



# Chamber News and Notes



March 1, 2011

Belmond Area Chamber of Commerce

**This letter will be included in all Welcome Wagon Baskets as new residents move to Belmond!**



On behalf of the Belmond Area Chamber of Commerce and the Belmond Area, let me say "Welcome!"

We are excited that you have chosen to live in our community, and hope that we can help you find everything you need right here in our hometown.

Belmond offers entertainment opportunities – bowling at Sparetime Lanes, movies at the Lyric Theater, movie and video game rentals at Silverscreen Video, canoe and kayak rentals from Outdoor Adventures, youth and high school sports action to participate in or watch, art and history at the Jenison Meachum Art Center or the Belmond Historical Museum, dancing at Dance with Me Studios, Kelly's School of Dance, or Jazzercise, local theater productions at the Iowa River Players, Bingo at the VFW Hall, or gardening supplies at Winding Creek Gardens or Brown's Landscaping.

Belmond offers shopping opportunities – two grocery stores (Fareway and P & G Market), three gift shops (Millie's Hallmark, True Value, and Bloemke Pharmacy), two florists (Accents on Main and Andrews Floral), sundry items (Dollar General Store), appliances and furniture (Allen Home Center, Kinseth Plumbing and Heating), a lumberyard (Belmond Building Supply), auto parts (NAPA and True Value), computer needs (Steve's PC Clinic), office supplies (Printing Services Incorporated or Belmond Independent), antiques (J & J Collectibles and Antiques, House of Treasures, JR Antiques), jewelry or handbags (Accents on Main, Bloemke Pharmacy, Andrews Floral, Printing Services Incorporated), financial services (First State Bank, Northwest Bank, Citizens Community Credit Union, Thrivent Lutheran, DK Arndt, Hogan Hansen), cars (Wright County Motors), or tires (Leiberknecht OK Tire).

Belmond offers dining opportunities – Cattleman's Steak and Provisions Restaurant, Jerry's Place, Corner Lounge, Pizza Ranch, American Table Restaurant, Belmond Country Club, or Casa Chameleon, as well as faster fare at Casey's Stores, Super 7 Foods and Subway.

Belmond has a strong school system with an elementary school that is two years old and a newly renovated junior/senior high school. Talbot Belmond Public Library is a full service library with over 21,000 titles in stock and with an ICN room available for group use. Belmond has a great medical center with four doctors, a Physician Assistant, and a Nurse Practitioner, as well as physical therapy, occupational therapy, and cardiac and pulmonary rehab. The Medical Center is currently being updated to include surgical suites, an expanded emergency center, and a helicopter pad. Belmond has a dentist and an optometrist, a pharmacy, a health and fitness center, as well as two chiropractors.

Belmond has celebrations – July 4<sup>th</sup> is a three day celebration here in Belmond featuring a 5K run, the largest hand-built ground display fireworks in the state, talent contest, ice cream social, bingo and cake walks, kiddie parade and carnival, and many other events just for that celebration! Belmond also celebrates fall with the annual Fall Festival. Belmond area merchants give thanks to shoppers and supporters by holding "Thanks with Franks" in May, which coincides with the city-wide garage sale event. To begin the Christmas season there will be an evening Parade of Lights with Santa joining in and greeting the children at the Santa House. In June, children are invited to enjoy a day of festivities on Inflatable Bounce Houses on Main Street. Each March, volunteers from the Belmond area are recognized during the Community Awards

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## Banquet.

Belmond features eleven different churches, nine different hair salons - two of which are full service spas, a golf course, a swimming pool, a veterinarian, two photographers, two funeral homes, two insurance and real estate agencies, five gas stations, and three bed and breakfasts. There are services to trim your trees, mow your grass, move your snow, or complete your home improvements.

Belmond has a place for seniors to make Belmond their home, too. Belmond Community Apartments feature 108 apartments for senior living, Belle Haven has a capacity for 32 assisted living residents, and Rehabilitation Center of Belmond offers short term or long term placement for seniors.

In short, Belmond can help you with any needs you may have. For a small town, we pride ourselves on being able to offer big city shopping and services.

Welcome to Belmond, we hope that you will let us help you find what you need.

I realize I most likely missed a few of Belmond's many attributes while composing this letter (and it was **not intentionally** - as you can see I was very long winded and needed to wind it up); however, I believe that new residents will find this a good start on discovering the wonders of Belmond. — Trisha

Chamber of Commerce members are able to accept Belmond Gift Certificates, which totaled more than **\$18,300** in sales for 2010. Money that remains in town strengthens the entire community.



Remember that you can find the Chamber of Commerce on Facebook under Belmond Area Chamber of Commerce. "Like" us, and you will have access to daily news bites, keeping you up-to-date on Belmond events, meetings, news, birthdays, anniversaries, and some quirky "Trisha" humor.

