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Outlook Business Journal

www.greatbend.org

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TWO EVENTS. ONE BIG WEEKEND.

Big Bend Bike Rally & Hahn Brothers' Shootout Pair-up Again on September 20-21

For six consecutive years, the Great Bend Expo Complex has been a destination for hundreds of motorcycle riders looking for a place to kick back and cut loose. The Big Bend Bike Rally puts Great Bend on the map for motorcycle enthusiasts across the country who are looking for live music, thrilling entertainment and a family friendly atmosphere. And again in 2014, the growing annual event will continue to build with the 2nd Annual Hahn Brothers' Supercross Shootout.

Building on last year's record breaking attendance, the Hahn Brothers' Shootout will be hosted by nationally famous professional motocross racers Wil & Tommy Hahn. This one of a kind race features both amateur and pro racing and provides entertainment for spectators as well.

The motocross race continues to be the only one like it that is hosted by world renown professional riders. Wil & Tommy Hahn grew up racing in and around Great Bend, and consider this to be their home track. While Wil has been out with a shoulder injury this summer, the older of the brothers, Tommy Hahn, has made a come-back debut with several notable finishes in the outdoor track series.

"We remember racing at the Great Bend track, and we might've had mullets sticking out of our helmets," Wil Hahn says. "My brother and I are excited about giving back to this community by putting our name on this inaugural race and pulling in all our professional racing buddies to draw a huge crowd."

Efforts in 2013 by an impressive event committee established the track and a foundation for future racing. The City of Great Bend has partnered with a local group who is operating the track on a year-round basis which will continue to encourage the popularity and momentum of the sport at the local level.

While the motocross race will have a huge draw all on its own, it doesn't hurt that the biggest motorcycle rally in the region will be happening on the same day at the same facility. The 7th Annual Big Bend Bike Rally is anticipated to draw over 2,000 riders from all over the Midwest. The 7th Annual event will feature entertainment by the Flaunt Girls sponsored by The Handlebar & Grill, a Globe of Death stunt show and live music provided by Homebrew. The event schedule is available online and includes details on a benefit ride, vendors, beer garden and more. Free camping also makes it worth the drive for lots of bikers, which is sponsored by Harper Camperland of Great Bend.



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"Our rally is unique because of the jam packed schedule. Long-time favorite items like the parade ride and bike games will be back again in 2014 but we're really excited about some new additions which include a bike show and nationally recognized entertainment like the Flaunt Girls" says Rick Love, 2014 Event Chair.

"Over the past six years the committee has worked to figure out what the crowd wants, and this year should be a crowd pleaser."

A special meet-and-greet event has been scheduled for Thursday, September 18th from 4-6 p.m. at Jack Kilby Square in Great Bend. Community residents and motocross fans can meet the professional racers who are putting their name behind the Great Bend event, and get exclusive photograph and autograph opportunities. The meet-and-greet is free to attend, and is open to the public, this event is sponsored by Bass-X Auto-sound & Accessories.

For weekend admission, spectators pay just \$10 per person to see both of these huge attractions, and kids under twelve are half price. Gates open at 7 a.m. on Saturday, September 20th and entertainment doesn't stop until midnight! Motocross will continue on Sunday, Sept. 21 with a second day of racing from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. To see the complete schedule of events or for more information, visit the event website at www.bigbendbikerally.com. And be sure to like both events' Facebook pages!



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Great Bend Resident Appointed Rotary District Governor

Dr. Roger Marshall, of Great Bend, has assumed the volunteer post of Rotary International district governor for 2014-15. As governor, Marshall coordinates the community and international service projects of the 32 clubs in district 5670 which encompasses the Central and Northwest Kansas area. He assumed office 1 July 2014 and will serve through 30 June 2015.

Marshall is one of 532 Rotarians worldwide serving as a district governor this year. A member of the Rotary club of Great Bend for 23 years, Dr. Marshall will also be responsible for organizing new Rotary clubs and strengthening existing ones.

