

# OUTLOOK BUSINESS JOURNAL

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE GREAT BEND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## *Great Bend fit trail Grand Opening*



The Great Bend Fit Trail Grand Opening was Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Great Bend Fit Trail located on the north side of Veteran's Memorial Park. Mayor, Mike Allison, members of the Great Bend Kiwanis Club, City of Great Bend, Great Bend Recreation Commission and the Golden Belt Community Foundation performed the ribbon cutting honors.

Rob Bauer, President of the Kiwanis Club "The Great Bend Kiwanis Club is proud to partner with the Great Bend Recreation Commission and the City of Great Bend to bring new and updated fitness equipment to Veterans Memorial Park. It's a goal of Kiwanis to foster the wellness of our community by making fitness equipment accessible to the entire family. We look forward to continue working with our partners on future projects to help improve our community!"

The Great Bend Fit Trail is located on the north side of Veteran's Lake between the two existing parking lots



near the existing restroom and hike and bike trail. The Fit Trail features a cluster of 11 pieces of fitness equipment with strength training and cardio exercise equipment such as stretching bars, elliptical, ab crunch, chest/back press, cardio stepper, squat press, plyometric stations and more. Each station will be equipped with instructions on how to use each piece of equipment and how to adapt the exercises for personal fitness levels.

The Fit Trail will include an element of a playground with multiple pieces of playground equipment for children ages 5 to 12 years. A unique play experience in the Fit Trail is the featured 9 foot "Global Motion" which is a rotating playground net climber. Children can ride and climb on 14 nets inside and out on two levels on the Global Motion.

For more information contact the City of Great Bend at 793-4111 or the Great Bend Recreation Commission at 793-3755.



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## Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chartered names new Chief Operations Officer

The certified public accounting firm of Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chartered is pleased to announce Regan Reif was recently promoted to the position of Chief Operations Officer.

"Regan has shown tremendous leadership and dedication and we are proud to promote her to Chief Operations Officer," said Brian Staats, CPA, Managing Partner at Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball, Chartered. "We look forward to her continued contributions to our firm."



As Chief Operations Officer, Reif will manage the operational functions of the firm. She will oversee initiatives in the areas of human resources, marketing, strategic planning, growth, and facilities management. Reif will work closely with the firm's managing partner, partners, and Board of Directors for oversight and integration of the operational functions of the firm.

In addition, she will manage the preparation of short-term and long-range plans based on firm wide goals and growth objectives, merging these plans into the overall annual strategic plan.

## Quarles named CEO of American State Bank & Trust

Greg M. Quarles has been named President and CEO of American State Bank & Trust in Great Bend, Kansas. Since 2005, Quarles has served as President and Chief Risk Officer of H&R Block Bank and Financial Services. Originally from Pampa, Texas he began his career in 1982 as a loan officer with Lubbock National Bank. He joined the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency in 1987 serving in the Midwestern District, including western Kansas. Quarles rose through the ranks of the OCC to become Assistant Deputy Comptroller for Credit Card Banks.

Quarles holds a B.S. in Finance from Texas Tech and an MBA from the University of Kansas. He holds certifications as an Internal Auditor, Anti-Money Laundering Specialist and Financial Services Auditor.



"Through my meetings with the Bank's leadership during the interview process, I feel the move is a good fit for me and my family. American State is in excellent financial condition, and I look forward to the challenge of taking its growth to the next level," Quarles said.

Don LacKamp, Executive Vice Chairman of the Board stated, "We feel extremely fortunate to have someone with Greg's credentials and experience to lead our team. Both he and Leslie will make a great addition to the communities we serve."



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## Milligan brings varied background to St. Rose Therapy Services

Holly Milligan, the new physical therapist at St. Rose Health Center, brings to the job almost a decade of experience in a variety of settings.

"At St. Rose, my colleague, Melanie Schroeter, and I work with people who experience joint, neck and back pain from arthritis or a fall. We also work a lot on strengthening and balance to improve safety."

A population Milligan believes is missing out on the benefits of physical therapy are those between the ages of 30 and 60.

