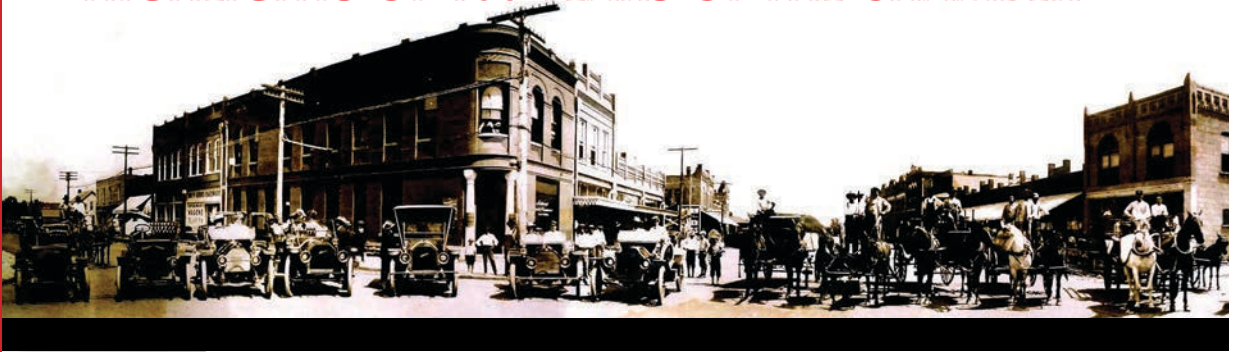


# HIGHLIGHTS OF 100 YEARS OF THE CHAMBER



- 1857 Town of Pauls Valley founded in Indian Territory
- 1887 Railroad chugs into town for the first time
- 1905 A "Commercial Club" starts as forerunner of the Chamber
- 1907 Oklahoma becomes a state
- 1917 Start of Pauls Valley National Bank

## 1921 Incorporation of Pauls Valley Chamber



- 1922 OG&E buys local electric company and ice plant
- Wackers Department Store opens and eventually grows to 60-plus stores in OK, TX and NM
- 1925 Field's Tavern opens gas station on increasingly busy Hwy. 77, adds a diner, and eventually an iconic pie factory
- 1926 Stufflebean Funeral Home opens



- Reavis Drug Store opens
- 1929 Stock market crash
- Royal Theatre opens as the movie industry is in its infancy



- 1933 Bob's Pig Shop restaurant opens
- 1939 John Steinbeck publishes *The Grapes of Wrath*, bringing focus to the dust bowl plight of Oklahomans
- Start of World War II



- 1943 *Oklahoma!* starts a stellar run on Broadway
- 1944 O'Neal's Jewelers opens
- 1945 L.A. Jacobson starts operations
- Pauls Valley Municipal Airport opens

- 1946 James Supplies opens
- 1948 Yeatts Furniture opens for business



- 1950s Golden Trend Oil Expo runs for several years after oil discovery in Garvin County
- 1951 Ballard's Drive-In opens for a 60-year run
- 1960 Johnson's Draperies opens
- 1962 Field's Pies begins operations, eventually hosting Pie Day at the State Capitol
- 1964 International Rodeo Association puts headquarters here
- 1969 Williamson's Furniture opens



- 1970 Pauls Valley General Hospital opens
- 1971 The Garvin County section of Interstate 35 is completed
- 1973 Tio's Mexican Restaurant opens
- 1974 Sonic Drive-In opens
- 1982 Union Carbide opens plant; name changes over the years are Curwood, Bemis, and Amcor today
- 1983 Pauls Valley Chamber's coveted "Citizen of the Year" award debuts
- 1993 Covercraft Industries moves headquarters from Los Angeles
- 1995 Domestic terrorists bomb Murrah Federal Building in OKC, killing 168
- 1996 First United Bank & Trust acquires First National Bank, which dated to 1897
- 1999 Wal-Mart Distribution Center opens to become largest employer in the county
- Amtrak's passenger train service between OKC and Fort Worth includes Pauls Valley stop
- Okie Noodling Tournament, today drawing thousands, starts at Bob's Pig Shop
- 2005 Washita Casino opens
- Toy & Action Figure Museum opens its doors
- 2008 Seth Wadley Auto Group begins attracting car shoppers throughout the south central OK
- 2010 G.W. Exotic Animal Park and owner Joe Exotic joins the Chamber
- 2018 First member in the new, voter-approved medical marijuana sector joins the Chamber
- 2020 COVID-19 pandemic alters business hours and operations for businesses for several months



## 2021 The Chamber celebrates its 100th anniversary

Due to space constraints, this is not intended to be a complete listing of important dates and photos for recording the history of all past and present member businesses in the Pauls Valley Chamber of Commerce.