



Great Bend
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Outlook Business Journal

www.greatbend.org

*A Monthly Publication of the Great Bend Chamber
of Commerce and Economic Development*

August 2015 • Volume 94 No. 8

THIRD ANNUAL PARTY IN THE PARK Fun Run, Volleyball, Kid Zone, Fireworks, Concert & More!

2015 Schedule of Events:

- 
- 
- 9:00 a.m. - Tuff Enough Obstacle Run, Veterans Memorial Park
 - 9:30 a.m. - Oozefest Mud Volleyball Tournament
 - 10:30 a.m. - Dog Park Fun & Demonstrations
 - 1:00 p.m. - Barton County Business Olympics Faceoff
 - 2:30 to 8:30 p.m. - Car Show
 - 3:00 p.m. - Oreo Eating Contest, Face Painting,
Coloring Contest Begins
 - 4:00 p.m. - Optimist Kids Inflatable Fun Zone
 - 6:00 p.m. - Gates Open for Concert
 - 6:30 p.m. - Outdoor Concert feat.
Homebrew and Liverpool
 - 10:00 p.m. - Fireworks

Join the Facebook event to
learn more!



"Outlook Business Journal"

A monthly publication of the

Great Bend



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Great Bend, KS 67530
Phone: 620-792-2401
Fax: 620-792-2404

Web address: www.greatbend.org

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Register NOW for First Ever Business Showcase Aug. 13

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development has launched a new partnership with USD 428 to facilitate a teacher appreciation event that will be called the Great Bend Business Showcase. The inaugural event will take place Thursday, August 13th from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Great Bend High School, and will be open to the 700+ employees of USD 428.



"This event is being facilitated by the Chamber to give businesses an opportunity to showcase their products and services to the 700+ employees of the school district, while expressing appreciation for the dedication shown by the staff," says Jan Peters, President/CEO of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development.

There is no cost to reserve a space, and each company is provided with one 6-foot table and 2 chairs. This opportunity is available only to members of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development. Register at www.greatbend.org with the link in the calendar event.

Technology Roundtable Scheduled Aug. 12

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development would like to invite local businesses to participate in our quarterly Technology Roundtable Luncheons that give tech-savvy professionals or curious lifelong learners an opportunity to keep up with trends and developments in business technology.

The summer quarter meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 12th in the Spray-Holt Family Board Room at the Chamber Office, 1125 Williams, starting at 11:30 a.m. The topic will be "Cloud Based Storage vs. Buying a Server" with the cost per person being \$10, which includes the discussion, a meal catered by Subway, and a beverage. Billing is available for corporate registrations.



To register, use the link within the calendar event at www.greatbend.org.

WELCOME to these NEW Chamber Member Businesses!

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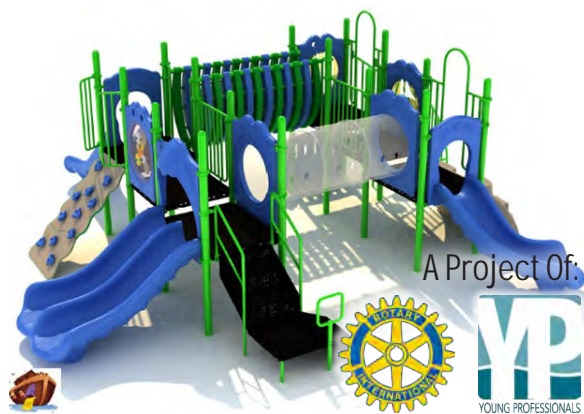
YOU'RE INVITED to the Grand Opening of The Tot Spot Aug. 29th

After months of fundraising and planning, the Barton County Young Professionals and the Great Bend Rotary Club are pleased to invite the public to the grand opening of The Tot Spot on Saturday, August 29th at 11:30 a.m. Hot dogs and refreshments will be served, and a few remarks will be made by the two organizations who spearheaded the project. All children who attend will receive a special sticker and will get the first opportunity to play on the new playground equipment.

The Tot Spot is an early childhood playground that is targeted for children under the age of five, and is centered around musical and educational elements that will encourage physical activity and early childhood development in a safe environment. With a maximum deck height of 48", this playground is designed to reduce the likelihood of injuries for toddlers. An infant learning panel also helps include the "tots" under the age of 2 who aren't mobile enough to climb on playground equipment.

The Tot Spot is located on the northeast corner of Brit Spagh Park, next to the existing playground equipment for elementary age children, and will feature a permanent shade structure and eight benches for a comfortable experience all year round. A bonded rubber surface provides a solid padding that is safe for children to play on, smooth for strollers to roll across, and solid so that messy debris doesn't get carried home in shoes!

Please join us August 29th to celebrate the grand opening of a fabulous new amenity for children in the Great Bend area to enjoy now and long into the future.



Great Bend Tribune Launches Community Mobile App "GB2GO" - Download Today!

Visitors to and residents of Great Bend now have a new portal to find out just about anything they care to know about the community, thanks to a new app launched by the Great Bend Tribune called GB2GO. Long a media leader for Great Bend, the Tribune has expanded beyond news to offer a one-stop shop for everything local, Tribune Publisher Mary Hoisington said.



