



Weekly Member Update – February 23, 2007

OEDC News and Events

Governor Declares “Communities of Excellence” Day

OKLAHOMA CITY – Governor Brad Henry has declared March 8 as “Communities of Excellence Day” in Oklahoma. To help promote community development, particularly in rural areas of the state, the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Oklahoma Community Institute are sponsoring a Communities of Excellence Day at the Capitol on that date.

The come-and-go event kicks off with remarks from Lieutenant Governor Jari Askins and Amy Polonchek, executive director of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and features Oklahoma communities from across the state and the various groups that have helped communities grow and prosper.

Participants will showcase the positive impact they've had on their communities as well as the public/private partnerships developed through their efforts. The event also highlights community improvements and economic development accomplishments.

The award-winning communities that will be showcased are Ardmore (Ardmore Beautification Council), Town of Braman, Durant (Durant Industrial Authority), City of Frederick, City of Okemah, City of Pauls Valley, and the City of Pawnee.

“We are excited to celebrate the successes of these communities and give them the opportunity to tell their story,” said Vaughn Clark, director of the Department of Commerce Community Development division. “Strengthening these communities – from infrastructure to a better trained workforce – is vital for bringing good jobs to these smaller cities.”

“Communities of Excellence Day” at the Capitol will be held on the fourth floor of the Capitol beginning at 8 a.m.