

MARCH 2017 · VOLUME 96 NO. 3

# OUTLO OK BUSINESS JOURNAL

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

# **DESERVING AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED**DURING 95TH ANNUAL CHAMBER MEETING & BANQUET

Last month, the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development hosted its 95th Annual Meeting & Banquet at the Great Bend Events Center. The theme was "Opportunity in Focus," and the event featured several remarks from outgoing and incoming leadership for the Chamber Board of Directors and Ambassador Club. Following the opening social hour, a delicous steak dinner was catered by A&G Catering, owned by Alan and Gail Moeder, with live music played by father-daughter duo Colin and Abby Hammeke.

As is tradition during the semi-formal event, the Chamber presented a number of awards to deserving volunteers in our community. Overwhelmingly, this year's winners shared a common theme of "mentoring" through their service and their dedication to growing others around them. First on deck was the Citizen of the Year Award, which was given to long-time banker and entrepreneurial advocate Dan Bonine (pictured top right). Following that presentation, it was announced that Countryside Veterinary Associates won the 2016 Business of the Year award (pictured bottom right).

During a heartfelt and emotional impromptu speech,
Regan Reif accepted the 2016 NextGen Leader of the
Year award for exemplary volunteer service (pictured middle left). And finally, the evening concluded with recgonizing Great Bend

native Kari Smith (pictured middle right) with the Legacy Award for her commitment to fostering leadership potential in her role at The Buckle.



READ THEIR STORIES: WWW.GREATBEND.ORG



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# **AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED**

Veterinarian Bill Niederee accepting the 2016 Business of the Year award for Countryside Veterinary Associates.





2016 Awards Winners: Kari Smith, Legacy Award; Dan Bonine, Citizen of the Year; Regan Reif, NextGen Leader

To illustrate the theme "Opportunity in Focus" Susan Stambaugh, Divine Arrangements Events & Design, provided beautiful room décor including vintage telescopes, cameras and floral pieces.



Mark Mingenback served as the Emcee for the 95th Annual Chamber Banquet.



The largest gathering of our members, and an excellent networking opportunity, pictured here is the table representing Barton County Young Professionals: Ryan & Marissa Fairchild, Daniel & Darcy Leech, Richard Amel, Travis & Melinda Kurth, Shannon Stafford & Katie Powell.



MORE PHOTOS COMING SOON: VISIT THE FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE GREAT BEND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & ECONOMIC DEV.

# **Mauler & Spray Elected KCA Board Officers**

The Kansas Contractors Association's board of directors recently elected its officers for 2017 during the 94th KCA Convention held recently in Kansas City, Missouri.

Curt Mauler with L&M Contractors was named Vice President and Chris Spray with Venture Corporation was named Treasurer, serving alongside board President Kelly Briggs of Manhattan, Kansas and several other representatives from around the state.

Curt Mauler is the President of L&M Contractors, and has been in the bridge construction industry for 20 years after working for an engineering design firm for five years prior.

Chris Spray is the Executive Vice President for Venture Corporation, and has been in the road and highway construction industry for over 25 years.

# **Barton Foundation Launches Campaign for Scholarships & Academic Enhancements**

The Barton Community College Foundation will kick off its Annual Academic Enrichment Fund Campaign on March 1. Teresa and Dr. Mike Malone of



Great Bend will serve as honorary co-chairs for the month-long fundraising effort. This year's theme, "Building on Tradition - Forging the Future," pays tribute to the vision of the college founders. All of this year's campaigns, initiatives and fundraising events through the Foundation are dedicated to the commitment, hard work and dedication of the twelve men who made Barton Community College and its Foundation a reality: Bruce Buehler, Boyce Hardman, Lloyd Jaynes, Alfred Casad, Jack Goodman, J. A. Mermis, Jr., Dale Oliver, C.O. Robinson, Marshall Macy, H.P. Thies, Don Whelan and Dale Weller.