"GB2GO is a great local resource," Hoisington said. "Whether looking for a place to stay, eat or shop or just for something to do in the Great Bend area, GB2GO includes information on everything you need."

There are community event listings, area attractions, and help information. Users can even send a digital postcard to their friends or check the local weather. GB2GO gives easy access to area business and services—anytime, anywhere, she said. Users can use the app to volunteer, see what Great Bend has to offer, and find help. There are also links to the Tribune's site for news.

GB2GO features community events, attractions, directories, news, deals, maps, turn-by-turn directions, things to do, tap navigation, social integration and more. The app was developed by the Great Bend Tribune and GBTribune.com. It is the next incarnation of the long-standing publication. The Tribune opened its doors in 1876 and has been at its current location since 1891.

The Tribune became a multimedia organization in 1996 when it developed its first website and has expanded its digital presence ever since. Now, the Tribune is introducing its first community app. GB2GO was designed based on community feedback with support and input from the City of Great Bend and Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

GB2GO's modern looks were achieved by utilizing an attractive, simplistic design that would optimize the app's functionality. The design is not purely aesthetic, but functional as well, Hoisington said. "It is a marriage of beautiful graphics with a well thought out database structure. Designed with the user in mind, GB2GO is easy to use and chocked full of great information."

The databases are continually being updated to provide the best and most accurate information available. "Let GB2GO be your phone book, your activities director and your best friend," Hoisington said. The GB2GO app is available at the Apple Store or Google Play and is free to download.



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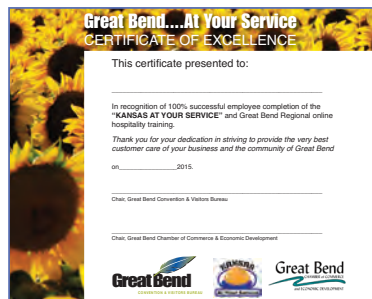
Great Bend... At Your Service Awards Only a Few More Months to Qualify!

Great Bend... At Your Service. That's the name of the contest and award program being co-sponsored by the Great Bend Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce in an effort to stimulate improved customer service and hospitality awareness for front line staff in our community.

The award contest utilizes a free online training provided by the State of Kansas called "Kansas At Your Service" which is available 24/7 at www.KansasAtYourService.com. Every month, the two organizations will recognize up to two different businesses for earning 100% participation amongst their staff. Those businesses receive an award from the Chamber and CVB for their efforts to provide the highest quality customer service. Award recipients receive a photo and write-up in the Chamber's Outlook Business Journal, along with a framed award certificate to display in their business.

If your company is interested in qualifying for this award, encourage your staff to complete the online training at their convenience. Each employee who completes the state and regional training will get a printable certificate that the employer is asked to track until all they have 100% employee participation. Then they should notify the CVB at 620-792-2750 to let them know they have reached the 100% milestone.

As an added incentive, all individuals that complete both the basic and regional portions of the At Your Service training will be entered to win one of three \$100 cash prizes that will be given away later this year. The contest runs until November 1st so employers are encouraged to facilitate the training opportunity prior to that date for maximum participation.



Help Us Find the Chamber's Projector!

At some point in late April, the Chamber's projector was checked out to a business member and not returned. Unfortunately, our records do not indicate which member utilized this free member service, and we have not seen it since. If you have any information that could help us locate the Chamber's projector, it will help us return to offering a valuable member benefit as soon as possible. For more information or with comments, please contact Office Manager Roxanne Rich, rrich@greatend.org or 620-792-2401.

Young Professionals Spotlight

A monthly update on activities & events for members of the Barton County Young Professionals group.

During the month of July, the Young Professionals group gathered for two exciting events. The first was the Family Pool Party & BBQ in Hoisington on Sunday, July 12th. Attendees enjoyed free swimming, hot dogs and summer-time goodies, along with door prize drawings for VIP Labor Day experiences in Hoisington. Winners received concert tickets, event passes, carnival wristbands, and more.

Later in the month, the group facilitated a Personal Development Luncheon on "Wealth Management" featuring a presentation from local investment professional Todd Armatys. These luncheons take place several times each year, and are a great way to network and learn something new over the lunch hour.

In August, the group will host two huge events. The first will be a quarterly networking mixer, hosted by the Barton County Historical Society and sponsored by MyTown and Leadership Golden Belt. The event will take place Friday, August 21st with a fried chicken dinner, sweet tea vodka lemonade, a BINGO game, and door prize drawings. One of the prizes being given away is a full scholarship from Leadership Golden Belt to attend a workshop at the Kansas Leadership Center! MyTown will also be giving away gift baskets from their stores in downtown Great Bend.

At the end of the month, the Young Professionals group will celebrate the grand opening of The Tot Spot after months of planning and fundraising alongside the Rotary Club. These two groups are hosting a public grand opening ceremony on Saturday, August 29th at 11:30 a.m. in the northeast corner of Brit Spagh Park. Following a few brief remarks from the organizations who spearheaded the project, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a free community barbecue under the picnic shelter. Supporters are invited to join the Facebook event.

Want to Join?

Anyone who works in Barton County between the ages of 21 and 40 is welcome to join the growing group at any time. For more details or to join, email bartonyp@gmail.com. And be sure to like the Facebook page!