During an installation ceremony at the Eisenhower Presidential Library in Abilene, KS, Dr Marshall said his main goal for the coming year is to encourage and help each club share with others citizens what they are doing to make a difference in their community, and the world. Additionally, he mentioned the district will be celebrating their first ever Rotary Day at the state fair on Sunday Sept 7th. "As local leaders and volunteers, Rotarians can help find community solutions to local needs. Every club has a rich history of quietly performing meaningful service projects in their respective communities and contributing to many projects on the world stage. Our district is planning a service project for spring break 2015 which will allow us to take our children and grandchildren and help those less fortunate than ourselves receive clean water."

Area Rotary clubs are involved in many local and international service activities. The Rotary Club of Great Bend, for example, participates in the Rotary International goal of eradication of polio, plants trees at the Great Bend Sports Complex, presents dictionaries to third grade students, participates in many local betterment projects, partnered with Young Professionals organization to provide goods for charitable organizations locally, provided funds to Shelter Box International to be distributed in disaster areas, and provides three scholarships to Great Bend High School students.

A doctor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Marshall contributes to the community in many ways. He has been on the Golden Belt Community Foundation board, Great Bend Chamber board, First Christian Church board and coached over 30 little league teams. He is a board member of Farmers Bank and Trust and Great Bend Regional Hospital. He is currently serving the state of Kansas as a commissioner for the wildlife, parks, and tourism department and as a member of the governor's ecotourism committee. Dr. Marshall served seven years in the Army Reserve.

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. For more information, visit Rotary.org.



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Farmers Bank and Trust Makes Promotion and New Hire



Farmers Bank and Trust announced that Lyndsae Hertel has been promoted to Credit Administration Officer. Lyndsae will work closely with the credit administration staff to provide support and supervision to the credit administration department in the daily operations of loans. Lyndsae has been employed in the loan administration division of the bank since she joined the bank in 2010. She has been a valuable addition to the loan department and was promoted to Assistant Supervisor of Credit Administration in February of 2013. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree at Fort Hays State University, majoring in finance with a concentration in banking. Lyndsae grew up in Ellinwood and enjoys sports, staying active by participating in many different types of activities including a competitive volleyball league. She and her daughter, Josey reside in Ellinwood.



Gerrie Meyer recently joined Farmers Bank & Trust as the Human Resources Officer. She will be responsible for human resource functions for over 100 employees at eight banking locations in Kansas. Gerrie graduated from Washburn University in 2005 with a Bachelors degree in Human Services. "I look forward to working with the highly qualified staff and contributing to the family-like culture that Farmers Bank & Trust provides." Gerrie is a native of Great Bend, having graduated from Great Bend High School in 2001. She returned to the area with her husband, Kenton, and son, Jordy. Gerrie enjoys spending time with family, and her hobbies include watching the K-State Wildcats and being outdoors.

Farmers Bank and Trust operates with a strong capital account of \$96 million with total assets of \$670 million in locations serving eight Kansas communities, including: Great Bend, Albert, Lacrosse, Bazine, Kinsley, Larned, Overland Park, and Olathe. For more information, visit www.farmers-bankks.com.

Young Professionals Spotlight

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

Contributed by Candice Moeder, Young Professional, President

In early August, YP members partnered with the United Way to install the Born Learning Trails in Great Bend and Claflin. We couldn't have done this without our amazing volunteers. Make sure you check it out at the Great Bend Zoo and Claflin Recreation Center.

Later in the month, YP members attended a Quarterly Mixer hosted by Dove Chevrolet Buick Cadillac. We had an evening filled with trivia games and bingo to win a Traeger Grill. Congratulations to Derek Vonada for being the big winner. Over 60 members attended and as always we welcomed several new members!

During the month of September, YP members are invited to attend our 2020 Vision Leadership Seminar. It is sponsored by 10th Street Eyecare Center and will be held at The Front Door Building. Registration information will be forthcoming.

Keep up with news and events for Barton County Young Professionals by joining the Facebook group and by signing up for the YP email newsletter.

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 information or to join, email us at bartonyp@gmail.com. And be sure to join the group on Facebook!