"It is impossible to even begin to fathom the impact that action continues to have on all Barton County communities from that day to this," said Coleen Cape, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement. "The economic, cultural and educational climate of our community was forged from that action and continues to flourish these 50 years later."

Designed to raise funds for academic scholarships and enhancements, the Academic Enrichment Fund campaign allows donors to specialize their gift by choosing what department or fund they would like their donation to benefit. The mechanism for donation is also designed to be as simple and easy as possible, with potential donors receiving a mailing with a return envelope and a simple form to donate. People can also contribute online at BartonCCFoundation.org.

"It's an honor to serve as the co-chair of the AEF campaign," said Teresa, who is also serving as First Vice Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors. "The college is good at being involved in the community to meet its needs. They start new programs to that end, like Commercial Driver's License, Welding, Natural Gas and others that fill skilled labor gaps in the area."

She said many people underestimate the college's benefit to the area, and that it's important to support Barton and its students whenever possible. "Until you're involved with the college, you don't understand all the things there are to take advantage of and that it does offer," she said. "Getting involved like this helps you understand its impact."

Cape said donations of any amount help, and anyone can contribute. For more information or to donate visit BartonCCFoundation.org, call Cape at (620) 786-1136 or email her at capec@bartonccc.edu.

Outlook Business Journal A monthly publication of the



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#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Paul Snapp, First Kansas Bank

#### Vice Chairman

Taylor Calcara, Watkins Calcara Chtd.

#### 2nd Vice Chairman

AJ Chrest, Aflac District Coordinator

#### Immediate Past Chairman

Dennis Neeland, Great Bend Co-op Association

#### Treasurer

Taylor Dirks, Adams Brown Beran & Ball

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Aaron Andrews** Coldwell Banker Sell Real Estate

#### **Matt Dykes**

Epoxy Poly, Inc.

#### Rebecca Ford

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#### Megan Hammeke

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#### Casey Harbour

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#### Diann Henderson

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#### **Brandon Lawellin** Sutherlands

Teresa Mazouch

Wheatland Electric Cooperative

#### Dr. Sclie Murray Murray Chiropractic Center

Gaila Nielsen

ElderCare Inc.

#### Rodrigo Razo

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#### **Aaron Spanier** Innovative Livestock Services

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Jennifer Schartz, Barton County Commission

Dr. Carl Heilman, Barton Community College

Khris Thexton, USD #428

#### CHAMBER STAFF

Jan Peters, President/CEO jpeters@greatbend.org

Andrea Bauer, Director of Business Development abauer@greatbend.org

Megan Barfield, Member Relations Coordinator mbarfield@greatbend.org

Roxanne Rich, Office/Business Manager rrich@greatbend.org



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# **Vannoster Celebrates Agency Grand Opening**

Celebrating the opening of Shelter Insurance Agency – Agent, Deanna Vannoster, Chamber Ambassadors gathered for a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at the 10th street location. Vannoster was recently awarded her certificate of completion for Fundamentals Training and is ready to serve her current customers as well as earn the business of new customers!

Vannoster is licensed in Property/Casualty and Life/Health and is ready to serves her customers' personal and business insurance needs. Deanna offers insurance reviews in order to ensure coverages are the right fit for customers' needs and priorities. She offers life insurance planning and education to assist customers with giving the ultimate gift by taking care of their loved ones when they are gone.

Vannoster's and Shelter's approach to insurance is a different approach than others, in that she insures people, who happen to own things not the other way around. Vannoster strives to ensure her Agency is people-centered and service-

oriented and she's looking forward to serving the community!

Shelter Insurance – Deanna Vannoster Agency is located at 3720 10th Street in Great Bend. Office hours are 9-5 M-F, available evenings and weekends by appointment.



