

# OUTLOOK BUSINESS JOURNAL

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

## Hospitality a Priority During Farm Show

For the sixth consecutive year, the Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo will take place at the Expo Complex 2.5 miles west of Great Bend with more than 700 exhibitors from all over the U.S. and Canada. From April 5-7, 2017 the massive agricultural exposition will draw thousands of spectators to the Great Bend community, where many will stay in hotels and dine in local restaurants. "Great Bend is ideal for a show like this, because of our deep roots in the farming and ranching industries," says 2017 Show Chair Jan Westfall. "We have an ideal facility with three large buildings and easy access for exhibitors, plus being centrally located in the state helps us draw a bigger crowd. And the 200 plus volunteers that give of their time to help at the show are really what make this event possible."

The Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo will be held Wednesday through Friday, April 5-7, 2017 open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday. In addition to countless exhibits and demonstrations for farmers and ranchers, there are also a number of attractions that will appeal to consumers, homeowners, and the general public.

"Many of the inside exhibits are from local businesses in the home improvement and consumer sectors, plus all the delicious concessions make for a great time for the whole family," Westfall says. "We invite businesses around town to do something special to welcome these visitors, and thank our exhibitors for helping us put on a world class farm show."

Spectators can look forward to daily presentations from K-State Research & Extension at 11:30 a.m. in Expo III, along with appearances from bull riding entertainer Dale Brisby on Thursday and Friday at 1 p.m. in Expo III. Other attractions include horse training demonstrations from JD Wing, AI chute side demonstrations, cattle dog demonstrations, and lots more. KSN News will be broadcasting live from the farm show all three days, giving a glimpse of our community to news viewers from all over the state. An indoor beer garden and thousands of dollars in freebies and giveaways are all part of the fun. Admission and parking are free to the public.

The Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development is proud to be a partner of this annual event. The Expo is brought to you by these fine sponsors: KSN, the Great Bend Co-op Association, and The American Hat Company. For more information, contact the show office at 866-685-0989, cell 785-332-6506, or visit the show website:



**View Schedule of Events: [www.greatbendfarmandranchexpo.net](http://www.greatbendfarmandranchexpo.net)**

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## EVENT SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, April 5th

**Show Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

4 Shows - JD Wing Horse Training Demo's  
2 Shows - Stock Dog Demo's (Infield)  
10:30 a.m. Opening Ceremonies (Expo III)  
11:00 a.m. Beer Garden Opens (Expo III)  
12:00 p.m. K-State Speaker Dan O'Brian

### Thursday, April 6th

**Show Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

5 Shows - JD Wing Horse Training Demo's  
2 Shows - Stock Dog Demo's (Infield)  
10:30 a.m. Speaker Dr. Ingrid Garrison  
11:00 a.m. Beer Garden Opens (Expo III)  
11:30 a.m. K-State Speaker Sarah Zukoff  
1 p.m. The Legendary Dale Brisby  
2:30 p.m. Ebert Ranch Chute Side A.I. Demo's

### Friday, April 7th

**Show Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

4 Shows - JD Wing Horse Training Demo's  
2 Shows - Stock Dog Demo's (Infield)  
11:00 a.m. Beer Garden Opens (Expo III)  
11:30 a.m. K-State Speaker Anita Dille  
1 p.m. The Legendary Dale Brisby

## Young Professionals Group Partners to Bring LEADERCAST Event to Great Bend May 5th

Leadercast is the world's largest one-day leadership conference, broadcast live from Atlanta, Georgia and simulcast to hundreds of locations around the world on May 5th, 2017. This year marks the seventeenth year of the annual leadership conference, but the second year that First Christian Church and Barton County Young Professionals (BCYP) will co-host the event at First Christian Church. The theme of this year's conference is, "Powered by Purpose."

Purpose is what defines us, drives us, and empowers us. It is the glue for an organization and the fuel for an individual. Today's organization can't rely on old practices. A new organization is emerging and at the center of its driving force is the igniting power of purpose. For example, employees that feel they are working towards a good cause show increased productivity by up to 30%. Companies with ideals of improving people's lives outperform others by 400%.

