

# Greater Enid Chamber of Commerce

## 2015-16 Community Development Highlights

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- Enid voters approved a **\$93 million Enid Public Schools bond issue** to add classrooms, upgrade transportation and security, improve technology, and build new athletic and fine arts facilities.
- A recently completed wind farm and the Koch Fertilizer plant expansion, which is under construction, represent a **\$1.5 billion investment** in Garfield County.
- Several **housing projects** (houses and apartments) are under construction and others are planned.
- Garfield County continued to have substantial **job growth and low unemployment**. Several companies have completed or announced local expansions. New industrial businesses and corporate headquarters are moving into Enid.
- **New retail businesses and hotels** opened and other major retail projects are in progress.
- Enid is investing in important **infrastructure and quality of life improvements** (enhanced water resources, parks & trails, road upgrades, wastewater plant, etc.).
- **New dormitory facilities** at Northern Oklahoma College were completed. The dorms are available for NOC and NWOSU students.
- **Leonardo's Children's Museum grand re-opening** was celebrated after completing a multi-million dollar renovation.
- The **runway extension** at Enid Woodring Regional Airport was completed. The new runway is an important asset for Enid and Vance Air Force Base.
- **Enid Event Center & Convention Hall** continued to expand Enid's visitor industry and bring outstanding entertainment opportunities to NW Oklahoma.

## Enid Chamber Events & Activities

- Coordinated **federal legislative trip** to Washington, D.C. Topics included: Vance AFB, Woodring Airport projects, undue federal regulation, medical sector and education.
- Organized **Enid Day at the Capitol** legislative breakfast. Topics included: state budget shortfall, education funding, reviewing incentives and tax credits, and Woodring runway extension.
- Partnered with the State Chamber to offer the **Small Business Chamber Alliance**. The program provides legislative "Action Alerts" and enables small businesses to engage in direct legislative advocacy.
- Supported legislation which increases the state's ability to collect sales tax for online retail sales, thus **leveling the playing field between Oklahoma retailers and national online retailers**.
- Participated in **Oklahoma Mid-Size Cities Coalition** to support legislation for economic development and municipalities.
- Partnered with sponsors and other organizations to celebrate Enid's history and heritage through the **Cherokee Strip Celebration**.
- **Candy Cane Cash** event promoted holiday shopping in Enid and provided \$15,000 in cash prizes.
- **NW District Jr. Livestock Show** attracted over 2,500 visitors, provided support for youth agriculture education and raised \$139,000 for premium sale exhibitors.
- **Enlisted Appreciation Night** generated over \$24,000 in cash and prizes from Enid's business community to support enlisted personnel at Vance Air Force Base.
- Organized and promoted **Camp Tomahawk**, a summer camp program for underprivileged children, in partnership with Vance Air Force Base.
- Worked with United Way to expand mentoring in Enid Public Schools through the **Coach-A-Kid Enid** program.
- Provided **membership networking** opportunities through Business Spotlight @ Lunch and Business After Hours events.
- Provided **academic achievement awards** to students and retirement recognition for teachers.
- **Enid Chamber Committee of 100** contributions supported the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Regional Center at Autry Technology Center.
- **Chamber Ambassadors** conducted many ribbon cuttings for new or expanding businesses and provided volunteer support at many Chamber and community events.