Want to Host a Young Professionals Event?

If your business is interested in hosting and/or sponsoring a Young Professionals event, the Steering Committee would love to hear from you. Submit your interest by emailing bartonyp@gmail.com. Sponsorships are available for mixers and family events.

Chamber Connect Radio Show Sept. 4 - KVGB

Tune in to KVGB 1590 AM on the first Thursday of every month to hear Eagle Radio's Patrick Burnett discuss the latest Chamber happenings. The August edition of Chamber Connect will air on Thursday, September 4th at 11:35 a.m.





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Highlighted Events in September

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

- 1.....Labor Day, Chamber Office Closed, No County Commission Meeting
- 2.....Great Bend City Council Meeting, 1209 Williams, 7:30 p.m.
- 3.....Chamber Coffee: United Way at Fuller Industries, One Fuller Way, 9:30 a.m.
- 3.....Chamber Ambassador Club Luncheon, Chamber Office, 1125 Williams, 12 p.m.
- 4.....Business After Hours: K96 Block Party, Waters True Value Parking Lot, 5-7 p.m.
- 5.....Young Professionals Free Outdoor Movie: Jack Kilby Square, 8:30 p.m.
- 8.....Barton County Commission Meeting, 1400 Main Room 106, 9 a.m.
- 9.....Young Professionals Development Luncheon: Pizza Hut, 4101 10th, 12-1 p.m.
- 11...Chamber Coffee: Sunflower Diversified Services, 8823 4th Street, 9:30 a.m.
- 11...Sunflower Diversified Services Pancake Dinner: Prince of Peace Parish, 4100 Broadway, 4-7 p.m.
- 15...Submission Deadline for October Issue of Chamber Outlook Business Journal
- 15...Barton County Commission Meeting, 1400 Main Room 106, 9 a.m.
- 15...Great Bend City Council Meeting, 1209 Williams, 7:30 p.m.
- 18...Chamber Coffee: Central Plains Computer Service, 608 Patton Road, 9:30 a.m.
- 20...Big Bend Bike Rally & Hahn Brothers Supercross Shootout, Expo Grounds, 9 a.m.-midnight
- 22...Barton County Commission Meeting, 1400 Main Room 106, 9 a.m.
- 24...Flyer Insert Deadline for August Issue of Chamber Outlook Business Journal
- 25...Chamber Coffee: USD 428 Foundation, 201 Patton Road, 9:30 a.m.
- 29...Barton County Commission Meeting, 1400 Main Room 106, 9 a.m.

For a complete list of community events, visit our web site:
www.greatbend.org

If you would like to submit an event to be published in the print or online calendars, contact a member of the Chamber staff at 620-792-2401 or email your event information to Chamber Marketing Coordinator Rachel Mawhirter, rmawhirter@greatbend.org.

Barton to present "All About Careers!" event

Barton Community College's Workforce Training and Economic Development department will host the "All About Careers!" event from 9:15 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, September 24 to showcase the college's workforce training programs. Superintendents, principals, counselors, prospective students and parents are welcome to attend. Lunch will be served from 11:30 – noon during a Q-and-A session at the end of the event. There is no cost to attend.

The event will highlight the Natural Gas, Computer Aided Drafting, Automotive, Agriculture, Early Childhood and Manufacturing Skills programs. There will be short information sessions with the coordinators of each program. There will also be tours of all the facilities for each program.



Those wanting to attend will need to RSVP by visiting allaboutcareers.bartonccc.edu. For more information email Coordinator of Community Education Karly Little at littlek@bartonccc.edu or (620) 792-9294. The deadline to RSVP is September 19.

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Les & Carol Hopkins, Owners of Great Bend Farm Equipment

The decades-long success of Great Bend Farm Equipment (GBFE) is an illustration of man and machine combining their talents and capabilities to provide quality products and service to customers. “Man” represents GBFE employees and “machine” refers to their products on the farm and around the yard. The John Deere dealer is located just off U.S. 281, 2-and-a-half miles south of 10th and Main.

