiving be filled with joy, family, a little bit of football and bushels of gratitude.

God bless.

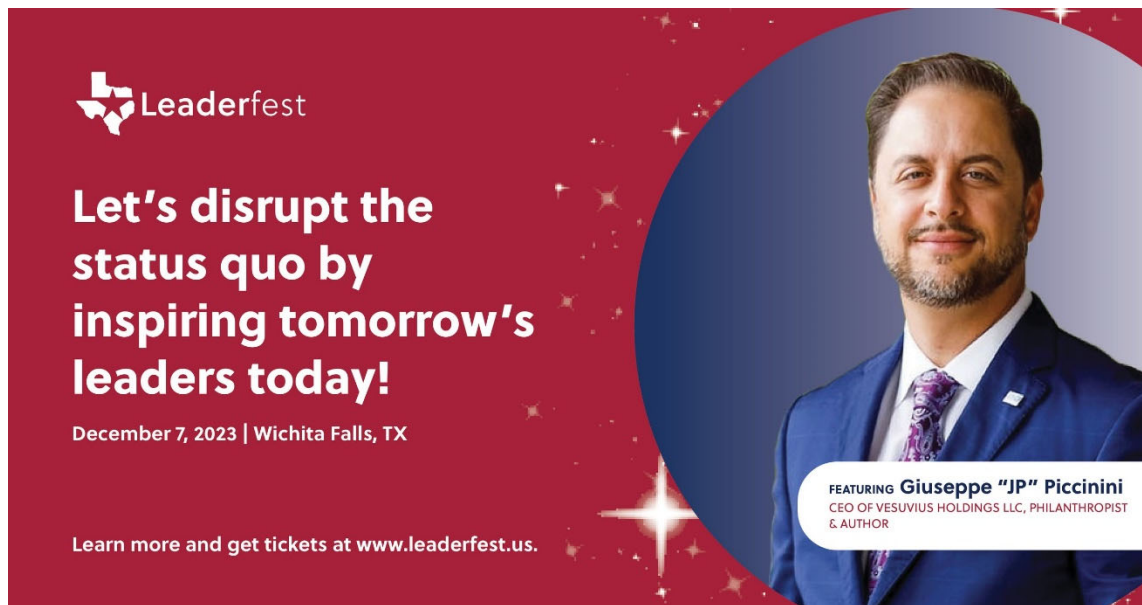
Always Forward.

- Ron Kitchens

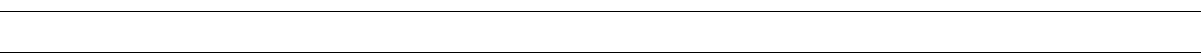
Leaderfest

Introducing Our Newest Speaker: Giuseppe “JP” Piccinini

Giuseppe “JP” Piccinini was named in Swanepoel’s Top 100 most influential people in real estate. With a life that started in Italy, JP found himself at age 13 in Texas, where he went on to attend our very own Midwestern State University. His favorite quote is “I wasn’t born here but got here as fast I could.” Grab your tickets and come learn from JP at [Leaderfest](#).



The graphic is a promotional banner for Leaderfest. It has a dark red background with white stars. On the left, the Leaderfest logo (a white outline of Texas) is followed by the word "Leaderfest" in white. Below that, the text "Let's disrupt the status quo by inspiring tomorrow's leaders today!" is written in white. Underneath, "December 7, 2023 | Wichita Falls, TX" is written in white. At the bottom left, "Learn more and get tickets at www.leaderfest.us." is written in white. On the right side, there is a circular portrait of Giuseppe "JP" Piccinini, a man with a beard wearing a blue suit and a purple tie. Below the portrait, a white rounded rectangle contains the text "FEATURING Giuseppe 'JP' Piccinini" in bold, followed by "CEO OF VESUVIUS HOLDINGS LLC, PHILANTHROPIST & AUTHOR" in smaller text.



