

OUTLOOK

GREAT BEND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DECEMBER 2022
VOLUME 101 NO. 12

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE
GREAT BEND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

business journal

1921



YEARS 2021

BUSINESS ~~NOT AS~~ USUAL



SHOP TALK IN 60

In November, the Chamber hosted a special roundtable dubbed “Shop Talk in 60” with the topic being “Business NOT-As-Usual this Holiday Season & Beyond.” The purpose was to bring our members together to share observations, hurdles and hopefully some solutions along the way. The dialogue was found worthwhile by those in attendance, which included members coming from retail, service, and attraction-based businesses.

We invited Jon Prescott to guide the conversation and we were able to identify some of the pitfalls as well as generate some ideas. We captured the key takeaways to share with our members and hope you’ll attend the next discussion scheduled on January 17th, 2023.

OBSERVATIONS:

- Black Friday has now extended to Black November and created something of a mess when it comes to local businesses trying to compete for dollars.
- As of November 15th, sales and traffic had been slower compared to all of 2022.
- Visitors are spending less time at places like the Kansas Wetlands Education Center which is full of interactive experiences.
- Resources are at an all-time low in terms of supply and workforce.

INTERPRETATIONS

- Consumers are cautious with rising costs and inflation and may be spending less out of fear of looming recession.
- Consumers are waiting to shop for Christmas until after Thanksgiving.
- Society is now an expert in all things with a DIY mentality and ordering kits from Amazon and China.
- People’s behavior was forever altered following the COVID pandemic.

IDEAS GENERATED

- Locally, we should focus less on Black Friday and more on Small Business Saturday.
- Businesses should be providing more and better education to the consumer regarding product, services, etc.
- Educate your customers on WHY they should shop local.
- Businesses should use eachother’s traffic and take the opportunity to promote other businesses in the area: make the recommendations as consumers seem to respond to a personal recommendation
 - How can we educate business owners on what’s in their neighboring stores to make those personal recommendations?
 - The Chamber will look into organizing a “Business Walk-About” or bring back the Business & Education Tours.
- Support the #LoveGBKS and promote why we all love Great Bend.
- Train those on the floor to spend more time and effort conversing with the consumers while they’re in the store and capitalizing on the traffic in the moment. Deliver the education, experience and engagement right then.
 - Employees will need to be trained on reading the customers and taking queues from them in the moment.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO PREPARE NOW?

- Ordering new merchandise.
- Using social media to provide education on services to demonstrate why I’m the expert and why consumers should shop with me.
- Providing referral coupons to everyone who enters the business.
- Taking this lull to strategically plan for the for future.





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Sunflower Bank Donates to Ellinwood & Great Bend Schools through ABC Program for Education



Sunflower Bank

Sunflower Bank and First National 1870 announce a total donation of \$101,895 to schools that participated in its ABC Program for Education's 2021-2022 school year campaign, which includes \$8,921 received by schools in Ellinwood and Great Bend. Sunflower Bank originated the program in 2001, and since then has contributed over \$1.6 million to support kindergarten through 12th grade education in the communities it serves. Donations were distributed throughout October 2022 by local branch teams.

"Support for K-12 education is one of the cornerstones of our commitment to our communities. Since 2001, Sunflower Bank has given away over \$1.6 million through the ABC Program in direct funding to the schools and students selected by our customers. The ABC Program is a truly meaningful way that we partner with local educational and financial literacy initiatives, and encourage academic achievement in our youth," stated Mollie Carter, Sunflower Bank's Executive Chairman.