GBFE President Les Hopkins could talk quality machinery and agriculture all day but when it comes to explaining the company’s success, he credits his employees. “My service shop is what makes this business,” Hopkins said. “They believe in what they are doing and know how to do it. I guess this is true in any business. Service is it. That is what it all comes down to and that is what we try to do here – give good, honest service at a fair price.

“There was just a guy in here,” Hopkins continued. “He said we are the best service department in the country. Our employees have longevity, and they are people with the intelligence to handle concerns with electrical and mechanical issues, as well as GPS.”

In fact, local service employees receive hands-on training at the John Deere Training Center in Wichita, and a few of the young technicians graduated from the John Deere Ag-Tech programs in Garden City and Milford, Neb. This is where they learn not only about the nuts and bolts but also the whiz-bang, high-tech components of modern farm equipment.

Precision farming is “where it is at now,” Hopkins said. “You don’t steer the tractor; it steers itself off a satellite. If you are planting corn, that planter works off a satellite. It controls what you put into the ground. Plus, it will shut itself off so you don’t plant over what you have already planted. This saves time and money.”

Hopkins acknowledged that some farmers were resistant to the new technology at first “but now they demand it, especially the younger generation.”

The company president learned the ins and outs of farm-machinery dealerships during his long career in the industry. About 20 years ago, he came to Great Bend from Garden City; he operated three CASE IH dealerships in southwest Kansas. “I had a rapport with some John Deere people and they wanted me to buy a dealership,” he said. “This is one of those things you just fall into.”



In 1993 Hopkins and his business partner, Cecil O’Brate of Garden City, bought GBFE, the former Taylor Equipment at the same location. They remain co-owners.

In those early days there were 13 employees; today the total is 32. “All of us pride ourselves on getting to the customer quickly, diagnosing the problem and fixing the problem,” Hopkins commented. “We guarantee all our work for a whole year. We can do that because of the employees.”

The other type of “machine” that comes into play is the computer. “I hate the computer with a passion,” Hopkins laughed. “But we are what we are because of it.”

He explained that GBFE sells new machinery only in its five-county service area but the computer allows used-machinery sales all over the United States and some foreign countries. “This has helped with the feast and famine of farming,” he said, noting GBFE’s territory entails Barton, Pawnee, Stafford, Rush and Russell counties.

The business, which has expanded the original building by more than 30,000 square feet and added a second building for the lawn equipment, collaborates with other John Deere dealers to find the right part and get it

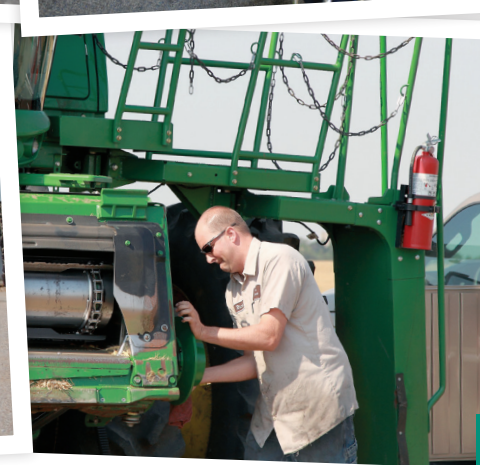
into the hands of the farmer. That pesky computer comes in handy here too.

Some maintenance and repair work is done at the shop, but GBFE also operates eight mobile units that travel to the field. However, the farm field isn’t the only destination for GBFE’s products; its lawn and garden department for homes and businesses has been growing in recent years. “Lawn and garden has become successful because of Everett Royer,” Hopkins said. “I had to get psyched up to get into that part of the business. I had to change my way of thinking.”

Royer, marketing manager, noted that the residential and non-ag business markets were there waiting to be tapped. And GBFE had the capability to cater to this niche. “Les put the right people in place,” Royer commented. “And now we have a full line of lawn and garden equipment.”

The product line includes everything from trimmers to zero-turn-radius mowers to Gator utility vehicles. The dealership also recently added Honda products to the mix.