"I hear women say, 'I had a baby a year ago. I thought it was normal for my back and hips to still hurt,'" Milligan related. "Others tell me 'my neck began to hurt six months ago but that is just part of getting older.' With earlier treatment and education, the hope would be to help decrease and prevent more significant or intense symptoms later on."

When discussing with others the option of physical therapy, Milligan states, "I think it is important to focus on how their day would look differently if they could walk through the grocery store without having to lean on a cart and stop to rest five times; or if they could get down on the floor and play with their children or grandchildren with more energy. If physical therapy could help them do these things better, how would that change their day-to-day living?"

In Kansas, a doctor's referral for physical therapy is not necessary; insurance provider requirements vary. At St. Rose, physical therapy treatment depends on the patient's circumstances. It could entail one to three visits a week for a few weeks. "But I have patients come in for one or two sessions for a tune-up treatment and education," Milligan noted. "And then they are good to go."

For more information or to schedule an appointment contact St. Rose Physical Therapy Services at 620-786-6515.



## New, High-Efficiency Doonan® Manufacturing Plant Means New Flatbed Market Opportunities

Doonan® Specialized Trailer, a leading manufacturer of specialty platform trailers, including custom flatbeds, drop decks, oilfield trailers, extendibles, RGN lowbeds and double drops; announced it has "gutted" a 25,000 square foot manufacturing plant, previously used to 'stall build' custom trailer products, to create a new, high-efficiency flatbed trailer plant.

Doonan® will still build custom trailer products in its main factory, separate from its new high-efficiency flatbed trailer plant. The new plant will allow Doonan® to be more price competitive in the volume build flatbed trailer market.

"We look forward to the many new market opportunities this new plant brings Doonan®," stated Mike Gordy, Co-Manager. Construction on the plant began early this summer, with high-efficiency flatbed trailer production slated to begin in January. Interested dealers and fleets are encouraged to call for a quote: 800-734-0608.



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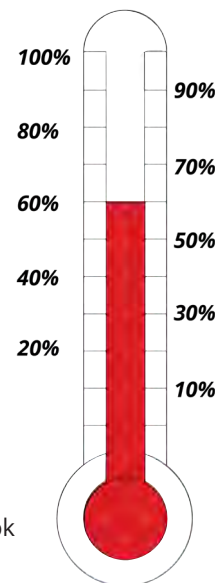
## United Way December Spotlight



November was another hectic month for United Way of Central Kansas, but it was a successful one! The annual Casino Night hosted by the Sidewinders Motorcycle Club raised over \$4,500 that will go towards our Annual Campaign goal of \$275,000. UWCK celebrated the 3rd Annual Dress down the Town day and numerous businesses participated. These events, along with Payroll Deduction companies that have turned in their pledges for 2017, have helped UWCK reach 60% completion rate for the 2017 Annual Campaign.

As the 2017 Campaign winds down, and looking ahead at the coming months and we will continue to be busy in the community. UWCK has collaborated with ElderCare, Meals on Wheels, and Golden Belt Home Health and Hospice, to bring a Box of Love to the elderly in our community. There will be multiple drop-off locations in the community and a multitude of items that you can donate to help spread some extra love this Valentine's Day. Children at UWCK partner agencies will also be making handmade Valentines Day Cards for each of the boxes that will be delivered. For a full list of acceptable, item donations please contact one of our partners or visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ucentralks>.

For more information about the United Way of Central Kansas call 620-792-2401 or visit <http://www.uwck.org>.



## St. Rose Welcomes Haley Gleason, APRN



The new member of the St. Rose Family Medicine team brings with her to the position more than seven years of experience in a variety of health-care settings. Haley Gleason, advanced practice registered nurse, recently arrived at St. Rose where she sees patients of all ages; she is accepting new patients.

"I care for and treat many acute conditions such as the common cold, sore throat and the flu," Gleason said. "But I also see patients who need chronic-disease management. This includes those who have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, coronary artery disease and diabetes."

In addition, Gleason provides women's health services such as pap tests and breast exams. She also treats minor injuries, some dermatology patients and those who need wound care. Gleason noted she has been impressed with the services, personnel and the facility itself at St. Rose.