The ABC Program is funded in part based on customer debit card transactions and new accounts opened. Sunflower Bank and First National 1870 customers have the opportunity to select an ABC Program-

registered school to support with each qualifying debit card purchase during the campaign. The standard school donation per transaction is \$0.02.* This year for the first time, for every new Elevation Checking account opened 11/15/2022-8/31/2023, \$5.00 will be donated to an ABC Program-registered school chosen by the account owner. **

In addition, twice a year all bank branch locations participate in a "Pay for 'A's'" drawing, with a current drawing period underway through December 31, 2022. During this time, branches accept kindergarten through 12th grade students' report cards for a chance to earn up to \$100 for their A grades. This drawing is open to the general public, and no purchase is required for entry. Five contest winners per branch are chosen to receive \$10 for every A, up to a total of \$100 per student. As an added benefit, schools that participate in the ABC Program will receive a matching donation if one of their student's report cards is chosen. ***

To learn more about the ABC Program, speak to your local branch, or visit SunflowerBank.com/abc or FirstNational1870.com/abc.

Ellinwood Hospital Foundation Christmas Gala

This year, there is a LOT to be thankful for and we want to celebrate it with you! Ellinwood Hospital Foundation's Annual Christmas Gala will be the first in-person Gala since 2019 and we are celebrating the news that we are building a new hospital & clinic! The evening will feature a fully catered meal (including the ever famous Honey Pecan Chicken), open bar, live entertainment, and silent & live auction! There is something for everyone! For ticket reservations, please call Kristy Rupe at 620-566-1054 or email: foundation@gpoe.org.

Join us in
CELEBRATING
all that we have to
be thankful for!

INDIVIDUAL TICKET: \$35
STANDARD TABLE: \$280
VIP TABLE: \$360

Call (620) 566-1054 or email
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Ticket includes Catered Meal,
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**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 10**

St. Joseph Parish Center

5:30pm Social and Silent Auction
7:00pm Dinner
8:00pm Live Auction

Barton Natural Gas Program Receives Donation from Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.



Barton's Natural Gas Program recently received a metering skid with flow control from Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. This is a sign of the company's commitment to being a part of educating natural gas professionals as a way of furthering its vision of providing clean, safe and reliable energy.

Southern Star President and Chief Executive Officer Shawn Patterson said the natural gas transmission and distribution program at Barton provides tomorrow's workers with the hands-on experience that is crucial to their success in the natural gas industry and that access to genuine equipment serves to familiarize students with the equipment that they may encounter on the job. Several of Southern Star's employees have been through the Barton program.

"Southern Star recognizes the importance of training young men and women who are working hard to be a part of our industry," Patterson said. "This metering skid will provide students real-life experience to advance their skillset as they prepare to enter the workforce."

Executive Director of Workforce Training & Economic Development Mary Foley said the donation, valued at approximately \$225,000, will be put to good use.

"This piece of equipment will be of great value to our students," Foley said. "The experience they gain from working on and with industry-standard equipment is critical for their training and job readiness. We are grateful that Southern Star has made this investment in our students and our program."

About Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.

Southern Star is a leading transporter of natural gas to America's heartland, with approximately 5,800 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline in the Midwest and Mid-Continent regions of the United States. Its pipeline system, facilities and employees are located in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska and Texas. Its headquarters are in Owensboro, Ky.



Statewide Jobfair Sponsored by Kansasworks

Virtual STATEWIDE JOB FAIR

DECEMBER 14

The job fair will begin at 8am and end at 5pm on December 14.



REGISTER TODAY!



Job Seeker and Employer Registration:

<http://bit.ly/3DUqbRE>

UPCOMING DATES: FEBRUARY 22

Great Bend Economic Development Launches Entrepreneurship Competition, IGNITE Rural Business, to bring businesses to Barton County

On November 19, 2022, Great Bend Economic Development launched a new competition for entrepreneurs to open/start a business in Barton County. New inventions/businesses are encouraged to apply as well as startups. This competition exists to empower, support, and cultivate entrepreneurs. Here in Barton County, we strive to champion creativity and innovative thinking and complement a project or idea with the tools, resources, and investment necessary to see it thrive. We aim for this competition to be the first of many efforts to continue that mission in a positive and impactful way.



