

Communities Working Together to Accomplish What One Community Cannot Do Alone

The **E—Update**



"Every sunset is an opportunity to reset."
Richie Norton, Author

TMCN & WCTCOG to Host Newly Elected Officials Seminar

TMCN and the West Texas Council of Governments - Economic Development & CDBG Grant Offices will host their 6th Annual Newly Elected Officials Seminar on Tuesday, July 14th.

County Judges & Commissioners; County Clerks, Municipal Judges, City Managers, Administrators



& Secretaries; and, Finance Directors & Department Directors are invited and encouraged to attend. We are honored to welcome special guest District 71 State Representative Stan Lambert who will speak to us at lunch. Cisco City Manager Darwin Archer will moderate the day which will include the following lineup of topics and speakers:

Effective Working Relationship Equal Success
Brownwood City Manager Emily Crawford & Mayor Steven Haynes

Making Dollars Count in Your Budget
Coleman City Manager Diana Lopez

Parliamentary Procedure & Open Meetings Act
11th Court of Appeals Justice John Bailey

Ethics & Conflicts of Interests
Attorney Jeff Betty

Maximizing Your Economic Development Power
WCTCOG Director of Economic Development Kelly Cheek

Developing Viable Communities -the Benefits of Grants
Owner Judy Landford, Community Management Services

This event will be held both in-person (limited seating) and online. Cost is \$25/person. To register [Click Here](#) or call the TMCN Office at 325-795-8626.

State Opens Applications for Coronavirus Relief to Cities & Counties

In case you missed it, the Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending Program is now open.

This program provides support to medium-sized and small businesses and their employees across the U.S. during the current financial strain due to the COVID-19 crisis. Administered by the Boston Fed, it helps credit flow to businesses that were in good financial condition but now need loans to help get through the pandemic.

Recently, the program was expanded to allow more small and medium-sized businesses to receive support. Changes included lowering the minimum loan amount, raising the maximum



loan limit, adjusting the principal repayment schedule and extending the term to provide borrowers with greater flexibility in repayment.

Visit bostonfed.org/mslp for detailed information on the program and eligibility, including frequently asked questions, loan types and terms, program forms and agreements. You can subscribe to email updates and learn about upcoming webinars and drop-in sessions.

Nonprofit Service Providers

The Fed recently announced that it will make nonprofits eligible for the Main Street Lending Program. There are two types of nonprofit loans - the Nonprofit Organization New Loan Facility and the Nonprofit Organization Expanded Loan Facility - which generally mirror the New Loan and Expanded Loan facilities under the MSLP for for-profit businesses. For information on qualifying organizations [click here](#). If you have any questions about the nonprofit program, contact Roy Lopez, assistant vice president over Community Development at the Dallas Fed.

Potential Lenders and Borrowers

The Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending Program is now open for lender registration. Lenders can find the necessary [registration documents](#) on the program site and are encouraged to begin making Main Street program loans immediately.

Business borrowers must apply for the program loans through a participating lender. To get started, we recommend reviewing program parameters. Visit the [borrowers' page](#) for information.

Contact

For general inquiries, email mslp@bostonfed.org. For questions about nonprofit lending, email Roy Lopez at roy.lopez@dal.frb.org.



2019 Leadership TMCN Scholarship Winners Heading to Texas Universities

Our 1st Place Scholarship Winner was the Team from Snyder for their **STREAM Project**. The Project addressed the outcome of research which reviewed the gender inequity of females in STEM accentuated by the lack of access and education in the household. The end result was a fully

equipped mobile STEM lab which travels to various community events to share and teach their passion of science, technology, engineering and math. *Meera Bhakta* has been accepted to and will be attending Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

The 3rd Place Scholarship Winner was the Team from Anson for their **Public Safety - 911 Address Project**. The Project began through a desire to assist local first responders, postal

service carriers and concerned citizens of Anson. The end result was the enlistment of numerous community volunteers who painted curbs and install mailbox stickers on 206 homes and businesses. *Carmen Flores* will be attending the University of North Texas in Denton and both *Megan Stinnett* and *Peyton Goza* will be attending Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

We wish all our 2019 Leadership TMCN participants great success in their future endeavors!

Membership Renewals

As you know, the Texas Midwest Community Network is a grassroots 501(c)(6) non-profit organization. As such, we do not receive any funding from state or federal sources or private foundations. We are member driven and member supported through annual dues payments, event registrations, business partners, and our annual Texas Midwest Travel Guide.



