



# Chamber NEWS

January 2018

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Business focused. Community minded.

[www.bentonchamber.com](http://www.bentonchamber.com) 501-860-7002

## 2018 Benton Chamber Board of Directors



Photo: Phil Hobby Photography

Your 2018 Chamber of Commerce is in good hands with an outstanding board to lead our organization. In December, the Chamber membership elected five new people to replace the five members who had reached their 3-year term limits.

### Join us as we introduce our 2018 Board of Directors

**Jeff Richardson, Chairman**  
Bank of the Ozarks

**Kelly Freudensprung**  
Saline Courier

**Steve Brown, Vice Chairman**  
Alcoa Community Federal Credit Union

**Toby Hirscheider**  
Carson Physical Therapy

**Jordan Woolbright, Treasurer**  
Jordan C. Woolbright, CPA, P.A.

**Brent Jones**  
Brent Jones, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

**Rick Bellinger, Secretary**  
Riverside Grocery & Catering

**Valerie MacEntee**  
Ray Baggett Agency, Farmers Insurance Group

**Leigha Jones, Past Chairman**  
The Bent Lily, LLC.

**Justin McCauley**  
McCauley Services

**Mitchell Bolding**  
Simmons Bank

**Teresa Middlebrooks**  
Middlebrooks Electric

**Laryssa Calley**  
Shelter Insurance, Laryssa Calley Agency

**Doug Robinson**  
Baxley-Penfield-Moudy Realtors

**Karen Carter**  
Roller-Ballard & Roller-Alcoa Funeral Homes

**Chris Rollins**  
Rollins Performance Group

**Leeanne Crowson**  
Natural State Drug & Alcohol Testing

**Lisa Roth**  
First Security Bank

## New Members (December)

**Advanced Physical Therapy**  
Trisha Cooper  
1226 Ferguson Dr., Benton, AR 72015  
224-5454 • Physical Therapy

**Five Dollar Bling - Paparazzi**  
Georgianna Cochran  
2623 Silver Maple Drive, Little Rock, AR 72210  
425-2165 • Jewelry

**Ice House Grill**  
Kyle Rae  
1209 Edison Ave., Benton, AR 72015  
249-1035 • Restaurants

**Joann Jolly**  
Joann Jolly  
1209 Edison Ave., Benton, AR 72015  
249-1035 • Massage Therapy

**Lawrence Termite & Pest Services**  
Garrett Shoup  
17860 I-30 Suite 1, Benton, AR 72019  
870-310-0010 • Pest Control

**Rebels Den Cycle**  
Tony Jones  
2013 Military Road, Benton, AR 7015  
574-6077 • Motorcycle/Bicycle Repair/Part/  
Accessories

**Splash Carwash**  
Garrett Hartman  
1720 Landers Road, Benton, AR 72015  
771-1352 • Car Wash/Automobile Detail

**The Bent Lily, LLC**  
Leigha Jones  
2308 Red Bud Cove, Benton, AR 72015  
860-1071 • Yoga Instruction/Classes



January 11 - First Thursday Awards Luncheon

February 1 - First Thursday Luncheon

February 8 - Bingo

March 13 - Annual Banquet

April 5 - First Thursday Luncheon

May 10 - Saline County Business Expo and  
Hook, Line & Chicken

June 7 - First Thursday Luncheon

August 2 - First Thursday Breakfast

August 23 - Bingo

October 4 - Savor the Flavor

November 1 - Glitz & Garland Girls Night Out

November 2-3 - Glitz & Garland

December 6 - Christmas at the Chamber

## Chamber Awards Luncheon Set for January 11

The Chamber's Awards Lunch will be held on January 11 at noon at the Benton Event Center. Lunch will be provided **FREE** to all attendees. Food will be served by Gina's Catering. Presenting sponsor is Farmers Bank & Trust.

Presentations will be made to the 2017 Chairman Leigha Jones and retiring Chamber Board of Directors. These include Cheryl Cook, Dee Everett, Lita Gattis, Paul White, and the late Lisa Presnall.