Those interested in competing will have the opportunity for exposure of their business, assistance from local business professionals, and three businesses are walking away with substantial prize money. With an emphasis on bringing business to Barton County, the Ignite committee is partnering with NetworkKansas and the Small Business Development Center. NetworkKansas has facilitated the use of Venture Dash as the contestant portal. Venture Dash allows contestants to submit materials and track their progress. In addition to weighing in on the competition, both NetworkKansas and the Small Business Development Center connect contestants to mentors and assistance with their business plan.

IGNITE Rural Business's launch coincided with celebration of Global Entrepreneurship Week. If you are looking for local inspiration, GBED has interviewed some of Barton County's entrepreneurs and posted those videos on the Great Bend Economic Development YouTube Channel, as well as @GBEDinc on TikTok.

The IGNITE Competition:

In round one, all competitors submit the necessary materials through the Venture Dash platform. The link to the portal is on the GBED website. In round two, the competition pool is narrowed. Businesses will be selected to engage in a one-on-one meeting with a business planning professional. To have viable businesses in the next round, each contestant will be paired with a local business mentor in a category of the contestant's desire. Contestants will have a final Q&A with the IGNITE Team before the final five contestants are chosen for the live IGNITE Finale event in October 2023. A few extra takeaways for those interested in entering the competition include startups (Startups are considered businesses less than 5 years old and with 10 or fewer employees) and all applicants must be 18 years and older. The application deadline is June 30th, 2023. Rules, eligibility requirements, guidelines, and applications are live and available on www.gbenedinc.com/IGNITE. The live IGNITE Rural Business competition finale (on October 5th, 2023) will have participants pitching to our Jury in front of a live audience at the Crest Theater in Great Bend, then our Jury will conduct a Q&A session following every pitch. Composed of experts from the private and/or public sectors with relevant business experience, the jury will base their decisions on innovation, creativity, long-term business strategy, and viability. The winner of the Grand Finale will win \$50,000! Second place is awarded \$30,000, and third place gets \$10,000. Those following along the journey of the IGNITE Rural Business competition will vote online for the People's Choice Award and award a business with \$5,000.

How to Participate:

If you like more information about being a sponsor of the live event or becoming a business mentor, please reach out to GBED staff at marketing@gbenedinc.com or by calling 620-796-2407.



Ribbon Cuttings!



Dilly & Doc Celebrate 5 Years

"It all started with our line of chalk paint in 2012," recalls Phyllis Brack, co-owner of Dilly & Doc Creative Studio, located at 1119 Main Street in Downtown Great Bend. Since opening just over 5 years ago, Dilly & Doc has served hundreds of customers all over Kansas and many surrounding areas and states, thanks to the addition of their Friday Night Live classes and ability to ship nationwide. Phyllis makes up the "Dilly" and you may have met "Doc," along the way cutting out and working side-by-side. Brad Brack makes up the other half of Dilly & Doc Creative Studio. The married couple have brought a unique and needed experience to the area with their passion to create and help others

create something beautiful. The Creative Studio is a great place to host private events, including birthday parties, girl's nights, team building, and more. In addition, customers will find a wide variety of retail items including home decor, furniture, custom chalk paint, and craft supplies. You can learn more about booking a private party at Dilly & Doc by visiting their website at DillyandDoc.com or by following them on Facebook and Instagram @DillyandDoc for all upcoming events and recent projects. You can always shop by appointment or book a private party by filling out an online request or contacting Phyllis at 620-786-1241.

Save the date: Shop Talk In 60

Shop Talk In 60

NEW YEAR, NEW STRATEGIES



January 17th, 2023

Outlook Business Journal

A monthly publication of the

GREAT BEND

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CHAMBER COFFEE 2023



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ElderCare Encourages Giving Tree Donations for Home-Care Clients

When last year's ElderCare Giving Tree project started, Executive Director Brandi Gruber said it was especially important because of the pandemic. She is saying the same thing this year. "Even though COVID risks have greatly decreased, the virus continues to play a role in the lives of many of our clients," Gruber said. "They are not getting out of the house as much as they used to. It is simply a different world now." The Giving Tree is located at the ElderCare office, 1121 Washington, Great Bend. The office is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. The tree is trimmed with decorative tags that represent ElderCare clients and their particular needs. Actual names are not used because of privacy concerns. Gifts should be returned to the ElderCare office by Dec.