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Expires August 31, 2015

Highlighted Events in August

View & post all your community events at www.greatbend.org!

- 1... Golden Plains Gobblers Banquet, Great Bend Events Center, 3111 10th St., 5 p.m.
- 3... Young Professionals Steering Committee Meeting, 1125 Williams, 4 p.m.
- 3... Great Bend City Council Meeting, 1209 Williams, 7:30 p.m.
- 6... Chamber Coffee: Murray Chiropractic Center, 2100 Kansas, 9:30 a.m.
- 6... ChamberConnect Radio Show Airs, KVGB 1590 AM, 11:35 a.m.
- 6... Chamber Ambassador Club Luncheon, 1125 Williams, 12 p.m.
- 7... Shafer Gallery Exhibit Closing Reception, 245 NE 30 Rd, 6-8 p.m.
- 8... City of Great Bend Party in the Park (See Page 1 for Details)
- 11... Cheyenne Bottoms Naturalists Meeting, KWEC, 592 NE 156 Hwy, 6 p.m.
- 12... Technology Roundtable Meeting, 1125 Williams, 11:30 a.m.
- 13... Chamber Coffee: Culligan Water, 1706 Main, 9:30 a.m.
- 13... Business Showcase, Great Bend High School, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- 13... Free Outdoor Movie "Teenage mutant Ninja Turtles", Jack Kilby Square, 1400 Main, 9:15 p.m.
- 14-15... NHRA Summit Points Race #6, SRCA Dragstrip, Great Bend Expo Complex
- 15... Submission & Ad Deadline for September *Outlook Business Journal*
- 15... Zoo-Phonics Training for Early Childhood Educators, Barton Community College, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- 15... Club 1 Fitness Self Defense Class for Women, 3806 Broadway, 9-11:30 a.m.
- 15... United Way Kick-Off "Truth, Justice, and United Way", Knights of Columbus, 723 Main, 6:30-10 p.m.
- 17... Great Bend City Council Meeting, 1209 Williams, 7:30 p.m.
- 20... Chamber Coffee & Ribbon Cutting: The Reserves at Trail Ridge, 811 Grant, 9:30 a.m. (Brief program at 10 a.m.)
- 21... Flyer Insert Deadline for September Outlook Business Journal
- 21-22... NHRA Summit Points Race #7, SRCA Dragstrip, Great Bend Expo Complex
- 22... BCC Foundation's 37th Annual Big Benefit Auction, Knights of Columbus, 723 Main, 6 p.m.
- 27... Chamber Coffee: Diesel Control Technicians, 5006 8th Street, 9:30 a.m.
- 29... Grand Opening of The Tot Spot, Brit Spaugh Park, 24th & Main, 11:30 a.m.

Recurring Events

Barton County Commission Meetings, Mondays, Courthouse Room 106, 9 a.m.
 GBHHH Grief Support Group Meetings, Mondays, 3520 Lakin, 6:30 p.m.
 American Legion Bingo, Tuesday & Thursday, 1011 Kansas Ave, 7 p.m.
 Free Story Time at Everything Under the Sun, Thursdays, 407 McKinley, 10 a.m.
 Dinner Served at American Legion, 1011 Kansas Avenue, Wed. & Fri. at 6 p.m.

Save the Date - K96 Block Party

Join a collection of host businesses to celebrate the K-96 business corridor on Thursday, September 3rd from 5-7 p.m. under the tent in the Waters True Value parking lot. Hamburgers, baked beans, chips and soft drinks will be served. Door prizes from each participating business and a grand prize will be drawn at the end of the evening. Must be present to win.

HOST BUSINESSES: Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation, E-Z Tanning, Dr. Mike Allison DDS, Waters True Value, L & M Contractors, Buff Car Wash, Mark A Judd OD, 20/20 Optix, Credit Union of America, Kansas Doors, Sunflower Electric Supply, Landmark National Bank, P & S Security, Sunflower Diversified Services

For a complete list of community events, visit our web site:

www.greatbend.org



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Nex-Tech Promotes Taylor & St. Peter

Nex-Tech announced last month that Rick Taylor has been promoted to Sales Representative at the Great Bend office.

In his new position, Taylor is responsible for direct sales of communications and technology solutions to existing and new customers by identifying, qualifying and closing new opportunities while building relationships with existing and potential customers.

Taylor has worked in this industry for eleven years and has experience with business to business sales, as well as in customer service. He completed the Kansas Customer Service training, "Kansas At Your Service."

"I'm excited to get out in the Barton and Russell counties to work with our current customers, as well as building new relationships," said Taylor. "We can provide the businesses of these communities with the cutting edge communications and technology products and services essential to doing business in today's market."

Nex-Tech also announced today that Mark St. Peter has been promoted to Direct Sales Supervisor at the Hays office. In his new position, St. Peter assists the sales team in generating new revenues, expanding the Nex-Tech foot print and working to improve efficiencies and productivity.

St. Peter has worked in the industry for more than eight years. Moreover, he recently completed a Bachelors of Business Administration Degree in Management from Fort Hays State University.

"I'm excited to work with the sales team," said St. Peter. "Together we will develop new solutions, and assist our clients with technology to help them better serve their customers."