Gleason began her career at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita where she cared for patients in the hospitalist unit and neonatal intensive care. She also was a traveling nurse serving in Knoxville, Tenn., Los Angeles and Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. Most recently, Gleason worked in the Orthopedic Institute at Hays Medical Center.

Gleason earned her bachelor's of science degree in nursing at Fort Hays State University in 2009, and her master's of science in nursing at the University of Cincinnati this year. She is board certified through the American Nurses Credentialing Center and licensed by the Kansas State Board of Nursing.

For more information or to schedule an appointment contact St. Rose at 620-786-6515.

## Cherry Village honors vets; keeps full schedule of activities



Veterans of the armed services who now live at Cherry Village Benevolence recently were recognized for their service to the United States and its citizens.

In addition to the long-term-care-facility's staff, the local American Legion Riders made Veterans Day even more of a special occasion for the honorees and their neighbors. "We had an ice cream social and presented

each veteran with a certificate of appreciation," said Shelly Estes, Cherry Village activities director. "The Legion Riders also presented each one with a pin to wear on their shirts. "The Riders have visited Cherry Village a number of times over the years," Estes added. "It is so thoughtful of them to acknowledge our veterans' patriotic service. Our residents and staff are grateful."

The Veterans Day celebration on Nov. 11 was only one event in a calendar full of activities at Cherry Village. Special events are scheduled in observance of all holidays but activities don't stop there. "Our residents play cards and board games every day," Estes said, noting a special Game Day is scheduled once a week. "We also have school kids of all ages come in to sing and meet our residents. "It is safe to say the youngsters are the favorites here," she added. "Residents love to visit with the younger generation. It is a good experience for the kids too, especially those who don't have older people in their lives."

We know the importance of keeping residents active and engaged. "Activities help residents with motor skills and brain function," she continued. "They are also good for everyone psychologically. Our goal every day is to help residents stay busy and happy." Family members get involved too. Estes also noted that while everyone is invited to activities, residents are under absolutely no obligation to attend. "One man here would rather not join in on everything that is going on," she said. "But he loves to work on the jigsaw puzzle that is always available, which is great. We just want people to feel at home."

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House Scheduled for Plains State Bank

Plains State Bank will be hosting a ribbon cutting and open house to celebrate its third full-service Kansas branch in Great Bend on Thursday, December 8, at 10:00 am. The Bank opened its newest branch August 3, 2016 at 800 Coolidge Street, Great Bend, Kansas.

This new chapter comes after the success of the loan production office that opened in Great Bend in 2014. Now that the full-service location is open, the staff is excited to continue to serve Barton, Pawnee and surrounding counties with excellent service, progressive technologies, and personalized products.

With the intent to make banking simple for their customers, the team at Plains State Bank is always looking to improve their services. Some of their current services built for customer convenience include a 24-hour intelligent ATM, mobile banking, as well as online banking.

To learn more about how Plains State Bank can make your success simple stop by 800 Coolidge Street in Great Bend, call at 620-796-2370, or check out the website at [www.plainsstatebank.com](http://www.plainsstatebank.com).



## Shop Great Bend for the Holidays!

**November 27<sup>th</sup> - December 24<sup>th</sup>**

Pick up a card at one of our participating locations

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Once your card is full, fill out the back with your information and return to City Hall by December 24th for your chance to be one of five winners to receive a Gift Certificate for shopping Great Bend during the Holidays!

However, make sure to keep the top portion or your card so that you can redeem a 10% discount at the store of your choosing during the month of January.

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## Fuller Industries, GB Coffee serve employees, community

A local manufacturer and local restaurant have teamed up to supply the ingredients for new ventures at both companies. The partnership between Fuller Industries and

Great Bend Coffee has resulted in the re-opening of the cafeteria at the manufacturer's facility, 10th and Airport Road.

Great Bend Coffee will provide the manpower and the meals for breakfast and lunch at Fuller Café, which opened Monday, Nov. 7. Scott Evans, Fuller vice president of business development, said the cafeteria had closed about 18 months ago, and the new chief executive officer and management team wanted to remedy the situation.