The conference will allow attendees to discover the steps they can take to uncover their purpose, to reconnect to their organization's "why", to attract and engage the right people for your efforts and to thrive as a team. Among the keynote speakers are:

- Daniel Pink - Behavioral Science Expert, Best-Selling Author, & Host
- Molly Fletcher - Former Top Sports Agent & Author
- Andy Stanley - Leadership Author & Communicator
- Suzy Welch - Author, TV Commentator, & Business Journalist
- Henry Cloud - Leadership Expert, Clinical Psychologist, & Best-Selling Author
- Jess Ekstrom - CEO of Headbands of Hope
- Tyler Perry - Director, Playwright, Producer, Actor, Author & Entrepreneur

For years, Leadercast has brought people together and equipped them to become better leaders, managers, community members, and employees. "This event has a reputation it has for inspiring, recharging, and motivating attendees to think bigger and we saw it last year when we hosted this at First Christian Church for the first time," says Dr. Roger Marshall, U.S. Representative for Kansas. "There doesn't exist another opportunity like this to send local employees to hear world class speakers without major travel and lodging expenses. From a business perspective, it's a slam dunk."

**LEARN MORE & REGISTER TO ATTEND: [www.bartonyp.com](http://www.bartonyp.com)**

## ER VS. URGENT CARE

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## EarCare Hearing Aid Centers Joins Chamber

We are excited to welcome EarCare Hearing Aid Centers to the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce! Kathryn Wettengel is the local provider and is excited to start seeing people of all ages. She is a State Board Certified Hearing Aid Specialist and wants to remind us all that having your hearing checked annually is just as important to your health as going to your doctor or dentist.

The Great Bend location at 1925 Main Street announced during the ribbon cutting that Kathryn provides hearing screenings at no cost to people of all ages. Kathryn Wettengel has been with EarCare Hearing Aid Centers since April, 2016.



## Images by Emily Opens Studio in New Location

On February 23rd, we celebrated the new location of Images by Emily Photography with a ribbon cutting. Emily Seiwert, owner, is joined with her parents, Bernie and Lisa Seiwert, and boyfriend, Mark Kennedy, along with several Great Bend Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. Images by Emily Photography specializes in family, senior, newborn, baby, child, engagement, wedding, couple, event, business and promotional photography. The new studio is located at 1419 Main St., Great Bend.



## C&V Pros Join Forces with Habitat for Humanity

Two C&V Kansas Doors hometown PROS, Jarad Allen and Jack Willenberg, joined forces with Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County to restore a home in Victoria, KS. Many hours were spent preparing the house for occupancy by a family who might not otherwise be able to afford such a large expense. C&V and Habitat's hard work was driven by the shared conviction that every man, woman and child should have a simple, durable place to live in dignity and safety, and that decent shelter in decent communities should be a matter of conscience and action for all.

C&V Kansas Doors employee, Jarad Allen, dedicated over 100 hours and his commission to this project. Jarad was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from Habitat for Humanity for all of his hard work and dedication. Being longtime partners with ProVia, C&V was offered the replacements windows at a deeply discounted rate which helped keep costs low. "Without Jarad, I don't know if we would have been able to meet our deadline for the completion of the home," explains Leslie Goodspeed, Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity. "Jarad helped with everything from painting the highest spots on the outside of the house to hanging, mudding and sanding drywall until his hair was white!"

C&V Kansas Doors employee, Jack Willenberg, who owns CenKan, also gave of his time and services. Willenberg was able to test the home for lead at no cost. Concern for the future occupants suffering long term complications from lead poisoning prompted Habitat to test for lead and assure safety. C&V Kansas Doors has been serving your area for over 40 years and is an active participant in several local charities that help better our community. Learn more at [www.cvkdPROS.com](http://www.cvkdPROS.com) or call 1-800-848-2086.

