

wning your own business-for many, it isn't part of the American Dream. It is the whole American Dream. Join the experts of SCORE, a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small businesses nationwide, and the U.S. Small Business Administration for a county-wide series of sessions called "Build Your Own Business."

"For many people," said Dana Morrow, Metropolitan Library System's Director of Outreach Services, "the goal is to start and manage their own business. But the process is a lot harder than a lot of folks think it is. You have to have a business plan and you have to know how you can find funding. Is being an entrepreneur a good choice for you? The old saying is that the most important element of any business is location, location, location, but that's not the only

"Build Your Own Business" is a solid first step in helping potential small business owners in Oklahoma discover the factors leading to

Yes, your Metropolitan Library System library isn't just a good place to read or study. It's also a terrific place for social and business activities. You can interact with others there, and not just via the free Internet access. Our libraries have meeting rooms that are available for programs like "Build Your Own Business," and also for a variety of purposes.

For example, we co-sponsor programs of all sorts. Several libraries have worked with The Oklahoma City Clinic to offer health screenings. We've made meeting room space available for an autism support group, for stamp and coin collectors, and for chess enthusiasts looking for challenging opponents.

And you may have noticed the foreign language classes that meet at several libraries. When you learn Farsi or Spanish at one of our library programs, you'll also be introduced to the cultures of the countries where those languages are spoken. For years our Midwest City Library has provided meeting room space to the Scottish Gaelic Language Learner's Group for introducing their speech and culture.

We also have meeting rooms available for a small fee for groups, clubs and businesses who need space all around the county to get their message to the people.

So if you're looking for a conveniently located meeting room, check with your local library. We may be just what you need.