# **Hiss Sherman Expands to Wichita Community**

Hiss-Sherman Wealth Management recently announced the acquisition of their newest office in Kansas. In December 2016, Hiss-Sherman purchased Centre Pointe Wealth Management in Wichita, KS, their fourth office, with Tiffany Dick as the Financial Advisor and Lori Schremmer as the office manager.

Located at 300 W. Douglas, this expansion allows Hiss-Sherman to serve more patrons across the state. Matt Hiss, Investment Advisor Representative says, "In an effort to be truly regional, Wichita was a good fit for our firm and its continued growth." With the new location came an additional advisor, Tiffany Dick. Tiffany is a registered Financial Advisor and holds her CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ certification.

At Hiss-Sherman Wealth Management, Bob Hiss, Dennis Sherman, Matt Hiss, and Tiffany Dick believe their clients can rely on them for progressive knowledge,

strategic innovation, and most importantly integrity while helping to preserve your wealth, which is why the following are corner stones to our business. Hiss-Sherman Wealth Management also has locations in Great Bend, Atwood and Garden City and currently manages over \$210 million in assets. www.hisssherman.com



# HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS IN MARCH

- 1... Shafer Gallery Presents: Cuna Mutual Art and Science Encounter: The Geometry of Beauty 245 NE 30 Rd, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through March 24th
- 1... Barton Career Fair, Case New Holland Shop (T-186), 245 NE 30 Rd, 12:30-3 p.m.
- 2... WSU College Visit, Barton Library, 245 NE 30 Rd, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 2... Ribbon Cutting: EarCare Hearing Aid Centers, 1925 Main St, 10 a.m.
- 2... Chamber Coffee: 2B Organized, Chamber Board Room, 1125 Williams, 9:30 a.m.
- 2... Great Bend Kiwanis 60th Annual Pancake Feed, Expo 1 @ 4-7:30 p.m.
- 3... The Servant of Two Masters, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd, 7:30 p.m.
- 4... The Servant of Two Masters, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd, 7:30 p.m.
- 4... BCYP Charity Supply Drive, Wal-Mart & Dillons Stores, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 4... Sunflower Diversified's 12th Annual Gala, Events Center, 3111 10th St, 5:30 p.m.
- 4... Great Bend Jazz Festival, Crest Theatre, 1908 Lakin, 7 p.m.
- 5... The Servant of Two Masters, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd, 2 p.m.
- 6... St Francis TIPS-MAPP Class, St Mark's Lutheran Church, 2101 Jackson, 6-9 p.m.
- 7... CPL Music Festival, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium
- 9... Chamber Coffee: Great Bend Coffee, 2015 Lakin, 9:30 a.m.
- 10... Turtle Tot Club, KS Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE 156 Hwy, 10-11 a.m.
- 11... Central Kansas Southern Gospel Sing, Crest Theatre, 1908 Lakin, 6-8 p.m.
- 11... Legislative Coffee, Chamber Board Room, 1125 Williams, 10 a.m.
- 11-12... Central Kansas Spring Expo, Expo Complex, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 13... St Francis TIPS-MAPP Class, St Mark's Lutheran Church, 2101 Jackson, 6-9 p.m.
- 14... Dine for Dolly, Freddy's Frozen Custard, 3008 10th St, 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- 16... Golden Belt Community Concert, All-American Boys Chorus, Great Bend Municipal Auditorium, 1214 Stone, 7:30 p.m.
- 16... Chamber Coffee & Ribbon Cutting: Advanced Therapy, 4801 10th St, Coffee 9:30 a.m. Ribbon cutting 10 a.m.
- 17... Turtle Tot Club, KS Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE 156 Hwy, 10-11 a.m.
- 18... ETI Chassis Certification, SRCA Dragstrip, 9951 B-29 Way, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 20... St Francis TIPS-MAPP Class, St Mark's Lutheran Church, 2101 Jackson, 6-9 p.m.
- 20-21... GED Orientation, Adult Education Center, 1025 Main, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- 22... Advanced Grant Writing Workshop, Holiday Inn, 3821 10th St, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 23... QuickBooks On-line Seminar by Spectrum CPA, 1400 Polk, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 23... Chamber Coffee: Marketing Maven Consulting, Fieldhouse, 2817 9th, 9:30 a.m.
- 24... Turtle Tot Club, KS Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE 156 Hwy, 10-11 a.m.
- 26... Paper Making Workshop, KS Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE 156 Hwy, 2 p.m.
- 27... Historical Society Program: Kansas Wetlands Education Center, Barton County Historical Society, 85 US 281 Hwy, 7:30 p.m.
- 27... Theater Auditions, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd, 4-8 p.m.
- 27... St Francis TIPS-MAPP Class, St Mark's Lutheran Church, 2101 Jackson, 6-9 p.m.
- 28... Theater Auditions, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd, 4-8 p.m.
- 29... Ribbon Cutting: PM Sleep Lab, 3520 Lakin, Suite 15, 5-7 p.m.
- 30... Chamber Coffee: Jimlo Glass, 1205 Kansas, 9:30 a.m.
- 30... 10th Annual Job Fest, Great Bend Events Center, 3111 10th St, 3-6 p.m.
- 31... Vocal Master Class, BCC Morrison Chapel, 245 NE 30 Rd, 3-8:30 p.m.