Outlook Business Journal  
A monthly publication of the

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## Fuller Industries Invests in New Equipment

The new machine at Fuller Industries has significantly enhanced its custom brush-manufacturing capabilities while simultaneously opening many new markets, Director of Custom Products Lisa Moeder said.

The new addition to the plant's floor is called the Borghi Jupiter. Fuller can now create tufted cylinders up to 10 feet long and 34 inches in diameter. Tufted cylinders are used for big items such as street sweepers and smaller items such as agricultural troughs – and many items in between. “We are one of only a few companies in North America that offers this capability,” Moeder said. “The Borghi has introduced Fuller to whole new horizons.”

Fuller was in the position of having to turn down jobs in the past. Now it plans to make even more products for the agriculture industry, and pursue possibilities in areas such as food processing, bakeries, aviation, the energy sector and others. “We will create a larger footprint for Fuller in the custom-brush business,” Moeder commented. “Our new capabilities will lead us to many new markets throughout the country.”

To accommodate the new demand, Fuller has added to its sales force. Thirteen representatives concentrate on markets from the western Kansas border to California. Another rep focuses on the eastern half of the country, while Moeder concentrates on the Midwest.

The Borghi arrived at the plant, just west of Great Bend, in January. After producing some samples and prototypes, the first actual production run occurred Feb. 21. Martin Brack, custom products engineer, noted the Borghi is the first piece of new equipment purchased within the last 10 years. “This is one reason all of us are so excited about the new possibilities,” Brack said. “The Borghi will save time, labor and money. And we can perform some jobs four to five times faster than in the past. For example, a job that may have taken a week can now be done in a day.”

Moeder and Brack agreed that the relatively new Fuller management team is responsible for the Borghi and many other improvements. “They have made a huge investment to get this equipment,” Moeder said. “It is amazing. I have wanted something like this for more than 10 years. This investment into the best equipment and appropriate training demonstrates that local investors and management are committed to growing Fuller. They care about every employee.”

Fuller Industries LLC, formerly known as The Fuller Brush Company, manufactures commercial cleaning supplies, custom brushes and private-label chemicals. It was founded in 1906.



## 16th Annual Charity Wine Tasting Set for April 28

The 16th Annual Catholic Charities Wine Tasting Event will be held on Friday, April 28th from 7-10 p.m. at the Great Bend Event Center, 3111 10th Street. Admission is \$50 per person or \$450 for a table of ten. The evening features a broad selection of wines, craft beers and spirits from around the world, delicious hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, and silent and live auctions. The Annual Wine Tasting Event is the major fundraiser for Catholic Charities, helping the agency meet community needs for pregnancy and teen mom support, infant adoption, addiction and mental health counseling, relationship education and family support services, emergency assistance, non-food pantry supplies, housing assistance, immigration and refugee support, and disaster relief. To buy tickets, contact Rebecca Ford at 620-792-1393 or visit [CatholicCharitiesSWKS.org/wine-tasting-event](http://CatholicCharitiesSWKS.org/wine-tasting-event).



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# HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS IN APRIL