"The Fuller team wanted to offer this as an added benefit to our valued workforce of almost 200 employees," Evans said. "We are extremely excited about offering great home-cooked meals at an affordable price, right here within our 600,000-square-foot manufacturing facility. "We look forward to members of the community stopping in for breakfast and lunch on Fridays," Evans added. "Our first goal is to invite the Great Bend police and fire departments over for a home-cooked meal. This is a small way for us to show our appreciation for their efforts and sacrifices, and all they do to provide a safer community."

Police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, teachers, active military personnel and veterans will receive a 10 percent discount at Fuller Café and the Fuller Company Store.

The public may try the menu from 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays.

"This will be the schedule for now but we are willing to consider changes as we go along," Evans commented. "We will listen to feedback from our employees and local residents. If they decide we need to make some changes, we will try to accommodate."

In the months leading up to the opening, Fuller embarked on a major renovation to the approximately 4,200-square-foot cafeteria. In addition to new paint, ceiling tiles and LED lighting upgrades, Fuller installed four big-screen TVs and a wireless speaker system, and re-upholstered the booths and chairs.

"The goal was to provide an inviting dining environment for our loyal employees," Evans said. "Although the capital investment was substantial, it was well worth it. This was an investment back into the people on the Fuller team."

Evans noted that Fuller Café resembles a sports-bar-themed atmosphere because of the TVs, and sports memorabilia from college and professional teams in Kansas and elsewhere that are already on the walls."

LaResa Likes, Great Bend Coffee owner, said she and her husband, Eugene, have been eager to take on this new challenge. So far, they have hired three new employees who will rotate between the downtown location at 2015 Lakin and Fuller Café.

"I was astounded when Fuller contacted us," LaResa said, noting nothing is changing at the company's downtown location. "It is gratifying that Fuller even thought of us as an option. We are ready for this new experience, this new challenge."

## Make and Take Clay Jewelry Workshop at KVEC

Looking for that unique holiday gift? How about a one of a kind piece of jewelry? The Kansas Wetlands Education Center is offering a free make and take jewelry class at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 11. They will be using polymer clay to create fun, chunky pendants.

Once you learn how simple it is to create your own jewelry, you'll be hooked! All materials will be provided. Call 1-877-243-9268 by to register for this free craft workshop!

## Reynolds brings decades of experience to Sunflower director job



When Debbie Reynolds took her first tour of Sunflower Diversified Services, she noticed a big plus right off the bat. Reynolds is the new executive director at Sunflower; Tuesday was her first day at the non-profit agency that serves infants, toddlers and adults with developmental disabilities and delays. "As I took the tour that day, it was obvious the staff was happy and engaged with the people they serve," Reynolds said, noting most people didn't know she was applying for the job at the time. "Our staff works tirelessly to meet the needs of our clients. 'It was heartwarming to see this,' she added. "And I have been astounded at the number of people who have been here for more than 30 years. That is almost unheard of today."

Reynolds had been eager to get back into the career that has been a decades-long passion. She took a four-year detour and recently was general manager of the Golf Club at Southwind in Garden City. For 13 years before that, she was executive director of Mosaic in Garden City, another non-profit agency supporting people with disabilities. "During my tenure there, Mosaic was transformed into a vibrant 21<sup>st</sup> Century organization sharply focused on person-centered planning," she noted. "I devised and implemented improvements in all performance areas."

In addition, Reynolds developed a tailor-made fundraising model that generated more than \$112,000 in donations during 2012. The annual Signature Event netted \$100,000 from 2008-11. "These experiences, as well as those in the private sector, will serve me well at Sunflower," she said. "They provide a solid background in managing budgets and personnel, while building relationships throughout the community."

One relationship Reynolds holds dear is the camaraderie between people providing support and Sunflower clients who rely on that support. "The direct-support associates are the unsung heroes of what we do," Reynolds explained. "I will do all I can to make their lives better, which will result in enhanced services for our clients."

