



BLUE RIDGE

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

small town, **BIG** ideas!

What is the Chamber of Commerce?

The Blue Ridge Chamber of Commerce is an established voluntary membership organization. The Chamber supports and speaks for those engaged in business, industry, agriculture, transportation, education, healthcare and private sector enterprises. In a nutshell, we seek to make commerce happen through business expansion and attraction, as well as the advocacy efforts that help improve business in our area.

Our Vision

- ▶ Our vision is to bring businesses and individuals together to build consensus on business issues and community goals. We hope to serve as the leading business advocate for the economic health and vitality of our membership and our community.
- ▶ The Chamber pursues its vision:
 - ▶ Serving the region as the central networking organization from which ideas, resources and assets can be drawn
 - ▶ Educating businesses and individuals on workforce readiness and development issues
 - ▶ Promoting and encouraging growth of the membership, community, and area

Why Join?

- ▶ Business Promotion and Support
- ▶ Access to resources
- ▶ Networking
- ▶ Gives you a **VOICE** in the Community
- ▶ Community Involvement
- ▶ Camaraderie
- ▶ Powerful referral generator
- ▶ Strong references
- ▶ Advertising opportunities

Member Benefits

- ▶ Below are the benefits that are included with membership. The more the Chamber grows the more benefits that will be added.
 - ▶ Listing on the Chamber Website
 - ▶ Social Media Spotlights
 - ▶ Directory Listing
 - ▶ Referrals
 - ▶ Ribbon Cutting (Even Existing Members)

Current Events

- ▶ Meet the Candidate - Currently the Chamber of Commerce has sponsored the Meet the Candidate event for local elections. We are already gearing up for this event that will take place in April 2017. We are working on partnering with BRISD's Student Body Government. We are in hopes to continue this event as well as enhance with the school's involvement.
- ▶ Holiday Festival – Assisting the City with its Annual Holiday Festival. This will be a membership drive as well.

Chamber Short Term Goals

The Chamber would like to break the needs of the Business as well as the Community into attainable goals. Below are what we believe are the focal points for the Chamber at this time.

- ▶ Increase Membership
- ▶ Increase meeting attendance
- ▶ Establish an income support system
- ▶ Hire a part time employee to coordinate and promote events
- ▶ Schedule one event for the remainder of 2016

Remember.....

- ▶ The Chamber of Commerce will provide you with what you put into it. The more you volunteer the more the community will see you and your business.
- ▶ You can not expect the Chamber to work on your behalf if you are not an active participant.
- ▶ The Chamber is a vital part of the Economic Development and Growth for the community we all serve.
- ▶ Share the load and spread the word that our Chamber is here to serve and benefit you the business owners !

Chamber Long Term Goals

- ▶ Increased Membership
- ▶ Visibility in the Community
- ▶ Partnership with the Blue Ridge Economic Development Corporation as well as the Blue Ridge Community Development Corporation
- ▶ Community Events
 - ▶ Parade
 - ▶ Community Awards Banquet
 - ▶ Educational Events
 - ▶ Networking Events

Where do I sign up ?

- ▶ At any Chamber meeting!
- ▶ Go to www.blueridgecity.com and download an application
- ▶ Email: blueridgechamber@blueridgecity.com
- ▶ Call: (972) 752-5210
- ▶ Or drop by Texas Vineyard Homes (Stacey DeLeon), City Hall (Nacy Southard) or Branscome's Grocery (Christina Porath)
- ▶ Contact a Current Member
- ▶ Contact the Blue Ridge Economic Development Corporation
- ▶ Contact the Blue Ridge Community Development Corporation

Thank You !!!

- ▶ We want to take a moment and Thank you for what you do for our community. We know that this is another thing to add to your already busy schedule. We will all work to make the Chamber a great and productive organization to be a part of. If we all do our part if will we all keep the drive and excitement to help this organization grow to the potential we know it can be !

Thank you!