- 1... GBRC "Murder In Sin City" Stone Ridge Country Club, 1438 24th St. @ 6 pm
- 2... Shafer Art Gallery: Vortex High School Exhibit on display April 2-6, M-Th 10am-5pm, Sat-Sun 1pm-5pm
- 3... Great Bend City Council Meeting, City Hall, 1209 Williams @ 7:30pm
- 3... Barton County Commission Meeting, Courthouse Room 106, 1400 Main @ 9am
- 4... Central KS Community Choir Concert, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium @ 7:30pm
- 5... An Evening with 'Market to Market' Host Mike Pearson, Great Bend Events Center, 3111 10th St @ 6pm
- 5... Ribbon Cutting & Opening Ceremony: Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo, Expo III Building, 455 W. Barton County Rd @ 10:30am
- 5... Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo, Great Bend Expo Complex @ 9am-5pm
- 6... Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo, Great Bend Expo Complex @ 9am-7pm
- 7... Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo, Great Bend Expo Complex @ 9am-4pm
- 8... KSHSAA Regional Music Festival, BCC Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd
- 10... Barton County Commission Meeting, Courthouse Room 106, 1400 Main @ 9am
- 10... Alzheimer's Association Presents 'Dementia Conversations & Effective Communication', Trinity United Methodist Church, 5700 Broadway @ 7pm
- 11... Dine for Dolly, Freddy's Frozen Custard, 3008 10th St @ 10:30am - 11pm
- 11... 30th Annual Corrosion Control Seminar, BCC, 245 NE 30 Rd, April 11-13
- 11... Barton Orchestra Concert, Shafer Gallery, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 7:30pm
- 12... WKHRMA "Work Comp Fraud & Abuse," Thirsty's, 2704 Vine, Hays @ 11:15am
- 13... Chamber Coffee: Great Bend Public Library, 1409 Williams @ 9am
- 13... Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Z's Liquor Mart, 2010 10th @ 5pm
- 15... Royal Family KIDS 5k Walk/Run, Brit Spaugh Park, 2123 Main @ 7am
- 17... City Council Meeting, City Hall, 1209 Williams @ 7:30pm
- 17... Barton County Commission Meeting, Courthouse Room 106, 1400 Main @ 9am
- 20... BCC Student Recital, Dorothy Moses Morrison Chapel, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 7:30pm
- 20... Chamber Coffee: ACE Hardware, 4903 10th St @ 9am
- 20... QuickBooks Seminars: QuickBooks Desktop, 1400 Polk St @ 9am - 1pm
- 20... Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, Jack Kilby Square, 1400 Main @ 4pm
- 20... Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Everything Under the Son, 407 McKinley @ 10am
- 21... SRCA Test & Tune, Expo Complex, 455 W. Barton County Rd @ 7:30pm
- 21... 5th Annual Barton Booster Golf Tournament, Stoneridge, 1438 24th St @ 1pm
- 21... Shafer Gallery: BCC Student Exhibit Reception & Awards, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 6pm
- 22... SRCA Dragstrip NHRA Summit Points Race, 455 W. Barton County Rd @ 12pm
- 22... Bike for Heartland, Heartland Center for Spirituality, 3600 Broadway @ 7:30am
- 22... C4 Parenting Program, Healing Hearts Ranch, 174 KS Hwy 19 @ 9am
- 23... Spring Diva Day, Best Western Courtyard, 2920 10th St @ 10am - 4pm
- 23... "Watching Young Artists Grow," Historical Society, 85 S. Hwy. 281 @ 2-4 pm
- 23... 8th Annual BCC Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot, Camp Aldrich, 884 NE 110 Ave, Claflin @ 9am
- 24... Barton County Commission Meeting, Courthouse Room 106, 1400 Main @ 9am
- 24... Historical Society Program: Farm Restoration, 85 S. Hwy. 281 @ 7:30pm
- 25... Employer Roundtable - Work Comp 101, The Page, 2920 10th St @ 11:30am
- 27... GBCT Play "Exit Laughing", Crest Theatre, 1905 Lakin, April 27-29 at 7:30 pm and April 30th at 2:00 pm. Wine night on the 29th @ 6pm.
- 27... Chamber Coffee: Nex-Tech, 3700 10th @ 9am
- 27... BCC Original Play Series, Fine Arts Auditorium, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 7:30pm
- 28... BCYP Networking Mixer, Shafer Art Gallery, 245 NE 30 Rd @ 6-8pm
- 28-29... Wings N Wetlands Festival, KS Wetlands Ed Center, 592 NE K-156 Hwy
- 28... Catholic Charities Wine Tasting, Great Bend Events Center, 3017 10th St @ 7pm

## Dietary Manager Program Meets New Regulations

Long-term-care facilities will be under strict deadlines to meet new staffing requirements outlined by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The new regulations require any individual serving as a facility's Director of Food and Nutrition Services to secure certification as a dietary manager as defined by the Association of Nutrition & Foodservice Professionals (ANFP) or the International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA).

