



# July 2020 Wrap Up

## #stROngertogether

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## Letter From the CEO

(Long letter, but worth the read!)

You know how roller-coasters take you up, down, flip you around, but ultimately it smooths out? What a perfect metaphor for 2020. Cruising along, getting excited as we are rising toward the top, then right at the peak, we realize what is about to come. As we start falling, we begin to get scared, and each new twist, turn and flip adds another level of concern. As we near what we hope is the end, our nerves and our emotions are still frayed, even after we come to a stop. Some of us are still nervous for another drop and our adrenaline is still pumping full speed. Some of us are excited and want to move on to the next adventure. Some of us want to just sit and question why in the world we got on in the first place (me, I HATE roller-coasters). All of these are acceptable emotions, its not necessarily a cookie-cutter mentality that we must fit into one or the other. Some will need more time, some are ready to move along.

So how do we move forward as a community? I hear on a regular basis about people's opinions and frustrations related to COVID. Beyond our community, there are larger issues that we see and hear about, everything from racial injustice to our country's upcoming presidential election. More often than not, we are being asked to be either for or against something. There is no middle ground, and all too often we see these decisions lead to anger in those who differ. The issue with this mentality is simple: When you take away the ability to find middle ground, you loose your sense of community. So what do we do as business owners during these times? How do we recapture a "community felling" that seems to be disappearing. The answer is simple, we need to listen and show respect. We all have differences, that's what makes our community special. But if we don't listen and show respect, and we belittle someone just because we don't agree on something, we loose the community we have worked so hard to build. Remember that as we near the end of 2020, there will be multiple opportunities presented to us, and it is our choice how we respond.

About 2 weeks ago, the Chamber was finally able to host our first event of the year, and the Red Oak Chamber Classic Golf Tournament lived up to the hype. While everything was not perfectly smooth, I can say without a doubt that it was a success. In the end, we had 67 golfers and 18 volunteers, it was

a great day. Pastor Henry Batson lead our Golf Committee this year, and his help and guidance were phenomenal this year, and he deserves a lot of credit for the execution of this tournament. I also could not have done it without the help from the members of the Golf Committee (Beth Trimble, Karen Finn, Arthur Pierot, Erin Spradlin, Jeremy Trojacek, and Holly Jones), all of the Volunteers who helped the day of (registration was a HUGE improvement from the previous year), and especially all of our Sponsors, who helped us make this tournament possible. I also want to give a special shout out to Melodie. Not only did she work hard before and during the tournament, but she also had the added challenge of running the tournament while I was able to play on a team this year.

Unfortunately, even the sunniest of days have a cloud or two lingering in the distance. The day of the golf tournament was also Melodie's last day with the Chamber. While she was a big part of the Chamber for over a year, sometimes all of us need to do what is best for our family, and she is pursuing another opportunity. We will miss her dearly, and wish her the best moving forward. So...where do we go from here? The Board and I are currently assessing options, and we are crafting a plan moving forward, one that will further the mission of our Chamber, and ultimately help our community flourish. In this time of transition, I want to thank our board members for their support, as well as the offers to come in and assist here in the office.

Lastly, as we are nearing the end of the year, I ask that you still stay active in all the Chamber's activities. Our Chamber Community is special, and being an active part in this community helps more than you know. Keep an eye out for the Weekly Announcements, and add all of the ribbon cuttings, anniversaries, and the meet 'n greets to your calendar. Just like the golf tournament, our events are special when people come to them and participate. I encourage you to participate in at least one event this month. You may be surprised at what you get out of it...



Clinton B Woodward  
III  
President/CEO  
Red Oak Area  
Chamber





# SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

## MEET THE CANDIDATES

Hosted by the Red Oak ISD Council of PTAs  
and Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, October 8, 2020

6:30-8:00 pm

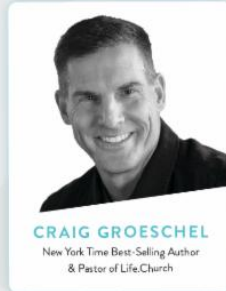
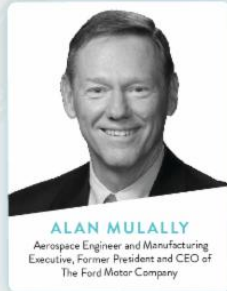
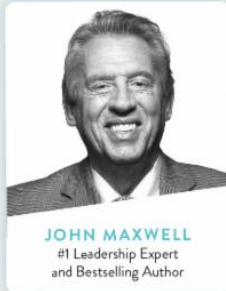
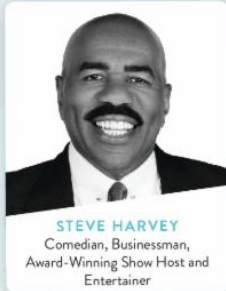
Access on Facebook:  
Red Oak Area Chamber  
or Red Oak ISD PTAs



*For more information, email  
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# LIVE2LEAD



## OCTOBER 9TH @9AM LAST CHANCE TO GET TICKETS!!!

*Proceeds Benefit the Chamber*

[\*\*Register Here\*\*](#)





**REDOAK**  
AREA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# 2020 Platinum Members



Thank you

# Platinum Members for your support!

## Chamber Website Event Calendar

### **2020 Board Members:**

Chairman-Barry Moore, Edward Jones  
Past Chair-David Johnston, Highland Meadows Church  
Chair Elect-Beth Trimble, Red Oak ISD  
1st Vice Chair-Henry Batson, Faith Fellowship  
Treasurer-Holly Jones, InterBank  
Secretary-Scott Fuller, Life School

Cherise Burnett, Now Magazine  
Jeremy Trojacek, Chick-fil-A  
Erin Spradlin, CSE Mobility and Scrubs  
Arthur Pierot, Trinity Oaks Mortgage  
Patty Jordan, RE/MAX Realty  
Will Turner, Baylor Scott & White  
Karen Finn, KJ Content Marketing  
Logan Ragsdale, Red Oak Public Library

### **Office Staff:**

Clinton B Woodward III, MBA  
President/CEO

