

BUZZWORDS

The **AMARILLO CITY COUNCIL** recently approved two economic development-related items that will ultimately result in a new business coming to Amarillo. The council approved two agreements to bring Coast Packing Company – South to east Amarillo. The location incentive agreement was between the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation and the company and the tax abatement agreement was between the Amarillo EDC, the company and the city of Amarillo. Coast Packing – South is looking to construct a new food manufacturing facility that will ultimately produce beef oil. The facility is expected to be located in the Centerport Business Park, located at 2300 North Loop 335 East. Some of the highlights of the project provided by the Amarillo EDC include: \$30 MM estimated improvements and equipment; 60 new employees projected; \$3,300,000 new annual payroll projected; Incentive of \$720,000 for job creation paid over 10 years as they are created; Conveyance of 30.03 acres in Centerport Business Park. For the tax abatement agreement, the City Council approved an abatement on future taxes on the construction and equipment costs of the facility, ultimately recommending an 80% abatement for eight years for the business. The Amarillo EDC has been working on this for three years. After the approval process, construction is expected to start.



BROWN & FORTUNATO announced that **BLINN COMBS** and **JORDAN VOGEL** have joined the firm. **BLINN COMBS** has joined as a member of the firm's Health Care Group. He is a member of the State Bar of Texas and the State Bar of Georgia. Prior to joining Brown & Fortunato, Blinn served as

in-house counsel for a group of healthcare companies in Georgia, advising on regulatory compliance matters and drafting and negotiating contracts. Blinn obtained his J.D. from Georgia State University in 2017, where he received CALI awards in Jurisprudence and Public Health Law and a Best Brief award. Blinn has an extensive academic background in teaching, research, and writing.



He obtained his Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Texas in 2011 and, in 1999, received a B.A. with distinction in Philosophy from Carleton College. **JORDAN VOGEL** joined the firm as a member of the Health Care Group. Prior to that, Jordan practiced in Colorado. He currently represents healthcare

providers in a range of health care related matters, including compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements and responding to government investigations. Jordan is a member of the State Bar of Texas and State Bar of Colorado. Jordan is originally from Canyon, Texas and attended Texas Tech University, where he received a B.S. in Animal Science with minors in Agribusiness Management and Political Science. He received his J.D. from the University of Colorado Boulder School of Law and was an Editor and Staff Writer for the Colorado Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law Review.

Eight **BSA HEALTH SYSTEM** nurses have been recognized by the **TEXAS NURSES ASSOCIATION** for their exceptional nursing practices and service to the community. They were honored recently at the Panhandle Great 25 Nurses celebration in Amarillo. The recipients are: **ALICE CONNER, RN** – Pediatrics Department; **JULIA BURKHARD, BSN, RN** – Critical Care Unit; **HAZEL PLEXICO, RN-BC** – Clinical Education; **RHONDA BILLINGTON, RN** – Cardiac Cath Lab and Medical Intensive Care Unit; **ASHLEY PAETZOLD, RN** – Orthopedics and Neurology Department; **JAMIE MILTON, BSN, RNC-NIC** – Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; **TERESA MOORE, RN** – Critical Care Unit; **JACINDA PEREZ, RN** – Nursing Services. "Each of these eight nurses are role models in the field of healthcare and are invaluable assets to both BSA and our community," said BSA Chief Nursing Officer **KATRINA TOKAR MSN, RN, NEA-BC**.



SELL GRIFFIN MCLAIN PC

announced the addition of associate attorney, **BRANDON C. JONES**. Brandon received his B.A. in Humanities, followed by an MBA from Pensacola Christian College. He then received his J.D. from Texas Tech University School of Law. Brandon

will serve clients in the areas of business and transactional matters, including entity formation, real estate transactions, estate planning and probate matters, as well as general business litigation.

After caring for patients twenty-four years, **DR. JOHN HOWARD** said the **CLARENDON FAMILY MEDICAL CENTER** has been sold to **DR. DUSTIN PRATT** of Childress. Believing it was time to retire, Dr. Howard and his wife, Lori, will stay in Clarendon where Dr. Howard is the Donley County Judge.