# Smoky Hills TV Host to Speak in Great Bend April 5th

Smoky Hills Public Television is hosting An Evening with Mike Pearson on April 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Great Bend. Pearson is the host of Market to Market, which airs on Smoky Hills Public Television Friday nights at 8 p.m., Saturday mornings at 7 a.m. and Sundays at 12 p.m.

For more than 4 decades, Market to Market has covered the issues affecting the nearly \$800 billion business of agriculture. The program's team of experienced analysts have a long history of providing expert analysis of the major commodity markets and delivering insight into trends and strategies that help producers and processors cope with the times.

Pearson grew up on a farm in south central lowa. Along with hosting Market to Market, he is a part-time farmer with experience in banking. In his public appearances, Pearson ties personal stories and humor into his discussion about the future of agriculture.

The April 5 event will include dinner and a presentation from Pearson at the Great Bend Event Center. Tickets can be reserved by pledging \$20 at www.smokyhillstv. org or by calling 800-337-4788.

Smoky Hills Pubic Television is the 2016 Kansas Association of Broadcasters Non-Metro Station of the Year.

Smoky Hills Public Television serves 71 counties in central and western Kansas. It is available on many cable systems and DirecTV and Dish Network, which includes coverage in the Hutchinson and Wichita areas. More information on Smoky Hills Public Television and its programs and projects is available at www.smokyhillstv.org.

# BP BW

# BAUER PIKE BAUER & WARYIII

Greg Bauer and Chuck Pike understand that their clients deserve continuity when it comes to legal matters and have set the stage for a seamless transition down the road. Bauer, Pike, Bauer & Wary LLC, a law firm at 1310 Kansas, was founded in 1990. In light of some recent changes, it has a new name to reflect its commitment to clients.

While Rob Bauer, Greg's son, has been a partner for some time, the recent promotion of Kate Wary to partner prompted them to update their name to reflect the firm's growth. "Chuck and I are not going to be here forever," Greg Bauer said. "But we want our clients to have their representation continue with the people they know and trust.

"We have clients who have been with us from the very beginning," he added. "Now the second generation of families is coming in. We are fortunate that our clients tend to stick with us. We appreciate their confidence in us and we want to accommodate them in the years to come."

While new additions to the firm are not planned for the near future, Rob Bauer said more lawyers will be recruited at the appropriate time. "I can see the benefits of collaboration in our practice," he commented. "It is vital and we will continue to work as a team."

Greg noted that, yes, there is an advantage to years of experience "but the younger attorneys bring a fresh perspective and innovative ideas to the practice. We collaborate with one another on a regular basis, which benefits our clients. "In some law firms, if you had four attorneys, you would have four separate practices. That is not how we do things," Greg continued. "We keep at least two attorneys up to speed on each file."