Employees in the designated director role hired after November 28, 2016 will have only one year to secure certification, while those hired prior to that date will have until November of 2021, according to the article.

Barton Community College's Dietary Manager program is completely online, and one of the most efficient ways facilities can meet these new requirements. Barton's 16-credit-hour program has six classes. It is ANFP approved and can be completed in as little as one semester. Students can enroll up to the first day of a classes, which are offered in nine sessions throughout the year. Tuition and fees are extremely competitive at \$150 per credit hour, even across state lines.

Instructor and Program Coordinator Emily Cowles said she is excited about the opportunity to help long-term care facilities across the nation. "We're a great fit for the time-sensitive situation these organizations are in," she said. "We're ready to help them attain certification and meet this requirement."

For more information, visit [dietarymanager.bartonccc.edu](http://dietarymanager.bartonccc.edu).



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## St. Rose Offers Service to Heart Failure Patients

St. Rose Health Center has scheduled its next “Helping Hands for Healthy Hearts” meetings for those who have been diagnosed with heart failure. “We understand heart patients have many questions after their cardiac event,” said Kristin Steele, R.N., who cares for patients in St. Rose’s Cardiac Rehab Department. “They receive tons of new information when released from the hospital, and inevitably, questions arise. We want to provide the answers.”

The four free sessions are set for 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. April 4, 14, 18 and 25. Reservations are required; the number to call is 785-656-4526. Steele and Melanie Krier, another St. Rose R.N., will lead the discussions. “When patients have the proper resources, they can take control and manage their illness at home,” Steele commented. “We want to share information that may help them prevent heart-related problems and hospitalizations.”

Heart failure is diagnosed when the heart is not pumping well enough to keep up with the body’s demands. Steele said medical science has made many strides in the treatment of the disease. Proper follow-up care is crucial to recovery, she noted. “For example, 70 percent of re-admissions to a hospital are preventable. This is because it is easy to overlook specific information about medications, blood-pressure control and lifestyle changes.

St. Rose is a member of the Kansas Heart Stroke Collaborative, which supplied the funding for the nurses’ training as facilitators. St. Rose, Hays Medical Center and the University of Kansas Hospital are partners with other Kansas facilities in the collaborative. The goal is to improve outcomes for heart and stroke patients.

St. Rose specializes in primary care, prevention and wellness. Services include St. Rose Family Medicine, Convenient Care Walk-in Clinic, Great Bend Internists, Imaging, Cardiac Rehab, Physical Therapy, Golden Belt Home Health & Hospice and a comprehensive Specialty Clinic. St. Rose is co-owned by Hays Medical Center and Centura Health.



## Rosewood Client Creates Stunning Chess Set

To most people, chess represents a popular two-player strategic board game. But to Great Bend artist Jeremy Cale, chess represents art. He’s created a medieval chess set, inspired by an ancient European version. “I did start out with the idea of doing mine as close to a 500-year-old European chess set as possible,” explained the 36-year-old nature artist. “This is my interpretation of a classic. I’ve given my pieces some modern twists.”

Cale hand-crafted a chess board, made of pine with laminate. The board, which can fold in half, is painted and stained. Match sticks are layered and glued on portions of the board to give it a parquet effect. “My project was about 6 months in the idea stage, but it’s taken almost 3 years to create what I have done,” said Cale.

Cale’s challenges in completing his art are even more difficult than the typical starving artist faces. He lives with Asperger’s Syndrome, an autism-related developmental disorder, characterized by sustained impairment in social interaction and nonverbal communication. He says that his condition doesn’t have any bearing on his natural abilities as an artist, but he recognizes that he focuses on his art because of Asperger’s. Quite simply, his world revolves completely around creating art, making it impossible for him to function in a regular environment.