Heartland Farm Workshop Aug. 21-22

Heartland Farm will host Farming and Spirituality, August 21 (Friday), 5 PM and all day Saturday, August 22. This workshop is for anyone from full-time farmers to backyard gardeners to folks who are just curious. We welcome those of any religious or spiritual affiliation or none.

We hope to explore how we can come to better understand the world, divinity, and ourselves through cultivating the land. Farming is hard and dirty work, but through it we experience the empowerment of feeding ourselves and others, the wonder of partnership with creation, and the humility and humanity of humus.

Join us at Heartland Farm for a weekend of prayer, meditation, discussion, and labor as we explore in physical and spiritual ways how Oneness with the Earth heals.

The retreat will start at 5 pm on Friday, August 21 and run all day on Saturday. Those coming from far away are welcome to stay for an extra night at additional cost. The basic rates of \$100/person, (\$75 if camping) include all activities, one night's accommodations, dinner Friday and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. For more information and/or to register call 620-923-4585.



Barton Community College Hosts Work Comp & WorkFit Symposium Sept. 24

You are cordially invited to attend a Workmen's Compensation Symposium on Thursday, September 24th. Sponsored by WorkFit, a business partnership dedicated to reducing work related injuries and associated costs for employers. Workfit partners include Advanced Therapy and Barton Community College. The symposium will be held on the college campus – Fine Arts Seminar Room, F-30 from 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m. Lunch will be served.

For more information about the symposium, please contact Krystall Barnes, Workfit Coordinator, 620-786-7575. For more information about Workfit and its associated services, please visit www.bartonccc.edu/workfit.

Save The Date

Workmen's Compensation Symposium

Thursday, September 24, 2015
Barton Community College
Fine Arts Building, F-30
10:30 am - 1:30 pm
(Lunch included)

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PARTNERS

Country Place Receives Good Ratings

Country Place Senior Living and Country Place Memory Care assisted living residences in Hoisington were randomly visited recently by state licensing auditors for a review of operational protocol and resident care documentation. This is a standard process that is intended to verify that licensed senior living facilities are caring for residents as regulated by the state.

The facility reviews resulted in zero deficiencies. All operational protocol and resident care is at or above expectations as regulated by the State of Kansas.

Country Place Senior Living is an 18-suite assisted living residence that is specifically designed to feel like home, to be welcoming and to focus on the specific needs of older adults.

Country Place Memory Care is an 8-suite assisted living residence specifically designed to care for residents living with dementia. Our motto is Life as you want it...Care as you need it and our goal is to provide that quality of life to each resident every day.

Country Place Senior Living is a proud organizer and supporter for the Alzheimer's Walk scheduled October 3rd, 2015.

To learn more about Country Place Senior Living or Country Place Memory Care please call Missy Pflughoeft, Director at 620-653-4121.



Hutchinson Regional Medical Center Receives Two Prestigious Awards

Hutchinson Regional Medical Center (HRMC) is the recipient of awards from two prestigious national organizations that deal with eye and organ donations.

The Midwest Transplant Network (MTN) has awarded Hutchinson Regional Medical Center the "Excellence in Donation Award" for their outstanding performance in the area of organ and tissue donations during 2014. Also, Saving Sight, one of the largest eye banks in the nation, awarded HRMC the "Excellence in Eye Donation Award" in recognition of the hospital's successful efforts in promoting cornea donation.

The awards were made as part of National Donate Life Month, which was observed in April.

MTN was established in 1975 to promote organ and tissue donations throughout Kansas and western Missouri and, for the past 40 years, has worked closely with HRMC to achieve its goal of assisting patients who wish to donate organs and tissue at the end of life.

According to MTN officials, donations from two organ donors in 2014 resulted in life-saving transplants for five recipients. Also, HRMC successfully completed 12 tissue donations, each of which may have benefited as many as 50 people.

In addition, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) within the Department of Health and Human Services in the nation's capital lauded HRMC for their outstanding record in assisting organ donors.

Rachelle Bryan, RN, Patient Care Services Supervisor, accepted the award on behalf of HRMC at a meeting that was held in May in Westwood, Kansas.

"The need for organ, tissue and eye donations has never been greater," says Kevin Miller, President & CEO of Hutchinson Regional healthcare System. "Nearly 124,000 people in the nation are waiting for an organ transplant, and 150 are added to the list each day."

Hutchinson Regional Medical Center is an affiliate of Hutchinson Regional Healthcare System. Other affiliates are Ray E. Dillon Living Center, Hospice and Homecare of Reno County, Horizons Mental Health Center, Health-E-Quip, and Hutchinson Regional Medical Foundation.

St. Rose Welcomes Ohnmacht, New P.A.

A Great Bend native has returned to her hometown to care for and treat patients at St. Rose Health Center. Kristin Ohnmacht is the physician assistant who recently joined St. Rose Family Medicine, located on the facility's first floor. She brings to her new position five years of experience in family practice, emergency medicine, urgent care and orthopedics. Her areas of special interest include both women's health and pediatrics, but she also treats both acute and chronic medical conditions in patients of all ages. She performs annual well-women exams and well-child checks.