In addition to the four lawyers, the firm has four other full-time employees. Lisa Richardson, officer manager, has worked at the firm since the beginning, with Kathy Jonas, receptionist, joining a short time later. Deidra Mason, legal assistant, and Sandra Gregg, transcriptionist, round out the front-office team.

"We couldn't do it without them," Greg said. "They are our first line of information. They do it right and relay the information to us. They care about our clients and demonstrate excellence in everything they do."



Over the years, the law firm has kept up-to-date with the many advances in technology, which helps them better serve their clients.

"Technology is important here, just as in all other segments of society," Greg said. "We rely on it for communication, legal research and writing, and the filing of documents. A vast majority of law practices e-file documents and the system is becoming virtually paperless.

"Maybe that doesn't seem like a big deal but it has huge implications in meeting filing deadlines. It is great to have Rob and Kate with us because they are comfortable with all the new tech because they used it in school."

Greg noted that the basement at the Great Bend Public Library used to be home to the local law library, which attorneys relied on for research. While pointing at a computer, Greg said, "today, that is our library. All those books at the old law library are gone."

The four-partner law firm covers the gamut of legal concerns, with cases involving oil and gas; business and corporate matters; civil litigation; criminal law; estate planning; estate administration; probate law; and real estate transactions.

"We perform legal services for a diverse group of clients," Greg commented. "Business clients range from large companies to sole proprietors. And, of course, we serve individuals with their legal concerns. Our objective is to always deliver the highest quality legal service.

"All of us understand that legal services should be cost effective and focus on the client's objectives. We demonstrate integrity and professionalism when dealing with clients, courts and adversaries. We are a compatible team that works together to provide services our clients need with the highest standards of excellence at an affordable cost."

Greg is from Burdett and Chuck Pike is from Healy. Rob Bauer graduated from Great Bend High School and Kate Wary is from Hays; Wary plans to obtain credentials as a certified public accountant. She has already passed the first part of the exam and expects to complete the remaining portions before summer. Each partner earned a law degree at Washburn University.

"From the moment you enter our office to meet with any one of us, your goals become our priority," Greg remarked. "We develop an individual strategy that takes into account your specific needs, while ensuring our high standards.

"The attorneys here are experienced in various aspects of the law and work diligently to stay up-to-date with the changing aspects of our profession so that we provide first-class legal service for each client." —





## GREG BAUER

- · Oil & Gas Law
- Title Examinations
- Litigation
- Business Formation
- Estate Planning
- Real Estate Law
- Probate Law



## CHARLES PIKE

- Litigation
- General Contracts
- Business Law
- Real Estate Law
- Estate Planning
- Probate Law
- Collections
- Oil & Gas Law



# ROBERT BAUER

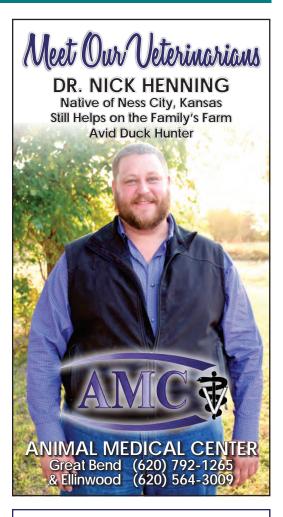
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# KATE WARY

- Tax Law
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# **Legislative Coffee Scheduled for March 11th**



The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development will hold a second Legislative Coffee on March 11th in the Spray/Holt Family Board Room beginning at 10:00 am. These coffees are designed to give local constituents the opportunity to directly interact with the local elected officials who serve in the Kansas Legislature. The first coffee was very successful with a full house and all four legislators in attendance. Elected officials representing Barton County are

invited to attend – Senator Mary Jo Taylor and Representatives Troy Waymaster, Tory Arnberger, and Greg Lewis. "We invite all of the state representatives and senators to attend these events," says Jan Peters, President/CEO of the nonprofit organization. "After a brief update from each legislator who attends, the audience can ask questions about the topics facing our state government."