Because of outstanding service to the Chamber and to our community in 2017, the winner of the following awards will be revealed: Ambassador of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Community Spirit Award, Entrepreneurship Award, Legacy Award, and Then, Now and Toward the Future Award.

Make plans to join us at 12:00pm at the Benton Event Center for the announcement of 2017 awards, a delicious meal, and networking opportunities. We invite you to make your New Year's Resolution to become a more active member of your Benton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Register online at [www.bentonchamber.com](http://www.bentonchamber.com) or call 501-860-7002.



### CHAMBER EVENTS

**January 5 - Ribbon Cutting**  
10:00am - Rebels Den Cycle  
10:30am - Pleasant Hill Adult Day Care

**January 11 - Chamber Awards Luncheon**  
12:00pm - Benton Event Center

**January 19 - Ribbon Cutting**  
10:00am - Hairpin Salon  
10:30am - Central Arkansas Cardiology Associates  
11:00am - Lumatech

**January 24 - Chamber Board Meeting**  
11:15am - Executive Board  
11:45am - Full - Board Room

**January 25 - Ribbon Cutting**  
10:00am - Everett Infront of Central Arkansas

**January 30 - Ribbon Cutting**  
11:00am - Advanced Physical Therapy

**February 1 - First Thursday Luncheon**  
12:00pm - The Enclave Gallery at White Furniture

### CITY EVENTS

**January 1 & 15 - Public Utilities Commission**  
6pm - 1827 Dale Street

**January 8 & 22 - Benton City Council**  
6am - Agenda; 7pm - Full  
Council Chambers, Municipal Complex

**January 18 - A&P Commission**  
4:00pm - Chamber Board Room

### OTHER EVENTS

**January 4 - 6 - Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**  
7:00pm - Royal Theater

**January 7 - Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**  
2:00pm - Royal Theater

**January 11 - 13 - Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**  
7:00pm - Royal Theater

**January 14 - Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**  
2:00pm - Royal Theater

**January 19 - Mother - Son Superhero Dance**  
6:00pm - 8:00pm - Tyndall Park - Gene Moss Bldg.



Mark your calendars for February 8. Your Benton Area Chamber of Commerce will be having another community Bingo night at the Benton Event Center.

Doors will open at 5:00pm and games will begin at 6:00pm. Your \$20 ticket (or \$25 at the door) includes admittance and also 1 Bingo card for 16 games. There will be 4 bonus games with more payout if you want to participate in these. Tickets go on sale January 9 at the Benton Chamber.

Concession food will be available. There will also be a cash bar. Come over and have some food, drink and then participate in the bingo games. Cash prizes will be given for the winner of each game.

Another Bingo event will be held August 23. Several sponsors have committed to help sponsor these events. It is not too late for your company to get involved. For only \$300 or \$500, you can sponsor one of the events. If you choose, you can sponsor both dates at a discounted price of \$500 or \$800.

Current sponsors include: Alcoa Community Federal Credit Union, Bank of the Ozarks, Crye-Leike Realtors, McFarland Eye Care, Rib Crib, Sprint, The Greens at Longhills, The Saline Courier, Alcoa Pines Health & Rehab, Amberwood Health & Rehabilitation, Datamax, First Electric Cooperative, Hurricane Creek Federal Credit Union, Ray Baggett Agency-Farmers Insurance Group, Roberson & Associates Insurance, and The Manor Assisted Living Community

### Economic Development Topic at February First Thursday



**Mike Preston**  
Executive Director  
AEDC

The Benton Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that Mike Preston, Executive Director of Arkansas Economic Development Commission, will be the speaker at our February First Thursday lunch.

The lunch will be held on Thursday, February 1 at 12:00pm at the Enclave Gallery at White Furniture. Tickets are \$12 and can be bought on line or by calling the Chamber at 501-860-7002.

Please come out and hear about the exciting economic development issues in our area as well as state information.