For the past 16 years, Rosewood Services has been with Cale, helping him to balance his life with his focus and passion for art, so that he can live independently. Those interested in seeing Cale’s chess art can view his display at Rosewood Bargain Barn through mid-April. Learn more at [www.rosewoodservices.com](http://www.rosewoodservices.com).

## Almost Home Inc. Receives \$10,000 in Gifts for Facility Expansion

In February, Almost Home Inc. had the opportunity to present at the first meeting for the new 100 People Who Care group. The “home plus” assisted living and hospice facility was one of three charities nominated to speak at the inaugural gathering. After all the ballots had been counted, it was announced that Almost Home had won the majority vote and would be receiving all the gifts from the group’s members.

“We truly feel blessed and honored to be the first recipient of the 100 People Who Care donations,” says Leilani Schenkel, Executive Director for Almost Home Inc. “We feel honored to have been nominated in general, and are so blessed to be able to serve our residents and hospice patients in such a generous, giving community.”

Almost Home Inc. announced during their pitch to the 100 People Who Care group that they plan to use the funds to enclose their current patio and convert it to an all-seasons room to increase the facility’s functional space. “We will require approval by the City Inspector, the Department of Aging and Disability Services, and the State Fire Marshal,” Schenkel says.

“Assuming all goes well, this will allow us to serve more people through our adult daycare program. Without it, we are maxed out.”

Almost Home Inc. is a faith-based, non-profit residential care and end-of-life care facility in Great Bend, Kansas with overnight occupancy for up ten people on the residential side and another two dedicated rooms for hospice patients. In addition to long term care, the facility also provides adult day care and respite services for caregivers needing to cover gaps in care. The facility offers homemade meals, social activities, and individualized care in a converted, ranch-style property that almost feels like home.

To learn more about Almost Home, visit their website at [www.almosthomeinc.org](http://www.almosthomeinc.org) or contact Leilani Schenkel at 620-793-6187. And be sure to like the Almost Home Facebook page. The next meeting for the 100 People Who Care group will be held Tuesday, May 2nd at 5:30 p.m., at which time Leilani will return to provide an update on their progress utilizing the \$10,000 gift and completing their renovation. More details can be found on the group’s website, [www.100bartoncounty.org](http://www.100bartoncounty.org), or on their Facebook page.



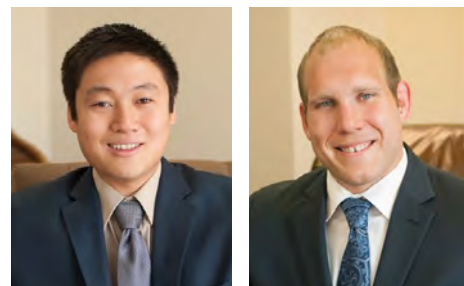
## Watkins Calcara Welcomes Two New Associate Attorneys, Davis & Ternes

Watkins Calcara, Chartered, a Great Bend law firm, announces the recent employment of Lee H. Davis and Travis Ternes as associates of the firm. Watkins Calcara is recognized as one of America’s “Best Law Firms” by U.S. News & World Report and is the largest law firm based in the western half of the state. It has ten lawyers associated with the firm and offers a broad range of legal services focused on business, financial, agricultural and utility law, estate planning, probate and Medicaid law. Its litigation group is recognized throughout the state.

Lee is the son of Bobby and Hyang Davis, and was born in Germany while his father was serving in the United States Army. After graduating with a Bachelor’s degree from Colorado State University-Pueblo, he attended law school at the University of Kansas. During law school, he studied estate planning and business/transactional law and also gained experience in other areas of law by working part time in a general practice law firm in Topeka. In May, 2016, he was awarded his Juris Doctorate degree and earned certificates in Tax Law and Business and Commercial Law. Lee and his wife, Erica, welcomed their first child in July 2016 just days before he successfully took the Kansas Bar Exam.