These events are open to the public, and doors open at 9:30 a.m. Donuts and coffee are provided. The 2017 Legislative Coffees are sponsored by Hutchinson Regional Medical Center.

# Keller Agency Named 2017 Advantage Agent

The Farmers Alliance Companies in McPherson, Kansas, have announced that Keller Real Estate & Insurance Inc in Great Bend has been named a Farmers Alliance Advantage Agent for 2017. To qualify, an agency must exhibit superior professionalism and profitability over five consecutive years. Advantage Agents are recognized by



Farmers Alliance as the "best of the best". To reach this level of distinction is a reflection of this agency's commitment to their customers and their community. Congratulations to Keller Real Estate & Insurance Inc for this achievement.

# **Dr. Durrett Joins Medical Staff at Ellinwood**

Robin Durrett, D.O. has joined the practice at Ellinwood Hospital and Clinic to perform colonoscopy and endoscopy services. Dr. Durrett began seeing patients in the Ellinwood Clinic for pre-surgery appointments in early February, with procedures starting this month.

Dr. Durrett has been a stanchion of support in Barton County for over 20 years, practicing at all three hospitals in the county. In December 2014, he went on sabbatical to deal with health issues, but now is enjoying being back to work. "My health has improved, and I'm ready to get back to it," reports Dr. Durrett. He is looking forward to practicing in Ellinwood again. "I have done scopes in Ellinwood before; it's time to strike up the band again," said Dr. Durrett.

Dr. Durrett received his doctorate at the University of Health Sciences, completed an internship in Still Regional Medical Center at Jefferson City, MO, and completed a residency at Parklane Medical Center/KCUMB in Kansas City. In 1994, he moved to Hoisington and began Central Kansas Surgical Services, P.A., performing surgeries at Clara Barton Hospital, Central Kansas Medical Center, Ellinwood District Hospital, and Great Bend Regional Hospital. Dr. Durrett is board certified. He is also a Fellow of American College of Surgeons and a Fellow of American College of Osteopathic Surgeons. He has also served as an Associate Clinical Professor at Wichita State University and a Clinical Preceptor for University of Health Sciences.

# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

# HIRINGS & PROMOTIONS AROUND TOWN

# **New Hires:**



**Brett Ochs**Overhead Door Division
MPIRE Improvements
mpireimprovements.com

Shara Stettinger
Office Manager
Marketing Maven Consulting
marketingmavenconsulting.com

Congratulations!

to all of these fabulous professionals on advancing your career here in Great Bend, Kansas! We are proud!

# **Promotions:**



Shaun Dobratz
Promoted to Assistant VP
Farmers Bank & Trust
www.farmersbankna.com

## Taylor Dirks, CPA

Promoted to Manager
Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball Chtd.
www.abbb.com

## Bellinda Fellhoelter, CPB

Promoted to Client Services Mgr.
Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball Chtd.
www.abbb.com

## Danielle Hollingshead, CPA

Promoted to Senior Audit Mgr.
Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball Chtd.
www.abbb.com

#### Nicole Koelsch, CPA

Promoted to Senior Manager Adams, Brown, Beran & Ball Chtd. www.abbb.com

# Cherry Village Takes Next Step in PEAK Training Program

Cherry Village Benevolence has graduated to the next level in a specialized training program that emphasizes person-centered care. The program is called PEAK, which stands for Promoting Excellent Alternatives in Kansas. It is a joint project of Kansas State University's Center on Aging and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services.

Cherry Village is a non-profit, long-term-care facility in Great Bend that has been involved in the early stages of the program for a couple of years. Recently, it moved up the ladder to PEAK 2.0. "Cherry Village has a long history of providing options to people so they have more control over their daily lives," said Donna Marbut, director of nursing. "But we know we can always learn more and this training continues to be a great resource for us.