Military Matters

Share Your Military Family Experience with MFAN

Every two years, the [Military Family Advisory Network \(MFAN\)](#) fields the Military Family Support Programming Survey to understand the lived experiences of our service members, veterans, and their families. This important research provides rich insight into the support needs of military-connected families and serves as a catalyst for the creation and strengthening of programs, policies, and resources.

Real-Life Issues: The 2023 survey takes a comprehensive look at military family life, including: Childcare, Employment, Family Relationships, Financial Readiness, Food Insecurity, Health & Well-being, Housing, Military-to-Civilian Transition

Who is eligible? All service members, veterans, and their family members over the age of 18 may participate: Active-duty military personnel, National Guard members, Reservists, Veterans, Military Retirees, Partners/spouses (current, divorced, surviving)

[Take the survey here.](#)



Installation Innovation & Texas Lyceum

Kaycee Denny, who leads the Military Team, took on not one, but two conferences last week! The first was the Association of Defense Communities [Installation Innovation Forum](#). This event focused on building stronger relationships and partnerships between military installation and their communities. She attended this event alongside the 82d Training Wing Deputy Commander, Colonel Kirk Peterson, his spouse, Pam Peterson, and the 82d Mission Support Group Deputy Commander, Jeff Gutierrez.

Kaycee then attended [The Texas Lyceum's](#) quarterly meeting hosted here in Wichita Falls. This event

was titled “The Divide: What Life is Like for Military Families in Texas,” and aimed to share knowledge not only from locals, but also from many esteemed members of the military community. The event included a tour of Sheppard Air Force Base, one of military affiliated businesses, and one of Midwestern State University. Thank you, Texas Lyceum, for choosing Wichita Falls as your base to talk about military families!



Job Board Highlights

This Week's Featured Job

Are you interested in utilizing the latest surveying technology and equipment to complete all types of land surveying fieldwork? If so, apply to join the team at Corlett Probst & Boyd, PLLC! They are looking to fill a Survey Field Crew Member position. Learn more about [this job](#) and others on our [Jobs Board](#).

- [Sports Director](#), YMCA
 - [Store Manager](#), Harvest Drug & Gift
 - [CADD Technician | Drafter | Architectural Staff Level 1](#), SLA Architects
 - [Physical Therapist](#), Helen Farabee Centers
 - [Volunteer Recruitment and Placement Specialist](#), Hospice of Wichita Falls
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<https://www.newschannel6now.com>

MSU Texas providing free dental cleanings for veterans

"I know that I'm going to get a really good cleaning today. It may take longer for them, but in terms of the services that they provide out here are excellent."

Read More

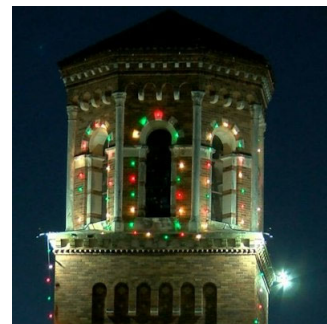


<https://www.newschannel6now.com>

MSU-Burns Fantasy of Lights to open soon

MSU Texas President Stacia Haynie will be flipping the switch, bringing the MSU-Burns Fantasy of Light back again to Wichita Falls.

Read More

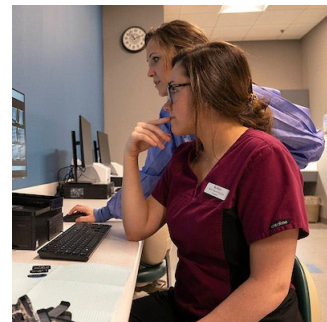


MsuTexas News

MSU Texas Dental Hygiene Clinic to offer free teeth cleanings for kids

The Gaines Dental Hygiene Clinic at Midwestern State University will host "Give Kids a Smile Day" beginning at 8 a.m. Monday, Feb. 21, and continuing through Tuesday, Feb. 22. For those two days, all services are free of charge for children ages 5-12.

Read More





Contact us at

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Wichita Falls Chamber

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