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**Tim Finley** | **Buddy Grifford** | **Jeremy Rook**  
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## 2018 Banquet to be March 13



The 2018 Benton Area Chamber of Commerce banquet will be held at the Benton Event Center on Tuesday, March 13. Doors will open at 5:45p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:30p.m. Tickets are on sale now. You may purchase a table for 10 people for \$750.00. Individual tickets are \$80 each.

You may purchase online or call the Chamber at 860-7002 to get tickets.

Feature speaker will be Mitch Albom, a best-selling author, screenwriter, playwright, and journalist. His books have sold, collectively, nearly 40 million copies worldwide, in 42 languages and in more than 50 countries, making him one of the most successful authors of our day. Albom is also recognized as one of the nation's pre-eminent journalists, having written syndicated columns through the Detroit Free Press for over 30 years.

Everett Buick GMC, Jones Heating & Air, First Security Bank, Rineco a Heritage Company, Reed's Metals, McCauley Services, Ferguson's Furniture, CDI Contractors, LLC, Baxley-Penfield-Moudy Realtors.

Come out and enjoy a great evening with your Benton Area Chamber of Commerce and Mitch Albom.

## Christmas Cheer at the Chamber



## From Your Chairman



It is hard to believe that 2017 has gone and we are already beginning a new year at the Benton Area Chamber of Commerce. I have been privileged to serve on the Board of Directors since 2013 and I have seen some amazing things happen during that tenure. It is truly an honor to serve as the chairman of the board for 2018. When I look at the pictures on the wall in the Chamber of past presidents and past chairmen, there are some remarkable people pictured there and I hope that I can serve as well as those individuals have in the past. Thank you to each of you who have served in a leadership role in the past with the Chamber and a specific thank you to Leigha Jones for her role as the 2017 board chairman. She did a phenomenal job last year and her service is to be commended. During the final months of her tenure, several events were put into the planning phase and scheduled for 2018.

The first event of 2018 will be the Awards Luncheon on January 11th at the Benton Event Center. The event starts at 12:00 p.m. and is free to all Chamber members. Lunch will be provided by Gina's Catering; during the event we will be highlighting some of the amazing people of Saline County and their involvement in the community. During this time we will also be recognizing our outgoing board members and their contribution to the success of the Chamber, as well as introducing the five new board members taking their places.

The next event of 2018 will be the Bingo Night on February 8th at the Benton Event Center. If you missed the event last August, you need to make sure to put this event on your calendar for a night of fun and games. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. and the event will officially begin at 6:00 p.m. More information about this event will be coming soon.

The third big event will be the Annual Banquet on March 13th at the Benton Event Center. Tables of 10 are currently on sale for \$750.00. If you have not reserved your table to this spectacular night, please contact the Chamber office today. The doors will open at 5:45 p.m. and the event will begin at 6:30 p.m. This year's speaker is bestselling author and journalist, Mitch Albom. Mr. Albom has written such titles as Tuesdays with Morrie, Five People You Meet in Heaven, The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto, and The Time Keeper. For those sports fans out there, he is also a weekly contributor on ESPN's The Sports Reporters and a syndicated journalist with the Detroit Free Press. He is also dedicated to philanthropic work and is actively involved with seven charities in Detroit and runs an orphanage in Haiti.

This year has the potential to be one of the best years of the Chamber, but it takes the hard work and dedication of each one of us on the board, the staff, and the membership to make it a success. The Chamber will work to do its part to improve and advance the community and the businesses in the area. I am personally honored to be a part of this wonderful community and look forward to seeing exactly what can be accomplished by the great people of Saline County.

*Jeff Richardson, Bank of the Ozarks*

## Ribbon Cuttings for December



**Baptist Health Urgent Care**



**McLarty Nissan of Benton**



**OMG Digital Ads**



**The Loft Nutrition**



### Sunday Worship Times

First Service 8:45 am  
 Sunday School 10:00 am  
 Second Service 11:00 am

Rev. Carlton Cross,  
 Senior Pastor

1647 Salem Road  
 (501) 316-2282

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