All these factors add up to GBFE being part of John Deere’s success. “John Deere is the best in the farm equipment industry – the best merchandiser of equipment there is,” Hopkins said. “We have built on to the shop three times. It all gets back to the dealership and service.”



Recent Chamber Ribbon Cuttings



The Unveiling and Ribbon Cutting for the Untied Way Born Learning Trail was held August 4th, 2014. The trail building was a collaboration between the UWCK, Barton County Young Professionals, and the Claflin and Great Bend city crews. It is located throughout the Great Bend Zoo and features 10 educational signs promoting positive and engaging parent child interaction. The Harms Trust and the United Way funded the project.



The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce and Stoneridge Country Club hosted a Business After Hours and Grand Opening Celebration on Friday, July 25th, 2014. Festivities included a ribbon cutting ceremony. Guests were invited to view the recent improvements to the facility including lighting enhancements, pool renovations and updates to JayCats Sports Bar.



Bluestem Hall (named from the oldest dorm structures that are being retired) will add room for approximately 50 additional residents to the Prairie Village housing complex, bringing the total capacity for housing residents on the campus to 342. The dorm is located south of the Student Union. The official ribbon cutting was held August 7th, 2014 followed by tours of the facility.

CUNA MUTUAL Hires Swanson, Promotes Phillips

CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions has hired Paul Swanson as vice president, Intermediary Sales and Institutional Relationship Management. Reporting to Senior Vice President Paul Chong, Swanson will lead the company's intermediary and institutional sales efforts.



This new position consolidates areas led by Micah DiSalvo and Bill Feldmaier, who resigned earlier this year. Swanson joins the organization with more than 26 years of experience in the retirement industry and a strong track record of sales and sales leadership at companies such as ING, Prudential Retirement and Lincoln Financial Group. He was most recently managing director of the intermediary-sold DCIO and sub-advisory markets for SEI Investments.

"Aligning our intermediary and institutional groups will allow us to more closely coordinate our wholesaling activities with our sales partners in the DCIO and broker-dealer worlds," Chong said. "Adding Paul to our team helps us build on our already strong foundation as we partner with financial advisors to help small business owners and their employees prepare for retirement."

CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions also announces the promotion of Chris Phillips to director, Institutional Sales, reporting to Swanson. Phillips is responsible for institutional sales and managing the broker-dealer/DCIO relationships. Chong said Phillips built strong relationships with top broker-dealer and DCIO firms in his previous position as director of strategic accounts.



CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions designs simple and practical retirement programs that help hard-working Americans save for the future. For more than 50 years, it has been a leading provider of qualified and nonqualified retirement solutions delivering service excellence and customer-focused, best-in-class products. With nearly \$17 billion assets under administration and more than 6,900 retirement plans in place, the company is helping more than 330,000 hard-working Americans save for the future. Its products, tools and resources work together to help achieve better employee outcomes measured at the plan and participant levels. More information is available at www.cunamutualrs.com.

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St. Rose Fundraiser Dates Set

Items for the silent and live auctions that benefit Heartland Cancer Center patients are now being accepted. The event is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4 at the Club at Stoneridge. "We are encouraging individuals and businesses to donate to the auctions and to mark this date on their calendars," St. Rose Marketing Director Mark Mingenback said. "This is a great way to support our neighbors who need a helping hand and have an enjoyable evening at the same time." Tickets for the 10th annual auction are \$35 each and reservations can be made online at www.stroseasc.org or by calling Mingenback, 620-786-6136. Schremmer Auction will volunteer its services for the event.

The annual St. Rose Golf Classic is set for 8 a.m. Monday, Oct. 6; its proceeds also are used to support cancer patients. Sponsorships and team registration are available on the St. Rose website. During the previous nine auctions and golf tournaments, almost a half million dollars has been raised. "We are hoping to add substantially to this fund again this year," Mingenback said. "Donors can be assured that all proceeds are used to directly help patients and their families right here in our communities."