We know that many of you are struggling right now and carefully choosing how to budget available resources. As we've done in the past, Membership Renewals will be going out in early July for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. We trust that TMCN has and continues to bring value and benefit to you and your community. Know that we are here for our member communities and will continue to promote a regional approach in providing the resources and awareness for our members to achieve economic and community growth.

Member Survey

We are aware that our communities are beginning to plan and hold events and gatherings which include decisions on whether or not to travel to out-of-town events. We are all also experiencing the same types of challenges we faced prior to COVID - code enforcement, housing, workforce, etc. We need your input. How comfortable are you about in-person gatherings such as Membership Meetings and Annual Conference? Would you prefer virtual events? What community concerns are keeping you up at night? How can we continue to meet the needs of you and your community? We have developed this short [survey](#) and ask that you please take just a few minutes and give us your thoughts. Your input will be invaluable and allow us to better plan our events moving forward. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Healthcare From Anywhere by Connected Nation

The coronavirus pandemic took the need for telehealth from a "luxury" to a necessity. But, for many, there are challenges and untapped



opportunities for accessing this important technology. Connected Nation Michigan (CN Michigan) released a comprehensive telehealth study just days before COVID-19 closures.

As part of this work, Connected Nation is hosting a [Five-Part Webinar Series](#) examining the transformative impact of Telehealth in America. These webinars will bring together key stakeholders to examine real-world solutions from

the study that can be used anywhere as well as look at rapid developments that have taken place in response to the global pandemic.

The first webinar took place on June 16, 2020 and featured speakers from Spectrum Health who explained how their company took a three-year plan for expanding telehealth to more patients and hospitals and turned it around in three weeks - all in response to the COVID-19 health pandemic.

You can watch part one of this webinar series by clicking on [this link](#).

Census 2020 Response Rate Challenge

The [Census Bureau](#) needs your help to motivate people in your community to get counted.

WHAT: Challenge everyone in your community to respond to the 2020 Census now to increase local response rates. Can you beat your 2010 Census response rate? If you already did, can you set a new goal?



Encourage people to respond on their own now to minimize the need for census takers to visit households beginning in **mid-August**, and to help with a complete and accurate count. Responses to the census help shape the future of your community and inform how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding are distributed for important programs and services in healthcare, emergency and disaster response, education, and infrastructure. Don't miss out on your opportunity to get support for these vital services in your community for the next 10 years. Your response matters: Respond online, by phone, or by mail by **October 31**.

HOW: Track your community's response using the [2020 Census Response Rates Map](#) and spread the word!

FMI Contact Misti D. Hauger, local Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau at Misti.D.Hauger@2020Census.gov or (469) 993-7181



Skills Effectiveness Study: Survey & Webinar Invitation

The Texas Workforce Commission needs its business partners and their opinions! They are extending an invitation for you to participate in a survey and webinar with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). They are interested in hearing about your experiences with Skills Development Fund (SDF) grants and listening to your ideas for increasing the effectiveness of the Skills grants.

TWC is responding to a legislative directive to "conduct a study on and develop recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of the Skills Development Fund...The recommendations must include strategies for better achieving the Fund's purposes, improving outcomes, and expanding participation in the opportunities available through the Fund."

Your participation and feedback will inform the development of this report with recommendations that will be presented to the Texas Legislature on December 1, 2020. Everyone is encouraged to join, regardless of your role and your experience with a Skills grant, from no experience to regular participation, your input is important.

Please note that the questions will be limited to Skills Development Fund (SDF) grants only and will not include discussion around Skills for Small Business (SSB), Jobs & Education for Texans (JET), or any other TWC sponsored programs.

You are invited to complete the [survey](#), which should take no more than 5-10 minutes. Please complete the survey by July 3rd. Once you complete the survey, you will be invited to join a webinar that targets those issues most important to you. A separate email will be sent out with call-in information and instructions for accessing the webinar.

If you have any questions about the survey or webinar, please email [Garrick Clemente](#).

Exploring Texas History at Home

As families prepare to stay entertained during the summer, the Texas Historical Commission is providing free instructive resources about Texas history, preservation, and heritage tourism as an alternative to visiting a historic site outside your region.