Sunflower services will continue to include as many options as possible for independent living. "It is all about choices," Reynolds said. "Everyone has the right to decide where they want to live and work." She plans to collaborate with staff and families to help adults reach their lifestyle and employment goals, while also providing vital early intervention and preschool services for children. "I have compassion and respect for families that have been dealt a hand they didn't expect," Reynolds said. "I hope they take advantage of my open-door policy for questions about anything from early childhood on up through retirement concerns."

Reynolds also is eager to become involved in the central Kansas community, while getting to know local residents and state officials. "These relationships are critical," she said. "I want to explain Sunflower's needs to as many people as I can."

Originally from Tennessee, Reynolds began her career in 1981 as a direct-care service provider to people with disabilities. She also held a live-in position in a group setting at Cincinnati, Ohio, where she moved at a young age. Other former positions include director of Education and Vocational Service for the Logan County (Ohio) Board of Mental Retardation & Developmental Disabilities; and behavioral specialist for the University of Cincinnati. She also has served people with disabilities in South Africa, Brazil and the United Kingdom. "Each position has been a building block," she said. "The behavior specialist job was especially valuable because it allowed me to understand the mental-health component of what we do."

Reynolds earned bachelor's and master's degrees in liberal sciences, with a concentration in organizational leadership from Fort Hays State University. She is replacing Jim Johnson who has retired after 42 years of service. "Jim's legacy is long and rich," she commented. "I look at this as Jim handing the baton off to me. He is a rare gem and his dedication to Sunflower is to be commended and celebrated. "This type of legacy can certainly be daunting but I am excited for the opportunity," she continued. "I am thankful Jim is not moving from Great Bend. You can bet I will count on him to help me navigate my new journey."

Travis Thompson, Sunflower board president, said he and his peers are excited to have found someone of Reynolds' caliber. "Debbie brings great experience and a passion for helping people with disabilities live up to their full potential," Thompson said. "Jim has left a legacy of caring and fighting for people and we will continue the fight with Debbie."



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## Board of Trustee ENDs report: 'Barton Experience'



The Barton Community College Board of Trustees gathered Tuesday evening for its regular meeting and discussed one of its nine overarching goals, known as ENDs, one of which is "Barton Experience."

This END states, "Students will be positive about their Barton experience. In exit surveys and other feedback report mechanisms, students will speak positively of their experiences at Barton. Students will cite individual, personal, caring attention from faculty and staff as a significant factor in how they perceive their experience at Barton."

Barton student-athlete Keanna Craig shared her personal Barton experience with the Board. A native of Flint, Mich., Craig said she grew up in a rough neighborhood and in abusive environments, where a walk to the store was dangerous. When she came to Barton for a campus tour, she signed up the next day.

"I'd rather be here than be at home," she said, fighting tears. "Barton changed my life, and really saved my life. No telling where I'd be today if I were still home. Thank you so much for bringing me here. I really love this place. I feel safe."

When asked what made her decide on Barton, she said it was the people.

"You guys are so nice," Craig said. "You guys do a good job. You're united, not divided. It's nice that you guys are a team. You actually care about the students here. From the staff to the teachers, you guys are really caring and loving. I came from a high school where the teachers didn't care about us. They would even say they were just there for a paycheck."

Athletic Director Trevor Rolfs said her story is representative of his philosophy for student athletes, that they develop themselves academically, socially and athletically, in that order.

Highlights from the ENDs report include:

- Post Graduation Survey responses are about 90 percent positive or better for most services.
- Barton Community College Survey of Student Engagement shows Barton students are satisfied with the services they receive.
- BARTonline survey reveals 96 percent of students were satisfied or neutral toward their online experience.
- Financial aid took extra measures to ensure students' financial aid problems are solved, improving satisfaction from 70 percent in 2015 to 90 percent in 2016.

## Students Prep for Santa's Workshop

The Great Bend Recreation Commission and the high school student organizations are preparing for the 20th Annual Santa's Workshop. This free evening of holiday fun will be held in the City Auditorium on December 5th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. The festive Christmas event will include food and craft booths where children can create Christmas projects, a fishing pond, and a visit with Santa Claus. The Grinch will also make an appearance. Great Bend high school students volunteer their time and talents to make this event a reality for all the children of Great Bend. The Recreation Commission coordinates the event and assists the student organizations in preparing for this community event.