Ohnmacht earned a bachelor of science in biology from Kansas State University, and a master's of medical science in physical assistant education from St. Louis University. She is licensed and board certified by the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. She also is certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. Learn more at www.stroseasc.org.

Tickets for 'Wine in the Wild' Now on Sale!

The first annual Nex-Tech Wine in the Wild zoo benefit will be held at the Great Bend-Brit Spaugh Zoo on Saturday, September 26th, from 6-9 p.m. Guests will enjoy an evening stroll through the Great Bend-Brit Spaugh Zoo, sampling a variety of local wines from Rosewood Winery and food from around the world all while listening to music from a live band and the company of the Zoo's wild animal residents. Guests will also have the opportunity to bid on items from local merchants at the silent auction.

Tickets are now on sale for \$30 each or \$50 for a pair. Your ticket also includes a commemorative wine glass. All proceeds benefit the Great Bend Zoological Society. Tickets are limited. To learn more or purchase tickets online, visit www.nex-tech.com/wild.

Great Bend AirFest Returns Sept. 18-20 Reserve a Ride in a WWII Bomber Plane!

The Great Bend Airfest is officially scheduled for September 18-20, 2015. As schedules are being finalized, Airport Manager Martin Miller announces early reservation opportunities for those interested in vintage warbird rides during the show. The 2015 Airfest will include 17 different warbirds, and six of these will be offering rides to the public. Early booking is available online for the B-29 FiFi, the B-25 Miss Mitchell, and the P-51 Gunfighter. FiFi is scheduled to fly in the morning each day with a range of 7 seating prices, all of which are discounted if purchased prior to the event.

The C-45, UC-78, and PT-23 are also selling rides at the event, and the airport will provide advance contact information to those wanting to reserve rides. The helicopter rides will be sold on-site at \$40/person. Miller also noted that a number of seats are already booked for this event. Those interested should go online at www.greatbendairfest.com.

Miller stated, "The size and scope of this event will likely draw visitors and riders from a large geographic area. The 2015 Great Bend Airfest is the only event in Kansas this year to feature such nationally known aircraft: FiFi, Miss Mitchell, and Gunfighter. We can expect over 100 private aircraft to arrive on Saturday due to the regional draw." Having a ride on any one of these vintage beauties is a bucket-list experience.

Additionally, this event features a "Hangar Dance" on Saturday evening presenting the nationally known "Ladies for Liberty", who will sing patriotic songs and 1940's music, accompanied by the local J Bennett Band, under the direction of Marc Webster. Anyone with experience in 40's era dances, or who has access to dance or military clothing can contact the airport office. Miller also notes that sponsorships are needed to keep the admission costs low for this event. Those who wish to honor a veteran, whether active or retired or deceased, may donate in a special category in honor of that veteran.

For more information, contact the Airport at 620-793-4168 or visit www.greatbendairfest.com.



Sunflower Bank Donates \$4,100 to Local Schools through ABC Program

In the 14th year of the ABC Program, Sunflower Bank donated \$4,127 to schools and students in the Great Bend area. Add this amount to the previous years' donations and the total since the ABC Program's inception in 2001 is an impressive \$39,036 for this area.



Over 300 schools across Kansas, Colorado and Missouri participated in the ABC Program this year, tallying \$113,945 in donations from Sunflower Bank. Sunflower Bank has written checks totaling \$934,238 to schools and students across the three-state region since 2001.

"We're excited to be able to donate over \$4,100 to the schools and students in our bank's communities," said Becca Maxwell, Retail Service Manager. "As we see budgets being cut, and technology driving expenses up, we realize how important it is to invest in our schools and the next great leaders of our communities. We're proud of our amazing customers who partner with us and help us make a positive impact for our youth."

During the course of the ABC Program, schools and students benefit in three ways. First, five winners are drawn from each bank location to receive \$10 for every A on their report card, with a matching donation for their participating school. Second, customers are encouraged to designate a participating school to receive 5 cents for every credit transaction completed with their debit card. Third, new customer open qualifying checking accounts to earn \$50 with a matching donation to a school of their choice.

Through this program and others, Sunflower Bank and its local teams demonstrate their commitment to the communities they serve and their mission of "Bringing out the best in the lives we touch...Creating Possibility." For more information about Sunflower Bank, visit www.sunflowerbank.com or call the local branch, 620-792-2181.

Sunflower Bank Awards 24 Scholarships

Sunflower Bank has awarded twenty-four scholarships to local students in their communities who participated in the bank's Community Ambassadors Program. Scholarships ranged from \$500 to \$1,500 totaling \$20,000 for the class of 2015.

"There are so many bright young minds in our communities who are an important part of our future," said Mollie Carter, President and CEO of Sunflower Bank. "Our Community Ambassadors Program helps develop our next generation of leaders by providing our students with a deeper connection with their community and a valuable perspective of what it takes to run a successful business."

Barton Foundation Fundraiser "A Ghostly Gala" Auction Aug. 22

Barton Foundation's 37th Annual Big Benefit Auction will take place Saturday, August 22, 2015 at the Great Bend Knights of Columbus Hall, 724 Main Street. Tickets for the dinner and auction, which is themed "A Ghostly Gala" can be purchased by calling the Foundation office at 620-786-1136, or by sending an email to capec@bartonccc.edu. All the proceeds go toward scholarships and program enhancements at the college.