14. Gifts could include blankets, warm clothing, toiletry items, and crossword-puzzle and word-search books. Gift cards for a few staples at the grocery store also are appreciated. Counties involved are Barton, Pawnee, Edwards, Stafford and Pratt. ElderCare serves about 250 clients in this area. Anyone who receives home-care services in these counties is eligible for the Giving Tree project. Anyone who knows a senior citizen who could benefit from this project is encouraged to contact ElderCare soon. The non-profit agency's home services include personal care, household tasks and respite for caregivers. Registered nurses offer medication management, wellness checks and companionship. However, if those hours aren't convenient for donors, they may call 620-792-5942 or email bgruber@eldercareks.org for an appointment.

Stueder Contractors Mitten Tree

Stueder Contractors will be providing a mitten tree donation opportunity during December. Community members are invited to bring new or gently used mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to the show room, 3410 10th Street. The items that are collected will be donated to the grade schools of USD 428 and to the Life Giving Center.



McKinney Shares Friend's Aster Estates Story During Special Month

When Frank McKinney learned in April last year that Aster Estates was about to open, he knew he found the answer for his friend, Scott Thein. As a result, Thein was the first resident of Aster Estates, the home-plus residence at 155 NW 10th Ave, just north of the city limits on McKinley. McKinney wanted to share Thein's story in observance of National Hospice & Palliative Care Month. McKinney and Thein had been friends for about 15 years after meeting in New York, where Thein was living at the time. "Scott visited Great Bend and liked it here," McKinney recalled. "I suggested he move here. McKinney acknowledged that his friend "wasn't sure at first about Aster Estates because Pam Lewis might be too motherly." Lewis, a



registered nurse, owns Aster Estates and lives there. "Scott felt safe here – emotionally and physically," McKinney emphasized. "He had a unique childhood but after he had been at Aster Estates for a little while, he said 'I finally found a home.'" He had his own chair at the dinner table and enjoyed a birthday cake for the first time, McKinney explained, noting just two ways Aster Estates made him feel at home. "We are here for the families too."

Lewis also noted that when hospice care is provided away from the person's private home, "some of the pressure on the family is relieved. They can visit their loved one any time but they also have the respite and support they deserve."

101st Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Night

February 25, 2023

Great Bend Events Center

NextGen Leader of the Year



Citizen of the Year



Business of the Year



With the Chamber's 101st Annual Awards Night slated to take place **February 25, 2023**; nomination forms are now live. Nominations must be received no later than **5:00p.m. on December 16th, 2022**.

November Pints & Politics Recap

One of the reasons the Chamber exists is to create connections and opportunities to build relationships. Our recent Pints & Politics event was no exception. Thanks to our sponsor, Kansas Gas Service, we gathered for this members-only event at Dry Lake Brewing with our elected officials. The purpose? To provide a platform for our members to get to know our elected officials in a fun and casual atmosphere. Thanks to all who showed up and we'll see you in 2023 for the next Pints & Politics.

Elected Officials in Attendance:

- Tyler Mason w/ US Senator Marshall's office
- Kansas State Senator Alicia Straub
- Kansas State Representative Tory Marie Blew
- Barton Community College Trustee Mike Johnson

Barton County Commissioners

- Barb Esfeld
- Shawn Hutchinson
- Tricia Schlessinger (incoming)
- Donna Zimmerman (incoming)

Great Bend City Councilman

- Kevyn Soupiet
- Davis Jimenez



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The Mission of Rosewood ecycle is to provide work-related training and employment opportunities to adults with developmental disabilities.

Recognitions

USD 428 : Reghr named Outstanding Music Educator

The South West Kansas Music Educators Association named Don Reghr as the 2022 Outstanding Middle School Music Educator at their annual Middle School & High School Festival held on November 5 in Dodge City.