In the past, this event has attracted around 1,200 participants for an evening of Christmas fun. Donations from merchants, civic organizations or any other groups are welcome.

For more information about this event, contact Garett Fitzpatrick of the Great Bend Recreation Commission at 792-2604 ext. 12.

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP**

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## Pafford serves Barton County Detention Center as full-time deputy



When Cyril Pafford reports for work, he passes through a few locked doors on his way to a dimly lit room that passersby cannot see into and where computers and cameras are tools of the trade. Pafford, 48, is a Barton County Detention Center deputy; he has been on the job for almost six years.

To say that he arrived here in a roundabout way is not an exaggeration. He is from Labrador City in Newfoundland, Canada. "My wife, Susan, is from Great Bend and had met my mom and sister online because of a common interest. Susan came to Canada to visit," he said. "I met her too, and a couple of years later we got married." Cyril and Susan had thought they might live in Canada but the company Cyril worked for went out of business. One circumstance led to another, and they moved to Great Bend in April 2000. Pafford, who became a U.S. citizen in 2013, brought with him a varied military and job history. "I have military training and worked in the security field in Canada," Pafford recalled. "I was trained in the Royal Canadian Artillery and was there for 2-and-a-half years."

Detention deputies' responsibilities include: handling book-in procedures; fingerprinting; taking photos and DNA swabs; writing arrest reports; monitoring prisoners constantly in person and by camera; scheduling court dates; transporting prisoners to court and medical appointments; and providing meals.

There are six inmate living pods for males and two for females, along with two cells for juveniles and four holding cells. Two to six detention deputies are on duty, depending on the situation. The jail serves all Barton County law enforcement agencies; it also collaborates with many surrounding counties on a regular basis, while working with agencies throughout Kansas and the country. "Most agencies do anything they can to help with transporting prisoners," Pafford noted.

While detention deputies don't need to be trained at the police academy, they are sworn deputies. "We don't get all the glory," Pafford laughed. "We don't have the sirens and flashing lights. People forget about us but it goes with the job. We just aren't in the public eye. This is not a problem for us. We are not in it for those flashing lights." Nevertheless, detention deputies have some of the same rigorous training that other officers do. "We qualify at the gun range every three months and are trained in using Tasers and pepper spray." Their experiences take the phrase "hands-on training" to a whole new level. Officers must subject themselves to being zapped with a Taser, pepper sprayed and exposed to tear gas. "They don't want us to handle things if we don't know what the effects are," Pafford explained. "We need to understand what these things will do to someone and understand how serious this is."

A Taser results in "five seconds of pure agony," Pafford acknowledged. "But I will take a Taser over pepper spray anytime. That pepper can last longer and it's like sand in your eyes. But there is no permanent damage. "We decontaminate prisoners humanely by sending them right to the shower here and telling them to 'flush it, flush it,'" Pafford said.

Tasers and pepper spray are used to incapacitate someone in a volatile situation. "We try not to use them," he commented. "In my years here, I have never used a Taser and used pepper spray only once. "And I have never pulled my gun. But I know how to do it and I can do it. At the end of the day, I am going home to my family."

### Jail activities

At certain times of the year, the jail population averages around 75, but during warmer months, the average is more than 100. Warmer temperatures mean it is easier for people to get around if they are looking for crimes of opportunity. In addition, potential victims are more lax about locking things up. "There is more traffic in and out of the house, and sometimes we get complacent," Pafford said. "A guy might grab a TV or purse that is right inside the window and say 'Merry Christmas to me.' "Also," he continued, "there are more domestic problems with heat and alcohol consumption. In the summer there is more drinking and longer hours. Many crimes are related to alcohol or drugs." Those accused of these and other crimes wind up in a cell – at least for a while, and sometimes for a long while. About 65 percent are awaiting a court hearing while the rest are serving sentences.