Travis earned Bachelor’s degrees in Criminology and Communications from Kansas State University in 2011. In 2013, Travis chose to attend Washburn University School of Law and was awarded his Juris Doctorate degree in May 2016. Travis passed the Kansas bar examination last July. While at Washburn, Travis was an active member of Washburn Law Journal and several organizations. Travis received certificates in business and transactional law, oil and gas law, and natural resources law.

Either of these new attorneys may be reached at the office of Watkins Calcara, 1321 Main Street, in Great Bend (620) 792-8231.



## Thank You to the 200+ Volunteers Who Help with the Farm & Ranch Expo!

Each year, more than 200 local residents and business representatives step up to volunteer their time at the Great Bend Farm & Ranch Expo – helping with everything from hospitality and zoning to safety and parking. We couldn’t put on such a fabulous exposition without our volunteers, and we salute each and every person who gives of their time to make it happen. And to the businesses who allow their staff the flexibility to get off work, we appreciate your contributions as well. Many donate the use of their forklifts, their supplies and labor, and much more. The show brings countless visitors to Great Bend and raises money for Chamber operations.

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## **Sunflower EEC Welcomes New Physical Therapist**

When Larissa Michaelis was studying to be a physical therapist, she wanted to serve children with developmental disabilities and delays. She was able to do this for six years before moving back to Great Bend and working in other settings for the past several years. Now Michaelis, who grew up in Great Bend, has the opportunity to do what she loves as the new physical therapist at Sunflower's Early Education Center (EEC). Michaelis provides physical therapy evaluations and interventions for children referred to the EEC by hospitals, physicians and parents. Its services are free to families. All services are provided in the child's home or other natural environment, such as a daycare center.

Michaelis earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Kansas and master's in physical therapy at Texas Woman's University-Houston. She was a pediatric physical therapist at the Britain Center in Shawnee Mission for six years and spent more than eight years in other settings in Barton County. Michaelis and her husband have three children, and her parents and other family members live here.

Sunflower's EEC is part of the tiny-k network in Kansas that provides early intervention services for infants and toddlers at no cost to families. Its service area includes Barton, Pawnee, Rice, Rush and Stafford counties.



## **Kami Schmidt Joins Team at Plains State Bank**

The Plains State Bank is pleased to announce the hiring of Kami Schmidt at their Great Bend Branch located at 800 Coolidge Street in Great Bend. Kami will hold the title of Junior Retail Lender/Credit Administration Support and will use her banking experience to enhance the credit administration and retail lending functions of the bank. Kami has over 8 years of banking experience with a background in loan processing and exposure to Real Estate processing, home equity line of credits, and escrows. She enjoys working in the banking environment and assisting customers with their banking needs. Kami, her husband Cody, and their two children are long time residents of Great Bend.



The Plains State Bank was chartered July 7th, 1906. At The Plains State Bank we are, "Financing Your Future" and our Employees, Officers and Directors are committed to our customers. Today the bank has expanded to the communities of Plains, Lakin and Great Bend, with an administrative office located in Hutchinson.

## **Healing Hearts Ranch Hosts Parenting Workshop**

Healing Hearts Ranch will be hosting its C4 parenting workshop on April 22nd from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at its Pawnee County location at 174 KS HWY 19 East Larned, KS. Tickets are \$40/single or \$60/couple if purchased before April 15th. Prices increase after that deadline. Register online: <http://bit.ly/HHRC4Workshop>. The workshop focuses on improved parent-child relationships with communication, connection cooperation, and confidence as the 4 cornerstones. Horses are used throughout the workshop. Learn more by calling 620-792-5173 or visiting [www.healingheartsranch.com](http://www.healingheartsranch.com).





## GBRH Renews High Five for Mom & Baby Status

The Women & Children's Center at Great Bend Regional Hospital recently received confirmation that it was once again awarded the status as a High Five for Mom & Baby Hospital. The High Five Program, which was initiated and funded by the United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, incorporates specific maternity care procedures based on proven health benefits associated with breastfeeding. Out of the 58 hospitals around the state that committed to the program, only 28 have earned the recognition for program renewal year after year.