The festival featured performances from middle school and high school students from across the state, workshops with notable clinicians, and several special recognitions. "Mr. Reghr is passionate about band and its positive impact on students," said David Reiser, principal at Great Bend Middle School. "His bands are always well prepared and perform at the highest levels of achievement. I am so excited that Mr. Reghr is being acknowledged by his colleagues in Kansas for his accomplishments and focus on excellence in band performances." Reghr was recognized for his accomplishment at GBMS's first all school Pep Assembly held on Wednesday, November 16. For more information about music education at Great Bend Middle School, please contact 620-793-1510.

About Don Reghr:

Don Reghr received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from Bethany College. He has taught 5-12 band, as well as some K-general music for 37 years. He has taught in Hill City, Central of Burden district,

Great Bend, and Ellinwood. Currently he is in his 7th year serving as the director at Great Bend Middle School, Park Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and as the assistant for Great Bend High School band and jazz band. Through-out these positions, he has not only prepared and directed many concerts, but has also assisted many students as they have worked on solos and ensembles for festivals and honor band auditions. Mr. Reghr serves as an organist for his church. He also participates in the Great Bend City Band, the Barton County Prairie Winds Ensemble and the "Old Tyme Town Band" on French horn and trumpet. He has previously served as the Middle Level chair for the SWKMEA honor band and as President of the Phi Beta Mu band director fraternity. He is a member of KMEA, NAFME, KBA, KNEA, Phi Beta Mu, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



Marla Poppelreiter Celebrates 20 Years at Stueder Contractors

As Stueder Contractor's business manager, Marla Poppelreiter wears a lot of hats – HR, Office manager, Accounts, purchasing, weekly employee meetings with our 20+ team, handling media and payroll taxes – today it's an anniversary hat to celebrate 20 years at Stueder Contractors on December 1. "Marla has been instrumental in the growth of our business the past 20 years," said Terry Stueder, owner of Stueder Contractors. "She plays an important role in every aspect of our business and we can always count on her to go the extra mile if necessary." Having worked for JC Penney for 20 years as a merchandise manager/buyer before coming to Stueders in 2002, Poppelreiter says what she likes most is the people. She's been

in the retail/service industry for 40 years, having graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Business Administration degree.

"I'm a task-driven person but I really enjoy the friendships I have developed with our customers and fellow employees over the past 20 years at Stueders," said Poppelreiter. "I feel we have a fun, friendly work

environment and hopefully our customers see that as well." Poppelreiter is eager to continue helping Stueder's customers and developing some new and creative ad ideas. Plus, on a personal note – she plans to travel as much as possible.



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Shop Local & Win Campaign



Shop Local & Win

SHOP LOCAL. SUPPORT LOCAL.



• SPEND AT LEAST \$20 WITH A CHAMBER MEMBER IN ONE TRANSACTION
 • EMAIL A PICTURE OF YOUR RECEIPT TO SHOPLOCAL@GREATBEND.ORG
 • INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER WHEN SUBMITTING RECEIPTS
 • EVERY TRANSACTION TOTALING AT LEAST \$20 IS AN ADDITIONAL ENTRY
 • WINNERS DRAWN LIVE ON FACEBOOK - DECEMBER 21ST @ 10AM



The Chamber is happy to announce that our Shop Local & Win Campaign is back and ready for the season! We are inviting shoppers to shop locally this season! Consumers will get the chance to win Chamber Gift Certificates! Chamber president and CEO Megan Barfield reminds consumers of the impact their dollars have, "Every dollar spent in our local communities with our local business owners allows our businesses to keep their doors open and continue serving our trade area. With prices going up, and shipping delays, we know consumers may be more cautious with their spending this holiday season, but

shop owners are working harder than ever to stock their racks and shelves in hopes that what is being spent can be done so inside their stores here locally."

Many thanks to our generous sponsors: Brentwood Builders and Nex-Tech Wireless! For more information, contact the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce at (620) 792-2401 or email: marketing@greatbend.org.

It's Small Business Season!