All of the nearly 70 Cherry Village employees have been involved in PEAK to some degree, especially in the areas of nursing, dietary and housekeeping.

"The training empowers staff to become problem solvers," Marbut commented. "This helps the nurses and aides, which in turn helps our residents and their families."

PEAK training includes visits to other long-term-care facilities, and discussions and assignments through interactive television.

Cherry Village, a non-profit facility at 1401 Cherry Lane, opened in 1978; it is managed by a local family.







# **United Way Celebrates Successful Campaign**

United Way of Central Kansas (UWCK) is excited to announce that they have reached their goal of \$275,000 for 2017! With the hard work of their dedicated board members, Community Agencies, local businesses, and individual donors, they will support 23 **Community Partners** and continue their work with Community



Board Members pictured: Dianne Call, Regan Reif, Karen Van Brimmer, Leslie Mingenback, Secretary-Becca Maxwell, Exec. Director-Julie Bugner-Smith, Co-Chair Cole Reif, President-Desa Marmie-Behr, Board Members Ron Smith & Tatum Dunekack.

Impact Programs such as RealityU, Literacy Kits and more. Starting with the 2017 Campaign, UWCK consolidated with Hoisington United Way, adding two new board members, Bill Lowry and Karen Van Brimmer and four new agencies, Hoisington Community Food Bank, Hoisington Historical Society, Commission on Aging, and Toys for Tots, to the UWCK Family. Now serving all of Barton & Pawnee Counties which encompasses 23 agencies, meeting the \$275,000 was critical.



UWCK would like to thank their board for all their tireless work: Co-Chairs this year; Chuck & Meg Wilson, Kevin & Kista Holt, and Cole & Regan Reif, and board members: Desa Marmie-Behr, Mark Mingenback, John

Cross, Dianne Call, Leslie Mingenback, Carol Dema, Regan Reif, Tatum Dunekack, Laura Smith, Jane Fox, Ron Smith, Tama Hanson, Kevyn Soupiset, Becca Maxwell, Karen Van Brimmer, and Bill Lowry. These dedicated individuals are vital in making the programs and impact of UWCK possible.

UWCK also celebrated the successful completion of a new Community Impact Project, Box of Love. Partner Organizations included: ElderCare, Meals on Wheels, Golden Belt Home Health & Hospice, Volunteers in Action / RSVP, Barton Community College Athletics, and numerous community drop-off locations. Over 150 Valentine's Day boxes were delivered to homebound seniors in Barton County. Each box was then topped off with homemade Valentines from local preschools & daycares as well as a rose from Dillons. UWCK looks forward to next year and the opportunity brighten valentine's day for local seniors.

# **Johnson Named to Technical Education Authority**

Mike Johnson with M&M Equipment was recently appointed to the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA). TEA was established by the Kansas Legislature in 2007. As delineated through legislation, the TEA functions under the auspices of the Kansas Board of Regents and makes recommendations to the Regents regarding the coordination, statewide planning, and improvements/enhancements to the postsecondary technical education system in Kansas. The TEA is



comprised of 12 appointed members. Mike Johnson also serves as the President of the Board for the Kansas Association of Community College Trustees.

# **MPIRE Improvements Expands in Great Bend**



Great Bend's newest remodeling company, MPIRE Improvements, celebrated its grand opening and growth with a Chamber Ribbon Cutting ceremony. In addition to offering bathroom and kitchen remodeling, siding and seamless guttering, windows, and doors, the company recently added an Overhead Door Division, led by Great Bend native Brett Ochs. For more information or to request a free quote from MPIRE Improvements, visit the company website at www.mpireimprovements.com or call Project Manager Justin Mawhirter at 620-603-0872. And be sure to like them on Facebook.