St. Rose is part of Centura Health, which connects individuals and families across western Kansas and Colorado with more than 6,000 physicians, 15 hospitals, seven senior-living communities, physician practices and clinics, and home-care and hospice services.



Brad Hemphill, left, owner of Brad's Cabinet Shop, and Mark Urban, facilities supervisor at St. Rose Ambulatory & Surgery Center, modify the pews in the former fifth-floor Chapel. The pews will be auctioned off at the St. Rose Auction & Golf Classic in early October.

Yours Truly Gifts and Events Celebrates 1st Year in Business

Yours Truly Gifts and Events opened its doors one year ago 30 August 2014. Gifts at Yours Truly range from fun and funky desk accessories, classy décor for the kitchen and living area, the latest in entertaining accessories, as well as exceptional wedding gifts & accessories for the brides and grooms to be in your life. And don't forget the kiddos! YT has exciting decorations and gifts for children. Free gift wrapping is also available.

Yours Truly Events specializes in planning professional, quality events for professional businesses and organizations, as well as personal events such as weddings, anniversaries or casual parties. General Manager Amy Habiger is a certified wedding planner who also has a background in planning meetings, dinners, conferences, conventions and trade shows in a corporate capacity. Planning packages are customized and based on your particular needs. Yours Truly Events also has a wide variety of rental décor including backdrops, centerpiece options, table linens and more.

Over the past year, Yours Truly has learned and grown with the love and support from the Great Bend community. They continue to strive to serve their customers through unique gift items and exceptional events and look forward to many years of service.

Stop by and see them at 1419 Main Street in Great Bend. Open Monday-Friday from 9am – 6pm and Saturday from 9am-4pm. If you have any questions please call 620-796-2356 or email at info@yourstrulyks.com and follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ytgiftandevents.



Becker Tire Hosted National Training

Becker Tire was chosen by the Tire Industry Association (TIA) in Bowie, Maryland to host a national training seminar to certify technicians in the proper safety procedures in installing farm and OTR (Off The Road) tires at their location here in Great Bend. The three day training seminar was coordinated by Brett Foster, Vice President of Becker Tire and a TIA certified trainer, and Greg Albright, Regional Manager and Tia certified trainer. Matt White, Director of Service from the TIA staff in Bowie, Maryland conducted the seminar. The seminar was held August 4 - 6, 2014. The attendees were from as far away as New York and Florida, but also included Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Illinois, Colorado and Iowa.




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Straub International Earns Farm Equipment's Prestigious 2014 "Best-in-Class Dealership" Award

Straub International in Great Bend, Kan., has been selected as the 2014 "Best-in-Class Farm Equipment Dealership" by Farm Equipment magazine.

Farm Equipment presents its "Dealership of the Year" awards annually to farm equipment dealerships in two categories: one for those with a large, multi-store operation and one for those with a small-store operation.

Straub International, which is a 7-store retailer of Case IH equipment along with several shortline brands, earned the distinction this year in the Large, Multi-Store Operation category not only for its outstanding financial and operational results, but also its attention to customer care, employee development and community involvement.

Nearly 100 dealerships were nominated for this year's award.

The dealership was chosen for the award by a panel of renowned farm equipment experts. In their selection of Straub International, the judges noted the dealership has a strong succession in place and has a high level of community involvement.

Farm Equipment's Dealership of the Year judging panel included Dr. W. David Downey, director, Center for Agricultural Business, Purdue Univ., West Lafayette, Ind.; David L. Kahler, retired CEO of the Ohio-Michigan Equipment Dealers Assn., Dublin, Ohio; and Charles Glass, president, Glass Management Group, Arlington, Texas.

Straub International was founded in 1944 and recently moved its Wichita location to a new 55,000-square-foot building. "We've had so much success with that move that we are very excited for what the future holds," says Kristy Straub, customer relations manager.

"We are also dedicating ourselves to having one of the best teams for Advanced Farming Systems in the state. We had a very well trained and capable staff to help our customers with all the new technology," she says.