Their [Texas History at Home](#) page encourages families to explore activities, including downloadable coloring sheets, educational video playlists on our YouTube channel, and mobile

tours highlighting the Texas Revolution, Chisholm Trail, Texas military history, and more. Explore our state's heritage and share #TXHistoryAtHome.



Your Regional Resource Connection

We have worked diligently to bring you timely information and resources to assist you and your community in overcoming the challenges presented by COVID-19 and put you on a path to economic recovery.

If you have not already done so, please check out the **Resource Link** on our website

at <https://tmcn.org/resources-links/>. This page is continually updated with the latest news, announcements and resources coming out of Washington, the Governor's Office, State agencies, and our vast base of local and regional community partners. You will also find contact information for various State agencies, National and State Legislators, Workforce and SBDC Offices.

We are also posting timely informational resources, sharing articles of interest, and links to informative webinars on our Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/TexasMidwest/> and through our internal TMCN ListServ. We trust you have found this information timely and of value to you and your communities. Our promise to you is to continue to be diligent in keeping you abreast of the current news and events affecting our region.



June 30: Deadline for for small businesses to apply for a forgivable PPP loan, FMI [Click Here](#)

July 1: Rural Hospital Symposium Series - Session II, Texas Rural Health Association, to Register [Click Here](#)

July 1: Optimizing the PPP Loan Webinar, Governor's Small Business, to Register [Click Here](#)

July 9: How To Develop Effective Social Media Content to

Engage Your Visitors Webinar, Texas Historical Commission (THC), to Register [Click Here](#)

July 9: PPP Loan Forgiveness Webinar, TTU-SBDC & MSU-SBDC, to Register [Click Here](#)

July 14: Newly Elected Officials Seminar, TMCN & WCTCOG, to Register [Click Here](#)

July 23 - August 6: Going Local: Creating Local History Exhibits Your Visitors Won't Forget Webinar Series, THC, to Register [Click Here](#)

July 30: Quarterly TMCN Membership Meeting, Abilene, to Register [Click Here](#)

August 25-26: 53rd Annual Keep Texas Beautiful Conference - Virtual, to Register [Click Here](#)

* **TMCN Events**

*** **SAVE THE DATE** ***

Oct 28: 27th Texas Midwest Annual Conference, Abilene

Nov 9-10: Future of Rural Texas symposium, Lubbock

Partner Highlight: JACOB | MARTIN

JACOB | MARTIN, formerly Yeatts & Decker, Inc., was founded in 1948 in Abilene, Texas. The firm offers a wide range of engineering, architectural and professional services to meet the needs of public and private organizations. They started out as a civil design and surveying company focused primarily on public infrastructure projects.



Over the years, they have expanded their services offering architectural design, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and environmental engineering. They have a materials testing lab and offer a number of other professional services designed to compliment their core offerings. Although they have expanded their offerings over the years, they're still providing service to many clients that started with them over seventy years ago.

For more information on TMCN Marketing Partner JACOB | MARTIN [Click Here.](#)



Thank You For Your Support

The Marketing & Promotions Opportunities Program is one of the primary reasons for the continued success and sustainability of our organization. We proudly promote and recognize our partners' unwavering support given not only to our

organization as a whole but the 52 communities who make up Texas Midwest Community Network. Please join us in offering our sincere gratitude for the longstanding and continued support of the following partners who have renewed for 2020 and, where possible, please demonstrate this appreciation by utilizing their services:

Champion: [Golden Spread Electric Cooperative](#) & [West Texas Rehabilitation Center](#)

Patron: [Hendrick Health Systems](#), [Jacob & Martin, LLC](#) & [Texas State Technical College](#)

Neighbors: [Atmos Energy](#), [AT&T](#), [Big Country Chevy Dealers](#), [Center for Community Health & Development](#), [Enprotec Hibbs & Todd](#), [Howard College - San Angelo](#), [Raise Your Hand Texas](#) & [Tolar Systems, Inc.](#)

Event Sponsors: [Abilene CVB](#), [Abilene Regional Airport](#), [America's SBDC - Abilene](#), [Angelo State University SBDC](#), [Cisco College](#), [Gayla Fullerton CPA](#), [Oncor](#), & [ResourceCare](#)

[Learn More About Becoming a TMCN Marketing Partner!](#)

Texas Midwest Community Network | 325-795-8626 | tmcn@tmcn.org | www.tmcn.org

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