"The arresting officer might deal with them for 20 minutes but we deal with them for days, months and even years," Pafford said. "Some want to tell us their version of the what, who and why of everything but we don't want to become involved. Others want to do their time and get out. Actually, we have a good bunch of inmates right now. They let us know if something is going on. We also have a great staff. "A few inmates will specifically set out to tick us off," he added. "They have all the time in the world to think of something just for the fun of it."

Inmates have a few incentives to obey the rules, such as shooting hoops in the gym and watching TV. "Inmates are human beings and should be treated like human beings," he explained. "Activities break up the day and give them less time to think about what else they could be doing. And if they break the rules, the incentives are taken away. "We treat them well," Pafford added. "There is no sense in treating someone like a non-person. If you want to be treated right, you treat others right."

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## New GBP machines create state-of-the-art printed products

New state-of-the-art equipment at Golden Belt Printing (GBP) is allowing customers to choose from many high-tech options for their printed materials.



GBP, is now home to two Canon ImagePress devices that produce crisp colors in high definition with a quicker turnaround time, General Manager Mike Niles said. "These two amazing machines represent a big upgrade in our production capability," Niles said.

To illustrate the ImagePress capability, Niles said it mimics the quality of offset printing. "The alignment of artwork and text is dead-on, whether you are printing on one side or two," Niles

commented. "The colors and definition throughout any product are unbelievable." The general manager also noted that consistency from sheet to sheet also indicates the high quality of the machines. For example, if a customer wants 5,000 copies of an item, the last one printed will be the same quality as the first. "The machines are fast too," Niles said, noting customers have a relatively short wait for their printed materials. "To top it off, the equipment doesn't take up much space, which is impressive considering all it will do."

The ImagePress accepts a wide variety of paper and synthetic stocks. The synthetics include plastics and polyester, while finishing options include various ways of collating, folding and stapling. The devices are being used to produce labels and letterhead; brochures and other promotional materials; cling signs that adhere to windows; tags that will be sewn onto cloth; and numerous other items.

"One recent project is a calendar for a high-end photographer who specializes in western themes," Niles said. "The machines also can accommodate those who want to print hard- and soft-back books. "Another big advantage," Niles continued, "is what we call 'variable data.' For instance, if the job calls for addressing postcards, we can print the cards and address them at the same time. This is more affordable for customers because of the time-saving automation."

For more information about Golden Belt Printing Call 620-793-6351.

## Handlebar & Grill Celebrates New Ownership



The Handlebar & Grill located at 807 10th Street serves a wide variety of American Diner cuisine, but the excitement surrounding the restaurant is not the changes to the menu or the service. It is the new owner. Megan Holinde recently took over the Handlebar & Grill and is excited at the prospects that come with being a new business owner. "It was a huge leap of faith but I

couldn't be more excited to see where this new opportunity takes me. And there is no way I could have done it without my amazing staff" Holinde commented. "It's still the same Handlebar that everyone knows and loves, but I will be making changes and adding my own personal touch to it over time," she continued.

The Handlebar & Grill is open Tuesday – Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.



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## Farmers Mutual Insurance receives 2016 National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies Service Award



Farmers Mutual Insurance Company (FMI), Ellinwood, Kansas is pleased to announce that Chief Executive Officer, Justin Lear, PFMM has received the 2016 National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) Service Award. These awards are given annually to individuals who have provided outstanding leadership and service to their company, state association, the property/casualty insurance industry and NAMIC. Justin received this NAMIC Service Award at the

121st Annual Convention of NAMIC in Vancouver, British Columbia on September 28th.

Justin has served FMI since 2007, as CEO since February 2010 and as Assistant Manager before succeeding the former CEO, Howard Rogers. Since that time, he has led initiatives of the company as created with the Board of Directors and efforts of staff in a successful recovery phase due to the effects of severe storm losses in prior periods. He has served NAMIC in various capacities in the past, most notably in a term as Chairman of the NAMIC Farm Mutual Conference Board of Directors. He serves the state association, Kansas Association of Property Casualty Insurance Companies (KAPCIC) as the FMI representative to the KAPCIC Board of Directors. And, he has served both these organizations as well as the Kansas Professional Insurance Agents (PIA) in various committee appointments. Prior to joining FMI in 2007, Justin served Polk County Mutual Insurance Company in Bolivar, Missouri as General Manager and Director. While in Missouri he was also actively engaged in NAMIC, the Missouri Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, and the insurance industry.