# Presenting...

## Community Awards Banquet Preparations are Underway



The Annual Belmond Community Awards Banquet has been scheduled for Monday, March 28th, 2011 at Cattleman's Steak and Provisions Restaurant. Social hour will begin at 5:15pm, dinner will be served at 6:00 pm, and the program will begin at 7:00 pm. Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be Mayor Al Mattison, and the guest speaker will be businesswoman / Clarion Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Kim Anderson-Heller. The meal will be a stuffed chicken breast, served with a dinner salad, bread roll, rice, coffee, tea or water, and the cost of the meal will include the gratuity. Tickets are \$20 each if purchased in advance, or will be \$25 after March 23rd, and may be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce during business hours (8:30am—2:30pm).

The winners of last year's awards were: Outstanding Community Service Award for someone over 40: Sharleen Sorum, Up and Coming Junior Community Leader for someone under age 40: Kate Simonson, Outstanding Team or Individual Effort: 4th of July Fireworks Committee, Outstanding Religious Leader or Minister: Jackie Burk, Individual Youth Award: Kali Lovgren, Sunshine Award: Julie Eckhoff, and Guardian Angel Award: Russ Dougherty.

Community Awards Banquet  
March 28, 2011  
Cattleman's Steak & Provisions  
Restaurant  
Social Hour 5:15-6:00  
Dinner 6:00-7:00  
Program 7:00



Tickets are now on sale for  
Community Awards banquet:  
**\$20 now OR**  
**\$25 after March 23rd**

Call the Chamber offices to  
purchase tickets 444-3937

# Belmond Area Chamber of Commerce 2011 Membership Drive

- |  |                                   |    |
|--|-----------------------------------|----|
| 1. ABCM Corporation/Belle Haven/Rehabilitation Center of Belmond | 37. Joe's 66 Service              | 86 |
| 2. Accents on Main   | 38. Kinseth Plumbing & Heating    | 84 |
| 3. Aldrich Tree Farm   | 39. KLOW 107.3 FM Forest City     | 82 |
| 4. Allen Home Center   | 40. Klemme House Bed & Breakfast  | 80 |
| 5. Belmond Area Arts Council/Lyric Theater                       | 41. KLMJ 104.9 FM Hampton         | 78 |
| 6. Belmond Community Apartments                                  | 42. Knights of Columbus           | 76 |
| 7. Belmond Dental Clinic/Drs. Barnes and Louscher                | 43. Kum-n-Go                      | 74 |
| 8. Belmond Historical Society                                    | 44. Laura LaRue Photography       | 72 |
| 9. Belmond Independent/Millie's Hallmark                         | 45. Lieberknecht OK Tire          | 70 |
| 10. Belmond Medical Center                                       | 46. Luick Corner Bed & Breakfast  | 68 |
| 11. BIDCO  | 47. MaxYield                      | 66 |
| 12. Belmond-Klemme School District                               | 48. Music Man Maintenance         | 64 |
| 13. Bloemke Pharmacy   | 49. DND Farms/David Nelson        | 62 |
| 14. Casey's General Store  | 50. Northwest Bank                | 60 |
| 15. Cattleman's Steak & Provisions                               | 51. Old School Records Management | 58 |
| 16. City of Belmond  | 52. P & G Market                  | 56 |
| 17. Crave Salon & Spa  | 53. Pizza Ranch                   | 54 |
| 18. Creative Solutions/Jim Davies                                | 54. Printing Services, Inc.       | 52 |
| 19. DK Arndt, PC   | 55. PropertyLink                  | 50 |
| 20. Drs Snively & Gildner  | 56. Rex A Boyd Homestar Windows   | 48 |
| 21. Earl Kalkwarf  | 57. Shear Relaxation Salon & Spa  | 46 |
| 22. Eaton Coproation   | 58. Silverscreen Video            | 44 |
| 23. Fareway  | 59. Sparboe                       | 42 |
| 24. First Gabrielson Agency                                      | 60. Sparetime Lanes               | 40 |
| 25. First State Bank   | 61. Steve's PC Clinic             | 38 |
| 26. Greenway Communications                                      | 62. Syngenta                      | 36 |
| 27. H & K Plumbing & Heating                                     | 63. Talbot Belmond Public Library | 34 |
| 28. Hancock County Co-op Oil                                     | 64. Russ & Lora Talbot            | 32 |
| 29. Hansen Home Projects   | 65. Thrivent Lutheran             | 30 |
| 30. Hogan Hansen, PC   | 66. True Value                    | 28 |
| 31. Houser, Berkland, Simonson, Attys                            | 67. United Seating & Mobility     | 26 |
| 32. Howard Enterprises   | 68. We-3 Catering                 | 24 |
| 33. J & J Collectibles & Antiques                                | 69. Wright County Motors          | 22 |
| 34. Jasperson Insurance & Real Estate                            | 70. Wright Medical Center         | 20 |
| 35. Jazzercise   |                                   | 18 |
| 36. Jerry's Place  |                                   | 16 |

What, you noticed that your business is not listed here? Or perhaps a business that you frequently visit? It's not too late to sign up for the many benefits that Chamber of Commerce membership has to offer—the most prominent being PROMOTION of Belmond businesses and services.