C BAR C CHUCKWAGON participated in the **COORS COWBOY CLUB CHUCKWAGON GATHERING** last summer in Amarillo. It was a non-competitive event. Each wagon cooked for 65 meals to be served to the public. The menu consisted of Chicken Fried Steak, Potatoes, Gravy, Pinto Beans, Bread, and Peach Cobbler. Each wagon was paid the same amount of money. There were ten wagons cooking inside the Tommy Grant Arena on the north end of the Fair Grounds. It was in conjunction with the Coors Cowboy Club Ranch Rodeo.



(Photo: Left to right - Jamie Snyder, Peggy Pippin, Patsy Segedy, Karen Phillips, Sue Cunningham, in back are Kaston Snyder, Wade Cates, and Doug Phillips.)

The law firm of **WALSH GALLEGOS TREVINO KYLE & ROBINSON PC** is proud to announce that **ANDREA SLATER GULLEY**, an attorney in the Firm's Amarillo Office, is serving a one-year term as the Chair of the School Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Prior to becoming Chair, Ms. Gulley served three years on the Section's Executive Board. Ms. Gulley has represented Texas public school districts since 2004, and previously served as the President of the Amarillo Women's Bar Association and a Director of the Amarillo Area Bar Association.

The **TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS** recently approved two major infrastructure projects at **WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**. Approval was given for the \$44.9 million **GENEVA SCHAEFFER EDUCATION BUILDING** renovation and the \$8.9 million **BAIN ATHLETIC CENTER** expansion project. The Education Building, the second-oldest building on WT's campus, will be reimagined as a space that will put WT right on the edge of innovation in distance learning. WT's number of online courses has grown from 533 to 1,726 in the 10-year span between the 2001-02 and 2020-21 academic years. As part of the University's long-range plan, *WT 125: From the Panhandle to the World*, WT expects to increase the number of online students to at least 7,500 students, ultimately approximately 50 percent of total University enrollment. Revitalization of the Geneva Schaeffer Education Building will allow for additional video studios, production studios for online courses and support spaces. The building also will be the new home of the WT Graduate School, recognizing the significant growth it has achieved in the past five years.

The **HARRINGTON CANCER AND HEALTH FOUNDATION WOMEN'S CIRCLE** has awarded ten grants totaling \$50,000 to local organizations that impact women's health and well-being.

Grants have been awarded to: **AMARILLO ALUMNAE DELTA SIGMA THETA; ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BELOVED COMMUNITY; DOWNTOWN WOMEN'S CENTER; FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES; HOPE CHOICE; MARTHA'S HOME; MOORE COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION; MAKING NEW SOLUTIONS**

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FOUNDATION; REFUGEE LANGUAGE PROJECT; TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER. The Women's Circle merges time, talent and resources among women who share a common interest in healthcare. The mission of the Circle is to support projects that improve the health and well-being of women. With the money raised through membership dues and corporate sponsorships, members take a hands-on approach that directly impacts the quality of women's healthcare by distributing funds through a yearly grant awards process. 2022 marks the 14th year of the Circle and to date over \$370,000 has been awarded to local programs that impact women's health. In addition to the grants process, members are invited to attend quarterly luncheons featuring programs on relevant women's healthcare topics.

Brazil's **OMEGA ENERGIA** is to build its first wind farm in the US in partnership with unnamed local investors, the company announced. Construction of the 265.5MW Goodnight I wind farm in Armstrong County is expected to cost \$410-420 million.

TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS, a leading managed technology services provider (MTSP), is advancing how small to mid-sized businesses (SMBs) communicate with one another via mobile enablement technology. In July of 1989, **GENE WELLS**, an industry veteran since 1980, formed Technical Solutions to assist Texas businesses in implementing technologies that would become revolutionary in the way they conducted business. Technical Solutions has become one of the leading providers of business, medical communications and network infrastructure solutions.

With the rise of remote and hybrid workplaces, the company has invested in offering mobile enablement technology to its customers to enhance business communications and productivity. The whole point of mobile enablement solutions is to maintain a seamless, professional experience that drives easy communication and collaboration. "Hybrid and remote workplaces are here to stay and without building the proper communications and IT infrastructure, there are obvious shortcomings to the hybrid workplace; however, with the right tools it can accelerate the pace of any business, enhance collaboration and ultimately lead to more profits," said Wells. *AOW*