Until December 31st, we're celebrating Small Business Season! The chamber is encouraging every person of our community to support friends and neighbors by shopping, dining, and exploring our small businesses! Small business made up over 60% of all new jobs this year and yet they face many challenges from rising costs to filling vacancies. Plus, according to JP Morgan Chase, "The median small business holds (only) 27 cash buffer days in reserve. Half of all small businesses hold a cash buffer of less than one month. Moreover, 25% of small businesses hold fewer than 13 cash buffer days in reserve." That means over 50% of small businesses wouldn't last over a month on their reserves. They need our help, and we need theirs. On average, \$68 of every \$100 spent locally stays in our community. Most of us turn to small businesses first when we're seeking help for our nonprofits, youth activities, and sponsorships. When they thrive, we thrive!

Where you spend your money this holiday season matters. Support small businesses by patronizing them and/or:

- Writing reviews
- Referring friends
- Checking-in and taking pictures or videos and sharing them on social media when you're visiting small businesses
- Sharing small business posts on social media
- Talking about your favorite businesses on social media
- Participating in the Shop Local & Win Campaign!

Join us and pledge to support local this holiday season. Shopping small can make a big difference!

SMALL BUSINESS SEASON™





NOW ACCEPTING
2023
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GREAT BEND
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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United Way Gives Back

Being in the middle of the busy Holiday season has United Way of Central Kansas looking back over the past year and feeling an overwhelming sense of gratitude to be a part of this community.

Funds raised by UWCK support 22 local non-profit agencies who help people every day in the fields of Health, Education, and Financial Stability. United Way also provides Community Impact Programs ranging from providing books to children through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to providing Valentine's Day smiles with our Box of Love program for homebound seniors. New this year, we introduced Laundry Love. Laundry Love provides free laundry services to those in need, brightening lives of people through love, dignity, and detergent.

YOU are the reason that we are able to support 22 non-profit agencies across Barton & Pawnee Counties.

YOU are the reason that books are being read in homes. Just \$15 provides 12 books to a child ages 0-5.

YOU are the reason that a homebound senior smiles on Valentine's Day looking at their Box of Love. Just \$10 ensures we reach as many seniors as possible.

YOU are the reason children have clean

clothes to go to school. Just \$15 provides 5 loads of laundry for a family-including supplies.

Your generosity and support is how we continue to make strides to improve the lives of all those in our community.

We want to thank each and every person who donated to our campaign. Every dollar and every donation makes a difference in someone's life.

If you are looking to make a year end donation, we hope that you will consider United Way of Central Kansas. Your investment in us means that we can invest in providing support to families and individuals in our community. 99% of the funds that UWCK raises stays local and all financial decisions are made by a team comprised of local community members. If you would like more information or if you have any questions, please reach out at 620-792-2403 or visit www.uwck.org to learn more or to make a donation today.



venmo

Community Groups Making Impact in Rosewood AKTION Club's Coloring Book & Crayon Drive

Coloring books and crayons have been a popular item on store shelves in the Great Bend area the past few months. That's because area groups are stepping up to bolster the Rosewood Miracle Workers AKTION Club's Coloring Book and Crayon Drive, which began last September and ends at the end of this month.

Two area organizations conducted separate efforts to contribute to the color book and crayon cause that benefits area children. Representatives from United Healthcare donated 250 coloring books and 225 crayon boxes last Wednesday. And students from Great Bend High School's National Honor Society followed that up by donating 138 coloring books and 66 boxes of crayons, which they collected during a home Great Bend High School football game last month.

UnitedHealthcare employees combined two teams of their own to provide their large donation. One employee organized a donation match with the company that will go toward the group's final donation count.

"Talking to a few people who are part of the AKTION Club, I knew they were super

excited about this drive, so I wanted to help with their effort," said United Healthcare care coordinator Amanda Rome. "Katie (Leikam) and I are on two different teams, but we combined forces for this donation."

Great Bend High School National Honor Society rallied their supporters during a home football game and that resulted in a big score of donated items for the AKTION Club drive.



HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS IN DECEMBER

1...Chamber Coffee: Landmark National Bank. Doors open at 9am, program at 9:30am.
Can't make it? Watch online on the Chamber's Facebook Page or Youtube Channel.

1...Christmas Craft Mall, Mon-Sat: 10am-6pm, Sun: 1pm-6pm

1...Downtown FREE Ice Skating Opens

2...BCC "A Hometown Holiday," 7:30pm

3...KWEK Holiday Open House, 9am

3...Dilly & Doc Santa's Workshop, 10am

5...GBRC Santa's Workshop, 6pm

6... Applebee's Fundraiser: Live Life Like Jesus TODAY, 11am

6...BCC "A Christmas Carol," Radio Play, 7:30pm

7...Farmers Bank & Trust 26th Annual Holiday Charity Coffee, 9:30am

8...Chamber Coffee: Kansas Wetlands Education Center. Doors open at 9am, program at 9:30am. Can't

make it? Watch online on the Chamber's Facebook Page or Youtube Channel.

9...BCYP Party with a Purpose, 6pm

9...VFW Post 3111 Karaoke night!, 9pm

10...VFW Post 3111 Chili Fundraiser & Raffle, 4:30pm

13...Thomas Family Fundraiser, 11am

13...Leadership Lunch & Learn, 12pm

15...Chamber Coffee: Great Bend Golden Belt Community Foundation. Doors open at 9am, program at

9:30am. Can't make it? Watch online on the Chamber's Facebook Page or Youtube Channel.

17...Laundry Love/Even Santa Does Laundry, 10am

18...VFW Brunch, 9:30am

19-30...USD 428, No school (winter recess)

19...KWEK Cheyenne Bottoms Christmas Bird Count, 8am

20...GBHS Drama Club Fundraiser, 11am

22...No Chamber Coffee, Happy Holidays!

23...Military & First Responders Night Out, 6pm

25...Merry Christmas!

29...No Chamber Coffee, Happy Holidays!

29...WILD Club Falconry, 10am

30...KWEK Drop-In STEM Activities, 1pm

Recurring Events:

Great Bend City Council Meetings, 1st & 3rd Mondays, City Hall, 1209 Williams, 6:30 pm

Barton County Commission Meetings, Wednesdays, Barton County Courthouse, 1400 Main St, Rm 106, 9am.

Be Well Barton County Family Friendly Bike Ride, starts at Jack Kilby Square, 6 pm (every Friday in Sept.)

Visit greatbend.org/events/calendar for a full list of great events taking place throughout the month!

Virtual Chamber Events (Chamber Chat & Virtual Coffees) can be found: via Facebook (www.facebook.com/gbcoc) or YouTube (tinyurl.com/ybepgrt6)

STAY INFORMED AT GREATBEND.ORG

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CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE

Every Thursday | Doors Open at 9am | Program at 9:30am

Tune in on Facebook or YouTube for Virtual Coffees

December 1st, 2022

LANDMARK NATIONAL BANK

1623 Main St.

Landmark National Bank's roots trace back to April 22, 1885, when it was originally chartered under the name Manhattan Buildings & Savings Association. As our bank's footprint has expanded over the last century, our name has changed to reflect the growing number of communities we serve throughout Kansas and beyond. When you partner with us, you will recognize our wide selection of banking products and personalized customer service right away. And, while you might start as a Landmark National Bank customer when you first walk through our doors, we guarantee you'll leave as a friend.

December 8th, 2022

KANSAS WETLANDS EDUCATION CENTER

592 NE K-156 HWY

Cheyenne Bottoms is a globally important stopover for thousands of migratory shorebirds and waterfowl; the site also supports other threatened or endangered birds during nesting, staging or wintering periods. Cheyenne Bottoms is one of the top migratory shorebird staging areas in the United States, with 10 species of shorebirds having a significant percentage of their populations stopping at Cheyenne Bottoms in a given year. Cheyenne Bottoms is a Western Hemispheric Shorebird Reserve Network site of hemispheric importance to shorebirds. The site also provides important staging and nesting areas for waterfowl species including Mallards and Blue-winged Teal. Cheyenne Bottoms is made up of KS Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism's Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area (19,857 acres) and The Nature Conservancy's Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve (7,848 acres). Open to the public, it is an important area for conservation education, recreation and scientific research.