The Welcome Wagon letter on the front page featured several businesses that have not yet joined the Chamber of Commerce—but I feel so strongly about promoting the WHOLE of Belmond, that I included those businesses in promoting our entire city to new-comer residents. However, speak with the owners of those businesses, let them know what a great job the Chamber of Commerce is doing in promoting all of Belmond, and encourage them to join our efforts to make Belmond a stronger, more vital business community! Chamber of Commerce dues in Belmond are MUCH less than those of surrounding areas— you get a great value!



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\*\*\*Thank you to Janet Lich, for sharing this article on Facebook, posted from a site called Small Biz Survival, hosted by Becky McCray.\*\*\*

*Melyn Johnson is the [Main Street Manager in Guymon, Oklahoma](#). She always amazes me with her innovative projects in tourism and community development. She is also incredibly generous at sharing her knowledge. She wrote this piece for her "On the Bricks" column, in the [Guymon Daily Herald](#). It's been reprinted in other area papers, and she kindly shared it with us. -Becky]*

Just recently in conversation someone told me that they purchased their insurance online. Ouch. That really hurt. Biting my tongue is what hurt. The inclination for me to pull out the soap box, climb atop the box, and deliver a personal opinion was strong. But I maintained self-control. Until now.

Online? Really? The very thought gives me heartburn.

Saturday my grandson (and many other people's children and grandchildren) played two games on the Kid's Inc. league. Not a single one of those teams had an online business on the shirts.



The day before, the Ag Appreciation Day was held, an education opportunity for our farmers and ranchers (including a free meal). There were several local insurance agencies that had paid the money for booths and were present. None of them were online agencies.

On Saturday at the Women in Ag conference, there was Phil and Dianna Brown in attendance. No online companies that I saw.



Let's let the imagination run to that tree branch falling on your roof and causing damage to your house and car. It's easy to just call up Phil and Dianna (or Warner and Roger McKinnon or Ken Lane). Good luck on calling that online group. And don't whine to me when you find out how it's working for you.

Whew. I think the soap box can be put up now on that subject.

Wait, though. Before putting it up let me address shopping in your hometown.



Every morning when you wake up you want water to flow out of your faucet. You want your toilet to flush by simply pulling down that handle. You want your streets paved, your trash picked up, your street light giving off light so you don't trip getting to your car. You want a swimming pool where you kids can go all day for just a little bit of money. You want a park with playground equipment for them to play or have their birthday party. You want a golf course so your spouse can be gone for a few hours on the weekend. You decide to do genealogy research and begin using the public library and want research materials. You want. You want. You want.

Don't act like you don't know where the money comes from to provide all of that. A minute part of it is the fees, but in our Oklahoma towns it is primarily sales tax dollars.



How would you like to call the City Manager and tell him about a pot hole on your street that you want fixed and him say, "Sorry, our street crew is working on streets in Amarillo today." Take a deep breath. You brought it on yourself.



When you choose where to buy your groceries think about who provided those buns free at your

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last Sunday School picnic. Think about who bought ads in your school yearbook so your kids could have an affordable memory of their school years.



When you're buying a car, try to remember if the place you're buying your car (or washer or dryer or furniture) bought an animal at the stock show. Or if they donated to your prom party. Or bought the scoreboard at your school. We might even remember who buys the radio time so you can listen to area teams in the playoffs.



Now, don't be throwing out exceptions as excuses. Sure, it's a fact you can't get everything in your hometown. That's not what we're talking about. As a point, to heck with any excuses at all. Just thoughts to ponder. You say you save some money ... but I wonder just how much of that \$3 gasoline it takes to save those dollars. And how many hours it took you to drive to and from that other town.

When there are medical emergencies and traumatic events, who steps up and helps out? Hometown zip codes is my guess.

Who buys the tickets to your school and community plays? Who buys the FFA top hands? Who pays for all that expensive candy and other stuff your golf team is selling as a fund raiser? It's always people who own or work for people who are in business in or near your hometown.



It's time to stop going into places just for a handout. Think about where you're going and why. There is nothing wrong with going to other towns, no. But consider what you expect from local merchants and be economically smart. Sometimes when you're saving a dollar, you could lose much more.