Each year the Barton Foundation Board chooses someone to honor with the "Old Bill" honorarium. This year they have chosen Mel and Darnell Holopirek.

Barton's Coordinator of Fundraising and Special Events Coleen Cape said the couple truly embodies what it means to be supporters of Barton. "In the 11 and a half years that Darnell headed the efforts of the Foundation, there was never a single initiative or event when she and Mel did not step up and personally donate to the cause," she said. "Darnell felt deeply that she could not expect others to support any campaign or event if she did not believe in it strongly enough to donate herself."

Cape said the Old Bill tradition has netted nearly \$190,000 for scholarships and program enhancements since it was started 34 years ago. Auction items range from a drone with a camera, a 50-inch big-screen TV, weekend getaway trips and more.

Panther Booster Club Now Selling Memberships & Program Sponsorships

The Great Bend High School Panther Booster Club is currently selling 2015-2016 memberships and activities program sponsorship ads. Membership dues support athletic activities by providing game day programs, tailgate events, hospitality rooms for officials, the homecoming parade, and activities banquets. In addition to memberships, the booster club sells and distributes panther merchandise and select concessions. These proceeds have funded special projects such as mascot uniforms, banners in the gymnasium, a team tent, and more. Single memberships are \$20 per year, and a lifetime membership is \$500. Program sponsorships start at \$100, and are perfect for businesses who want to support local students. The deadline to be listed in current year programs is August 24th.

To become a Panther Booster Club member, mail your check payable to "GBHS Panther Booster Club" to PO Box 1146 in Great Bend, KS 67530. For more information, contact Chris Smith at 620-617-5684.

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Heartland Regional Clinic Doctors Now Accepting New Patients

Dr. VanNorden and Dodie Martin(PA) are accepting new patients at Heartland Regional Rural Health Clinic, which is upstairs at Great Bend Regional hospital. Both of these individuals come from small towns in Kansas and want to provide the best care for patients right here at home. Also in that clinic is Dr. Brown, who is a general surgeon accepting new patients. To make an appointment, call Heartland Clinic at 620-793-7520.



County Engineer Honored with KSPE Award

Clark Rusco, Barton County's Engineer, was recently honored by the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers with the KSPE Award for lifelong service to the engineering professional, his community, and society. Rusco received the award in June at the organization's annual meeting.

Rusco is a native of Great Bend, Kansas and holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Kansas State University. He began employment with Barton County in 2001, and has prior experience with the Kansas Department of Transportation, Fort Riley, Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Great Bend, and private engineering firms. Rusco lives in Great Bend with his wife, Donna. They have two adult children and three grandchildren.

Keenan Earns Kansas Bar Association Award

Larry Keenan, local attorney with Keenan Law Firm, was recently awarded the prestigious Professionalism Award at the Kansas Bar Association's annual meeting. This award recognizes an individual who has practiced law for 10 or more years who, by his or her conduct, honesty, integrity, and courtesy, best exemplifies, represents, and encourages other lawyers to follow the highest standards of the legal profession as identified by the Kansas Bar Association Hallmarks of the Profession.

Chamber Office Closed on Labor Day

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development will be closed Monday, September 7th in observance of Labor Day. We will resume normal business hours on Tuesday, September 8th. For more information, visit www.greatbend.org or contact the Chamber Staff, 620-792-2401.



Join Us August 20th to Celebrate the Reserves at Trail Ridge Grand Opening



Please join us for a Chamber Coffee and Ribbon Cutting hosted by The Reserve at Trail Ridge on Thursday, August 20th at 9:30 a.m., 811 Grant St (West of Wal-Mart). The new apartment complex was developed by Overland Property Group, which brings 48 units of much-needed apartments for Great Bend. These will be the first new apartments built in Great Bend since the late 1970's. This first phase will feature 2 and 3 bedroom apartments, knotty alder cabinets, walk-in closets and a wide variety of amenities.

About Overland Property Group

Overland Property Group was founded in 2002 and operates offices in Leawood, Kansas and Austin, Texas. From market analysis, site selection, financing, design and construction to marketing and management, OPG has become not only one of the fastest growing firms in the Midwest but also the most sophisticated. As one of the largest owner/developers in the Region, OPG has more than 40 developments, totaling over 2,000 units and \$250 million of both "affordable" and "market-rate" apartments.

Shoe Sensation Celebrates Grand Opening August 6-9 in Great Bend

Shoe Sensation, Great Bend's newest retail store, will celebrate its GRAND OPENING August 6-9, 2015. The new outlet is located at 3407 10th Street in Great Bend, and is a full-family, full-service name brand shoe store carrying all the latest styles for men, women, and children. They also carry backpacks, scarves, purses, shoe care products, socks, workboots, and more!

Throughout the grand opening weekend, you can register to win free shoes for your entire family when you stop by the store. And check out the grand opening circular for a 20% off coupon. Thursday, August 6th the retail store will host a Chamber Ribbon Cutting at 8:45 a.m. with a free gift for the first 100 customers to attend!