# **2B Organized Launches Exciting New Services**

Tired of spending your lunch break running errands all over town? Frustrated that your precious weekend time is spent on shopping and nagging tasks? If you need an



extra hand or an extra hour in the day, 2B Organized of Central Kansas can help. New in 2017 are Concierge Services for individuals and businesses.

2B Organized can run your personal errands and do your shopping- giving you time to spend on the things that are important to you! A professional concierge program can help maximize your business's productivity and is a great way to boost employee morale. Senior services are also available. Concierge services make a great gift for new moms, busy families, people home from a hospital stay.

2B Organized of Central Kansas is a local professional organizing franchise that specializes in residential and commercial organizing, move management and downsizing. They remove stress from your life by creating order in your home, office and schedule. For more details or to book a consultation, contact Sonya Rein: (620) 617-8195 or sonya@2b-organized.com.

# **Chamber Radio Show Airs March 2nd on KVGB**

Tune in to KVGB 1590 AM on the first Thursday of every month to hear
Member Relations Coordinator Megan Barfield discuss the latest
happenings and upcoming Chamber projects and events with one of
Eagle Radio's talented hosts. This month's show will air on Thursday,
March 2nd at 11:35 a.m. You can also keep up with Chamber events
and happenings at www.greatbend.org.



# Welcome to Our NEW Chamber Members

#### **IMAGES BY EMILY**

Emily Seiwert, Owner
419 Main St
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620-617-1760
imagesbyemilyphotography@gmail.com
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# **CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE**

**Every Thursday at 9:30 AM** 

# March 2, 2017 2B ORGANIZED OF CENTRAL KANSAS Spray-Holt Family Board Room, 1125 Williams

2B Organized of Central Kansas is locally owned and operated by Sonya Rein, experienced professional organizer and concierge extraordinaire. We work to remove stress in our clients' lives by creating order in your home or office. NEW in 2017, we are offering a concierge program for local businesses as well as personal shopping and errands for busy families, professionals, and seniors. De-clutter your space, and de-clutter your busy schedule. We are here to help! Learn more at www.2b-organized.com and find us on Facebook.

## March 9, 2017 GREAT BEND COFFEE COMPANY 2015 Lakin Avenue

Great Bend Coffee provides an extensive menu, serving breakfast & lunch 6 days a week in addition to weekend dinners. Find Great Bend Coffee on Facebook to view the menu as well as daily/weekend dinner specials!

# March 16, 2017 ADVANCED THERAPY New Location - 4801 10th Street

Advanced Therapy and Sports Medicine has been a part of Great Bend since 1984. Their mission is to provide their clients with compassionate, comprehensive & personal care utilizing best practices in a highly skilled and professional manner. They strive to make an impact with the client experience that encourages them to move forward and share their positive experience with others.

# March 23, 2017 MARKETING MAVEN CONSULTING 2817 9th Street - Inside The Fieldhouse

How do businesses stand out in a busy, noisy world? Effective marketers meet their customers where they're at – which in most cases, is online and on social media. Instead of hiring your own full time social media expert, you can enlist the help of a Marketing Maven to bring your brand into the digital age. The team at Marketing Maven Consulting specializes in comprehensive brand management, creating mobile friendly websites, social media content and advertising, graphic design, video production, and more. Learn more on their website, www.marketingmavenconsulting.com.

# March 30, 2017 JIMLO GLASS 1205 Kansas Avenue

Jimlo Glass is a 46-year-old locally owned company, operated by Jason and Megan Wondra since 2008. We provide a full service glass shop offering all your auto, commercial and residential needs.

# April 6, 2017 NO COFFEE - ENJOY THE GREAT BEND FARM & RANCH EXPO

Celebrating its 6th Anniversary, the Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo will take place April 5-7th at the Great Bend Expo Complex just two miles West of Great Bend. Featuring nearly 700 exhibitors with indoor and outdoor exhibits, and no admission fees – check it out!.



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