And while you're thinking, tell those folks that do provide jobs in your hometown, that do pay the taxes that helps keep water running through your faucet, that do hold up your community events ... tell them thank you. I appreciate our community supporters every time you give to our kids, our school, our community events, our civic groups. You're what keeps us alive.

Time to put the soap box away.

See you on the bricks.

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## Start Summer A Little Early This Year!

Put on your beach clothes, it's time for a beach party at the Belmond Country Club, Friday, March 18th, 5:00 PM. Enjoy beach inspired cocktails, food and games.



Your ticket to get in the door is an item to donate for auction (preferred) or cash donations will be generously accepted. All proceeds are allocated 100% to golf course betterment. Silent auction from 5-7:15 with Live auction starting at 7:30PM. Call now to drop off your auction items at 444-4183 or (515) 707-7715.

The party is open to everyone! New member incentive pricing available— 50% discount, your chance to make it a summer to remember at a fraction of the price! Inquire at your convenience.

Grand prize drawing: FREE membership for an existing or prospective member!!! Games for chances to win drinks and other prizes: putting contests, flamingo ring, limbo

Beach inspired food specials throughout the night. Watch for more details!  
**(sponsored by Belmond Country Club Course Improvement Cmte)**



## Community Calendar of Events:

Feb. 28-Mar 4—Dr. Seuss Days at the Library

Mar 5—Belmond Youth Basketball Tourney

Mar 7—Novel Destinations at Library

Mar 8—Fat Tuesday

Mar 9—Ash Wednesday

Mar 12—Cub Scout Penny Carnival 6-8pm

- Outdoor Classroom Dinner—5:30pm

- St. Francis Irish Stew Dinner 5-7pm

Mar 13—Daylight Savings Begins

Mar 14—July 4th Planning Cmte Meeting 6pm

Mar 18-18 Belmond Klemme Spring Play

Mar 23—Last day for \$20 Community Awards Banquet ticket sales

Mar 28—Community Awards Banquet 5:15-8pm

This list is **NOT ALL INCLUSIVE**—check daily news bites for more information

## Business Plan Competition Opportunity

The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center/North Iowa Area Community College announced that the opening round of the Iowa Business Plan Competition for new start up companies that are less than four years old will begin soon. Applications are being accepted between March 1-April 30, 2011 (through Angelsoft) for consideration.

A panel of judges from the John Pappajohn Centers, the Small Business Development Centers, the Iowa Accelerators/Incubators and private equity firms will evaluate submitted business plans, and winners will be selected and announced at the Iowa Entrepreneurs Conference and Venture Forum in October.

Winners receive cash prizes, with first place receiving \$25,000 and recognition of your work on the competition web site, 2nd place receiving \$15,000, and 3rd place receives \$10,000.

Assistance will be provided in writing the business plans, if desired. The full rules and other information are posted on the website: [www.iowabusinessplancompetition.com](http://www.iowabusinessplancompetition.com).

## Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Events



### Laura LaRue Photography

Family, friends, and community members welcomed Laura LaRue and her family to the Belmond Business Community with a ribbon cutting event held at the Chamber of Commerce offices on February 9th. Laura brought samples of her work to enjoy, refreshments, and a fun family atmosphere. Congratulations to Laura and her family on her endeavors, and we wish you great luck!



### Silverscreen Video

Owner Heather Doyle was welcomed to the Belmond business community on February 16th, along with friends and family. Heather offered a great "Movie Night" gift basket as a door prize. After the ribbon cutting, guests browsed the many title selections available for rental. Congratulations, Heather, and best of luck in your new location and your endeavors!

## Knights of Columbus Annual Spelling Bee February 9, 2011

## Sage Advice from Will Rogers



- \* Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
- \* Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
- \* There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
- \* Never miss a good chance to shut up.
- \* Always drink upstream from the herd.
- \* If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
- \* The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
- \* There are three kinds of men: The ones that learn by reading. The few who learn by observation. The rest of them have to pee on the electric fence and find out for themselves.
- \* Good judgment comes from experience and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
- \* If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.
- \* Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back.
- \* After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.



Fourth Grade Spellers



Fifth Grade Spellers



Sixth Grade Spellers

Congratulations to the winners of the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee February 9th. Twenty-two students participated in the event. Winners were 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Taylor Branstad 1<sup>st</sup> place, Keaton Wilson, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and William Miller, 3<sup>rd</sup> place., 5<sup>th</sup> grade: Kennedy Lewis 1<sup>st</sup> place, Chelsea Sayer, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Eli Swenson 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Travis Fekkers 1<sup>st</sup> place, Trae Elmore 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Mariah Smith, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. Well done! First and second place winners advance to regional competition on February 20<sup>th</sup> in Belmond.



In like a **LION**  
Out like a **LAMB**

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