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Megan Beahm, PT
Dan Quillin, PT
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Eagle Radio Celebrates Brand Changes & Staff Promotions with Ribbon Cutting

Eagle Communications, Inc. of Great Bend recently celebrated two exciting changes with a Chamber ribbon cutting. The first was a branding change for their facility at 1200 Baker Avenue, which is now known as the Eagle Media Center. The second is the promotion of Randy Goering to Market Manager, replacing Rick Nulton who retired July 31st.

The brand change comes as a result of the employee-owned company's diversification into more than just radio. Eagle Communications also offers digital advertising online and on their digital billboard located at 10th & Main in Great Bend. Leading up this brand change will be new Market Manager Randy Goering, who was promoted to replace Rick Nulton. After several decades in the radio business, Nulton is retiring and moving to Colorado to explore nature and help clients with production and script writing.

Goering began his broadcast career during his senior year of high school working after classes as an on-air personality in McPherson, Kansas. For the first 10 years of his career, he worked at radio stations in Hutchinson, Hays, Liberal and Junction City, Kan. In 1984, he landed in Great Bend working at KVGB AM/FM. In 1990, he joined the Eagle Team at KHOK and was involved in Eagle's acquisition of KVGB AM/FM. Goering has served as the Sales Manager for the Great Bend market over the last 20 years.

"We are very excited to have Randy in the leadership role in our Great Bend market," Eagle Communications President and CEO, Gary Shorman said. "As an employee-owned company, our success is determined by the success of each individual. Randy has been successful in leading one of the top sales teams in Eagle and that growth will continue with our new digital media products."



Murray Chiropractic Center Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

Drs. Danny and Scie Murray and the staff at Murray Chiropractic Center want to thank their patrons for the opportunity to serve Great Bend and the surrounding areas for the past 5 years. The couple completed the purchase of Greene Chiropractic Center at the end of July, 2010 and opened their doors on August 1, 2010. "Great Bend has become our home. The past 5 years have been very rewarding and we look forward to serving our community for years to come," Danny says.

Dr. Scie Murray (pronounced See-lee) was raised in rural Hodgeman County, Kansas near Burdett and Hanston. After earning a bachelors degree from Sterling College and a masters degree from Asbury Theological Seminary, she completed her Doctorate from Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City. Dr. Danny Murray was raised in rural Crawford County, Pennsylvania. After earning a bachelors degree from Penn State University and a masters degree from the University of Kentucky, he also completed his Doctorate from the Cleveland Chiropractic College in Kansas City. They are both licensed chiropractors by the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts. They are also certified by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners and Dr. Scie is a member of the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association. With the completion of their chiropractic training, the Murrays were co-recipients of the Cleveland Chiropractic College Kansas City Clinic Service Award.

The Murrays met while pursuing their educations in Kentucky. They were married in Burdett, KS and recently celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary. After marrying, they moved to La-Crosse, KS where they were both teachers at LaCrosse High School for several years before entering chiropractic school.

Murray Chiropractic Center offers comprehensive chiropractic services including x-rays, adjustments tailored to the patient's comfort level, spinal decompression, ultrasound therapy, inter-ferential therapy, ion cleanse, urinalysis, nutritional education/assessments, and an array of nutritional supplements for overall health and wellbeing.

In addition, Dr. Scie provides prenatal and pediatric chiropractic care. She also offers ALCAT testing to determine which specific foods are problematic. When Dr. Danny is not providing chiropractic care to patients, he is managing the business side of the practice and providing DOT physicals to individuals and companies.

Murray Chiropractic is located at 2100 Kansas Ave., and is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 2:30 pm. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, call (620) 792-1386, visit their web site at www.murraychiropracticcenter.com or visit their Facebook page.



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 - 2 Corinthians 5:17

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www.murraychiropracticcenter.com

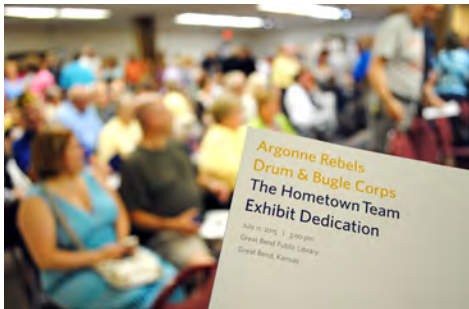
Argonne Rebels Reunion & Exhibit Dedication Draws Hundreds to Great Bend Last Month

Not many competitive teams from Central Kansas can boast about earning national championship titles, let alone doing it three years in a row. The Argonne Rebels Drum and Bugle Corps is one of the few to accomplish such a feat. The volunteer youth program won back-to-back national championships in 1971 and 1972, and were named honorary champions in 1973. During this era, the Argonne Rebels served as our community's unofficial ambassadors to much of the nation as they traveled for countless performances and competitions around the United States in the 70's and 80's.

Being a member of the Argonne Rebels was a prestigious honor for teens and young adults between the ages of 13 and 21. Youth could start participating in the junior corps at the age of 13, with high school and college students participating in the competitive corps. Throughout the winter, ensembles would learn their parts and practice their routines. Then in the spring, the ensembles would come together as a group to begin learning drills in the high school gymnasium. Once school was out, corps members attended a workshop in Wichita to learn the professional choreography and practice marching in unison.