Additionally, Justin led the 117th Annual Convention of the Kansas Association of Property Casualty Insurance Companies in Olathe, Kansas on October 13-14, as he concluded his term as President of the association. He stated, "It has been a pleasure to serve as KAPCIC President. As also true in my other industry involvement, I gain much more from the associations and fellow members than my service could ever return. For that education, collaboration, and camaraderie I am grateful. I appreciate the KAPCIC membership providing me this opportunity and placing their trust in me this past year as President. And, thank you to the FMI Board of Directors and Staff for their contributions in my term as KAPCIC President and for providing these opportunities within our industry."

## Xelmar Medical Spa Celebrates 1st Year of Service

Xelmar Medical Spa provides a comforting, yet stimulating, atmosphere in which customers are able to relax. Clients can enjoy a wide range of services including Xeomin injections, dermal fillers, laser hair removal, pigmentation correction, skin rejuvenation, chemical peels, anti-aging treatments, massage therapy, body and energy work.

For more information visit [www.xelmarmedsa.com](http://www.xelmarmedsa.com) or call 620-617-0744.



## Chamber Radio Show



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 with Marketing Coordinator Maddi Kinkelaar. This month's show will air Thursday, December 4th at 11:35 a.m.

## Welcome to Our Newest Chamber Members

### EarCare Hearing Aid Centers

Kathryn Wettengel,  
Hearing Care Professional  
1925 Main St  
Great Bend, KS 67530  
620-603-6525  
Hearing Aids & Assistive Devices

### Jon Prescott

110 W 11th St.  
Ellinwood, KS 67526  
620-793-0311  
Individual

### The Fieldhouse

Julie Spray, Owner  
2817 9th St  
Great Bend, KS 67530  
[www.fieldhousegb.com](http://www.fieldhousegb.com)  
620-603-8583  
Sports/Recreation

## Chamber Office Closed for Christmas & New Years

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development will be closed December 23, 26, 29, and 30th in observance of Christmas and New Years. We will resume normal business hours Monday, January 2, 2017.



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## CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE

**Every Thursday at 9:30 am**

**December 1, 2016**

**Trinity United Methodist Church**

**5700 Broadway**

“To share God’s message of love and hope” is the mission of Trinity United Methodist Church. Dr. Reuben Langat, a native of Kenya, is the pastor. We are a church who loves doing mission work and caring for one another. Our worship service begins at 9:15 am Sunday mornings followed by coffee fellowship and Sunday School for all ages.

**December 8, 2016**

**Family Crisis Center**

**1924 Broadway Ave.**

In cases of domestic violence, abuse and neglect, the Family Crisis Center provides services designed to meet the needs of each survivor or victim seeking help. The Child Advocacy Center provides forensic interviews and support for abused children. Join us at our Chamber Coffee to learn more.

**December 15, 2016**

**Community Bank of the Midwest**

**2220 Broadway Ave.**

Community Bank is the only locally-owned bank in Great Bend, providing checking, savings, lending, and online banking services to area residents. Holiday entertainment will be provided by GBHS Madrigal Singers, we hope you’ll join us!

**December 22, 2016**

**Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development**

**Member Appreciation Week**

**Spray-Holt Family Board Room, 1125 Williams**

Part of Member Appreciation Week, the Chamber Board & Staff invite you to a very special Chamber Coffee. The programs and services provided by the Chamber would not be possible without the support and participation of our outstanding members. This Chamber Coffee will be a celebration of *YOU!* Santa will also be in attendance, bringing a special gift for our members all the way from the North Pole! We hope you’ll make plans to join us.

**January 5, 2017**

**Thrivent Financial**

**Spray-Holt Family Board Room, 1125 Williams**

Thrivent Financial is a fortune 500, not-for-profit company that helps our member owners be wise with money. Visit with Melinda Kurth to see how she can help you connect your faith with your finances!



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