

## **Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development News**

The Olde Tyme Christmas event is next Thursday in downtown Tonkawa. The celebration begins at 6:00 p.m. with the Little Miss Christmas contest at the Gazebo in Centennial Park. The downtown decorations will light at 6:30 p.m. and the parade will follow. Downtown businesses will be open for shopping and dining and there will be food and craft vendors and the TES Gingerbread houses at the Depot. Santa will visit with the children in the caboose and pictures will be available for \$5. Please join your family and friends for a Tonkawa tradition. If you, your business or organization would like to participate in the parade or provide entertainment at the Gazebo, please call the Chamber at 628-2220.

Just a reminder to “Shop Tonkawa!” this holiday season (and year-round). Although you may not see a shopping mall, there are many businesses in Tonkawa that have a lot to offer for your Christmas giving. There are retail stores and service businesses that have gift items and/or certificates available. Please contact your “friends in Tonkawa” today! These friends support your community throughout the year providing employment opportunities, sales tax revenues for the City and convenience for our residents. They are also the ones who support the activities and fundraisers for our local youth programs and community improvement projects. Please show your appreciation to those investing in OUR community. In addition to local businesses, you can check out our list of Chamber members on our website, [www.tonkawachamber.org](http://www.tonkawachamber.org).

The next Business after Hours event will be December 8<sup>th</sup>. The Chamber of Commerce will host a Member Appreciation reception from 5:30-7 p.m. that evening at the office. All members of the Chamber are encouraged to join us!

The annual Chamber banquet will be Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Tickets are now available at the Chamber office or from any board member for \$25 each. The Roustabouts of Northern Oklahoma College will provide the entertainment and we will feature our annual award recipients for Employee of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, Tonkawa Pride and Lifetime Service.

The Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority is offering a free lunch and learn program to area businesses. OMPA will share information about economic development energy rates, the WISE rebate program and the Demand and Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP). If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the Blackwell Industrial Authority, 580-363-2934. The program is November 30<sup>th</sup> at noon at Pioneer Technology Center in the Seminar Room.

### **Calendar of Events:**

Thursday, Nov. 24 – Friday, Nov. 25: Chamber/TDA office closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Wednesday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>: OMPA Lunch & Learn at PTC, noon.