December 15th, 2022

GREAT BEND GOLDEN BELT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Holy Family Catholic Parish - 4200 Broadway Ave.

Giving Tuesday is a magical day of generosity for our four-county service area and beyond. Golden Belt Community Foundation and area nonprofit partners bring hundreds of donors from every community together for a single day of fundraising. Each year, this day raises more than \$300,000 for local charitable organizations.

December 22nd, 2022

NO COFFEE

Happy Holidays!

December 29th, 2022

NO COFFEE

Happy Holidays!

January 5th, 2023

GREAT BEND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Hear the latest updates and what's happening at Great Bend Economic Development during this Chamber Coffee. The Great Bend Economic Development, Inc. is a public/private partnership focusing on the economic development efforts in Barton County, KS. The board is made up of City Council members, County Commissioners, Chamber Representatives, various leaders in the community, and the general public.



3307 10th Street • Great Bend, KS 67530

McDonald's

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.

\$25 TICKETS OR 5 FOR \$100

ONLY 5,000 TICKETS AVAILABLE

Drawing to be held March 30, 2023

Sunflower Diversified Services Pancake Feed @ 6:45pm

WIN THIS CAR!

***NEW* Trailblazer Activ**

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DIVERSIFIED SERVICES, INC.



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Westside Market
www.sunflowerdiv.com
scan QR code

THANK YOU!

Sunflower Diversified
Services Foundation, Inc.



Proceeds support persons served at Sunflower Diversified Services

Official rules available upon request or at www.sunflowerdiv.com

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GREAT BEND:

Hutchinson Clinic Great Bend / 3715 6th Street

Dr. Jamil Ahmed, Cardiologist

Dr. Aaron Thiessen, Ear Nose & Throat

Dr. Curt Thompson, Interventional Radiologist

Natalie Williams, PA, Pulmonology

ELLINWOOD:

Ellinwood Medical Clinic / 611 N. Main

Dr. Jamil Ahmed, Cardiologist

HOISINGTON:

Clara Barton Medical Clinic / 250 W 9th St

Dr. Costy Mattar, Cardiologist

Dr. Christine Sanders, OBGYN

Dr. Curt Thompson, Interventional Radiologist

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ROSEWOOD GOLDEN TICKET HOLIDAY DRAWING

GOLDEN TICKET

**GOLDEN TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
Wild Lights in Brit Spagh Park and
Santas Around the World at Main and Lakin.**

Open: Sat. Nov. 26th, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, Thurs. & Fri. 4:00pm to 6:00pm, Sat. & Sun. 1:00pm to 6:00pm till Dec. 23, 2022.

Enter Your Golden Ticket at any Rosewood Retail Store Downtown!

Rosewood Wine Cellar
1901 Lakin · Great Bend
Holiday Gift Basket & Wine
\$350 Value

Rosewood Bargain Barn
1215 Main · Great Bend
Shopping Certificates
\$350 Value

Rosewood Furniture Store
1601 Main · Great Bend
Handcrafted Furniture Item
\$350 Value

SantasAroundTheWorld.com/Golden-Ticket

Drawings Friday, December 16, 2022

Need not be present to win. Must be 21 yrs. of age to enter. Winner will be contacted immediately following drawing.



- Don't forget the Wine Cellar for beautiful holiday baskets to meet your gifting needs.
- Visit Santas Around the World at Main and Lakin. Create a festive family tradition!



Merry Christmas!

OBJ DEC2022

HOLIDAY SUPER SALE

Nov. 25th thru Dec. 23rd

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Must present clipped coupon at time of purchase to receive discount. One coupon per purchase.

OBJ DEC2022

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