Farm Equipment magazine profiles the winners of its Dealerships of the Year in its July/August 2014 edition. The complete article can be seen at www.farm-equipment.com.

Farm Equipment magazine, based in Brookfield, Wis., serves more than 12,000 farm equipment dealers, wholesalers and distributors throughout North America. It is also the publisher of Rural Lifestyle Dealer, Ag Equipment Intelligence, Precision Farming Dealer, No-Till Farmer and the Conservation Tillage Guide.

For more information, contact Dave Kanicki, executive editor, Farm Equipment, at dkanicki@lesspub.com, or Kim Schmidt, managing editor, Farm Equipment, at kschmidt@lesspub.com.



Heartland Farm Continues to Offer Wide Variety of Activities

Heartland Farm most recently hosted a pottery workshop that was taught by Phyllis Klima during the first and second weekends of August. The participants learned a lot about pottery and spent much time engrossed in their projects. Everyone had a great time and we hope to repeat this workshop again in the future.

The next event Heartland Farm will host is Open Farm Day on Saturday, September 20th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be tours, displays, refreshments, games for kids, alpacas, chickens, and videos in the straw bale art studio. This event is open to the public. The Farm is located at 1049 CR 390 Pawnee Rock, Kansas.

Visit their website at www.heartlandfarm-ks.org for more information for these and upcoming events.



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KWEC Gears Up for Butterfly Festival



All things "butterfly" will be the focus of the Kansas Wetlands Education Center's Butterfly Festival from 9 a.m. to noon on Sept. 13.

From making milkweed seed bombs to tagging monarch butterflies, kids and adults will find plenty to do during the event. In addition to butterflies, caterpillars and chrysalises, and an exhibit bee hive, several other amazing insects and arachnids will be on display in the insect "zoo".

Nets and tags will be available for those who want to capture and tag monarch butterflies. Participants will receive information about the tagging process before heading out with a tagging leader to search for Monarch butterflies.

Kids can play in the mud and make a seed bomb, composed of clay, compost, water and seeds, to take home. Then try their hand at slinging milkweed seed bombs into the prairie area using giant slingshots. Butterfly crafts, temporary tattoos, games and other activities will round out the morning.

Butterfly milkweed seeds will be available free to those who would like to encourage monarchs to their yards and gardens. Information on butterfly-friendly plants and other attractants will be available and visitors may also walk through the wild-flower/butterfly garden to view examples of butterfly-friendly plants.

Door prizes will be presented at the end of the morning and light refreshments will be served. For more information contact KWEC at 1-877-243-9268.

KFC Recipe for Hope



Great Bend KFC will once again be asking all guests to help contribute to our Recipe for Hope campaign. Each year they raise money for the World Food Program to help feed hungry children around the world. For only a \$1 donation you can feed 4 children for a day and even your spare change can make a difference. Since 2007 KFC has raised nearly \$150 million for WFP for approximately 600 million meals. Not only

are the funds used to help those throughout the world but in the United States as well. So be sure and stop by KFC and get a great meal and help a deserving child get one as well. If you would like to know more on how you could help contact Dave Storjohann at KFC or visit KFC.hungertohope.com.

Ambassador Profile - Kevin Sundahl

The Ambassador Club is made up of 30 men and women from the Great Bend business community who represent the Chamber in a number of ways. They host the weekly Chamber Coffees, attend Business After Hours and Ribbon Cuttings, serve on Chamber committees, and assist with



member recruitment and retention efforts. They also volunteer at numerous Chamber events, such as the Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo and the Big Bend Bike Rally. To find out how you can become a member of the Ambassador Club, contact us, 620-792-2401 or abauer@greatbend.org.

Where I Work

I am a self-employed certified general real estate appraiser working for various clients to arrive at an opinion of value for real estate property (residential, farm and commercial). Prior to being self-employed as an appraiser, I worked for financial institutions in Great Bend, Kansas for over 25 years.

Educational Background

Graduate of McPherson High School in McPherson, Kansas. Received an Associate Degree from Barton Community College; a BA in Sociology from McPherson College, and a Masters in Sociology from Fort Hays State University.