Last month, hundreds of Argonne alumni and their family gathered in Great Bend for a four-day weekend to celebrate the community that championed its youth through the Argonne Rebels Drum & Bugle Corps. The weekend started with a dedication of the Smithsonian Hometown Exhibit now on display at the Great Bend Public Library until September 5th. The world-class exhibit captures many of the stories and experiences shared throughout the 20th century by members of the competitive drum and bugle corps.

The grand finale for the four-day weekend was witnessing the "March of Champions" competition, a show typically put on in Wichita. The show was brought to Great Bend because of the reunion activities, and featured seven competing corps from all over the United States. For more details, contact the library at 620-792-2409.



"Get Your Kicks on K-96" Chamber After Hours Event Sept. 3

Join a collection of host businesses to celebrate the K-96 business corridor on Thursday, September 3rd from 5-7 p.m. under the tent in the Waters True Value parking lot. Hamburgers, baked beans, chips and soft drinks will be served. Door prizes from each participating business and a grand prize will be drawn at the end of the evening. Must be present to win.

HOST BUSINESSES: Great Bend Health & Rehabilitation, E-Z Tanning, Dr. Mike Allison DDS, Waters True Value, L & M Contractors, Buff Car Wash, Mark A Judd OD, 20/20 Optix, Credit Union of America, Kansas Doors, Sunflower Electric Supply, Landmark National Bank, P&S Security, Sunflower Diversified Services



United Way of Central Kansas

1125 Williams in Great Bend, KS 67530

Office Phone: (620) 792-2403

unitedwayofcentralks@hotmail.com

Submitted by Executive Director Julie Smith

United Way Campaign Update

The United Way of Central Kansas annual campaign drive kicks off on August 1st. We will be out and about in the community to start fundraising for the 19 local agencies that we support, as well as the additional programs that UWCK sponsors annually.

Every year, we have Campaign Co-Chairs from Ellinwood, Great Bend, and Larned who donate their time to help promote the United Way mission. Our Co-Chairs for the 2016 Campaign are Marvin & Karen Sessler from Ellinwood, Brian & Tanya Staats from Great Bend, and Kyle & Tamra Beckwith from Larned. We are also introducing a Young Leaders program and the Co-Chairs for that program are Cole Reif and Regan Ochs.

To celebrate all our exciting plans for the 2016 campaign season, we will host our annual Kickoff Event on Saturday, August 15th with the theme "Trust, Justice and the United Way." Tickets are on sale now, and are available by coming into our office (1125 Williams) or visiting our website, www.uwck.org, and clicking on Events. There is also a link on our Facebook page, United Way of Central Kansas. We will have a meal fit for a superhero provided by the Knights of Columbus and a giant night of entertainment with ventriloquist Greg Claassen. Claassen is a Kansas native who is known for his unusual aptitude for spontaneous humor. His intent is always to bring the audience together by taking them away from their cares for a little while. He was a National Winner in the "Bob Hope Search for the Top" comedy competition and has performed at Disney World, Caesar's Palace and MGM Grand. Tickets are only \$50 per person and include the dinner, entertainment, and great company, all to support a great cause.

The following week, we will be out in the community for the annual "Stuff the Bus" event on August 19th at Walmart and Dillons. In order to provide much needed items for our agencies, we hold this annual drive to encourage all shoppers to pick up a few items for the non-profit agencies that do so much work in our community. Donations of household items, office supplies, non-perishables, toiletries, and art/craft supplies go directly to the 19 United Way agencies. Shoppers are provided with a wish list as they walk in the store in hopes that they will pick up an item or two.





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August 6, 2015

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August 13, 2015

Culligan Water • 1706 Main Street

For over 70 years Culligan of Great Bend has been selling and renting quality water conditioning equipment. We are dedicated to solving your water problems. We are open Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The latest Culligan products combined with efficient service will eliminate costly water problems. Stop and see us in the North Sunflower Building at the 2015 Kansas State Fair. Get a bottle of water for a dollar and sign up to win an Apple Watch. Just say HEY, CULLIGAN MAN!

August 20, 2015

The Reserves at Trail Ridge • 811 Grant Street

Join us for a ribbon cutting ceremony and coffee to celebrate the opening of 48 much-needed apartment units in Great Bend. These will be the first new apartments built in Great Bend since the late 1970's. This first phase will feature 2 and 3-bedroom apartments with knotty alder cabinets, walk-in closets, and lots of amenities. A brief program will take place at 10 a.m.

August 27, 2015

Diesel Control Technicians • 5006 8th Street

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September 3, 2015

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Employment – Barton County

	May 14	May 15
Labor Force	17,456	15,333
Employment	16,898	14,675
Unemployment	558	658
Unemployment Rate	3.2%	4.3%
KS Unemployment Rate	4.8%	4.4%

City/County Local Sales Tax Distributions Report

	May 14	May 15
Sales Tax for Barton County at 1.00%	\$431,946	\$411,730
Sales Tax for Great Bend at 0.75%	\$233,311	\$224,123

Building Permits

	May 14	May 15
Commercial – GB	3	8
Residential - GB	36	49

Sources:

City of Great Bend, www.greatbendks.net
Kansas Department of Revenue, www.ksrevenue.org
Kansas Department of Labor, www.klic.dol.ks.gov