My Family

I have been married for over forty years to my college sweetheart, Nancy Lindholm Sundahl. We have three sons: Shane and his wife Wendy live in Larned, KS and have two kids, Slade, 6 and Darby, 2 1/2; Kris and his wife Andi live in Hutchinson, KS and have two boys, Jakoby, 2 2/1 and Dylan, 1; Lukas and his wife Sara live in Tulss, OK and have one son Henrik who is 1.

As an Ambassador

I enjoy meeting people and learning more about our diverse business concerns in the Golden Belt area. By attending the Chamber Coffees, Business After Hours events, in addition to making Ambassador visits, I have been able to meet and make new friends. The Chamber Ambassador group is great to work with and to get to know.

Hobbies & Interesting Facts

Sports have been a major part of my life. I attended Barton Community College on a basketball scholarship and met my future wife. We attend all home games at Great Bend High School as well as games at Kansas State University – where we of course love to tailgate!!! Also, I officiated basketball games for over thirty years and now I enjoy the two G's – Grandkids and Golfing!!!

Seventh-day Adventist Church Promotes LET'S MOVE DAY

The Great Bend Seventh-day Adventist Church and School will be hosting Let's Move Day on Sunday, September 23 starting at 3:00 P.M. at the Great Bend Seventh-day Adventist Church parking lot across from the Great Bend Trailhead on west 10th Street. This event is being sponsored by Dr. Bell Razafindrabe and the Pain and Spine Clinic. For advance registration call 620-792-2991 or 620-791-7314 or register at 2:45 the day of the events. Water and fruit snacks will be provided along the trail. For more information on Let's Move Day, please visit, <http://www.adventistsinstepforlife.org>



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CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE THURSDAYS AT 9:30 AM

September 4, 2014

United Way of Central Kansas • Fuller Industries

United Way of Central Kansas' mission is to promote financial stability, healthy lives and improve education. United Way helps 19 agencies in Barton and Pawnee Counties. 99% of funds raised stays locally and helps your community become a better place to live. Join UWCK at Fuller Industries as we kick off the 2015 campaign!

September 11, 2014

Sunflower Diversified Services • 8823 4th Street

For over 48 years, Sunflower Diversified Services, Inc. remains the only full service provider for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Sunflower Diversified Services mission is to assist individuals in becoming as independent as possible and to maintain that independence as long as possible. SDS serves Barton, Rush, Rice, Stafford and Pawnee counties.

There is a difference!

September 18, 2014

Central Plains Computer Service (CPCS) • 608 Patton Road

Central Plains Computer Service has been a provider of computer sales and service for over 30 years. Our company is also a local internet service provider, which includes high-speed wireless broadband internet, web hosting, email hosting, web and graphic design services.

September 25, 2014

USD 428 Foundation • 201 S. Patton Road

This year, the USD 428 Education Foundation is proudly observing its 25th anniversary of philanthropy. Since 1989, the organization has raised and donated nearly \$250,000 to enhance education in the district. Programs funded by the Education Foundation today provide a positive impact on the leaders of tomorrow.

October 2, 2014

Kiowa Kitchen • 214 E Barton Co. Road

Kiowa Kitchen is a Barton County Tradition serving up incredible Mexican Food along with the tastiest salsa in the area. We're open from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Thursday – Saturday so if you happen to get hungry in the middle of the afternoon, our kitchen is open and we're ready to cook for you.



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McDonald's

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.

Employment – Barton County		June 13	June 14
Labor Force		16,589	17,760
Employment		15,901	17,149
Unemployment		688	611
Unemployment Rate		4.1%	3.4%
KS Unemployment Rate		5.8%	4.8%
City/County Local Sales Tax Distributions Report		June 13	June 14
Sales Tax for Barton County at 1.00%		\$403,679	\$482,910
Sales Tax for Great Bend at 0.75%		\$218,368	\$249,718

Building Permits		June 13	June 14
Commercial – GB		4	11
Residential - GB		29	35

Sources:

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