“Our hospital has been utilizing these practices for quite a while, but continuing education and employee participation in the High Five program is required to maintain our status as one of the few facilities in the state who earn this designation,” says Stephanie Buchholz-Jones, Supervisor of the Women & Children's Center. “To maintain this rating, we must meet five criteria that include a minimum 80% performance rating, updating our hospital policies annually, working with a certified lactation consultant, and investing in employee education on skills and best practices to promote breastfeeding.”

Research indicates a link between increased health risks for a baby and not breastfeeding. Increased risks include high blood pressure, diabetes, asthma, pneumonia, leukemia, childhood obesity, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Studies also show health benefits for mothers who breastfeed, such as a decreased incidence of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and type 2 diabetes.

The five best practices associated with the High 5 for Mom & Baby standards include immediate skin-to-skin time during the golden hour after birth, giving newborns no food or drink other than breastmilk unless medically indicated, practicing “rooming in” so mothers and infants can remain together 24 hours a day, not giving pacifiers or artificial nipples to breastfeeding infants, and providing mothers options for support in the community. Great Bend Regional Hospital takes that one step further by encouraging delayed bathing, which minimizes separation after birth and helps better regulate the baby's body temperature. Those interested in learning more about High 5 for Mom & Baby can visit the program's website: [www.High5Kansas.org](http://www.High5Kansas.org).

Great Bend Regional Hospital is a state-of-the-art 33-bed physician owned hospital offering emergency and urgent care services, orthopedics and general surgery, obstetrics and pediatrics, imaging and diagnostics, respiratory therapy, physical and occupational therapy, an in-house laboratory, and more. Learn more at [www.gbregional.com](http://www.gbregional.com). And like the Great Bend Regional Hospital page on Facebook.

## Rhonda Knudson Agency Earns Service Award

Rhonda Knudson, an American Family Insurance agent and her agency team in Great Bend, Kansas, has been recognized for providing an outstanding customer experience under the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification Program. The service excellence distinction was determined through an evaluation process conducted under guidelines established through the American Star Excellence in Customer Experience Certification Program. Knudson has been an agent for American Family for 31 years, since April 1986. Her office is located at 2201 16th Street. This is the 12th consecutive year since the inception of the program that Knudson and her agency team has achieved this top honor.

## GBCF Awards Grant for Area Playground Equipment in Hudson

Tabra Ward acknowledged that she and her fellow Hudson citizens were “overwhelmed” when they realized a new playground would cost more than \$20,000 – quite a bit more. Part I of the project came to \$36,000. They decided to seek advice and financial assistance from the Golden Belt Community Foundation (GBCF) and one result is a \$10,000 matching grant. “The staff at the Golden Belt Community Foundation encouraged us to pursue several options to raise money and gave us confidence,” Ward said. “They were great at answering questions and, of course, we are extremely grateful for the grant.

“I cannot emphasize enough how fantastic our small town is. Given that Hudson has just over 100 people, it is amazing how quickly we raised \$36,000,” Ward says. “The GBCF played a big role because of the dollar-for-dollar grant. It was a huge incentive for businesses and private donors to know their dollars would be doubled. We are so thankful.”

The Stafford County town has had “great playground equipment for youngsters 5 and older, thanks to the local Fensky family,” Ward commented. “But we needed to add equipment for toddlers.”

The GBCF's territory includes Barton, Pawnee, Rush and Stafford counties. For more information about grants, endowments and other types of funds, contact Christy Tustin by calling 620-792-3000. At \$20 million in total assets and more than 160 funds under management, the Golden Belt Community Foundation has been connecting people who care to causes that matter since 1996. Golden Belt Community Foundation exists to provide non-profit organizations in central Kansas with a permanent source of support and to serve as a vehicle for charitable giving for donors. GBCF serves the counties of Barton, Pawnee, Rush, and Stafford. Call (620) 792-3000 or visit their website at [www.goldenbeltcf.org](http://www.goldenbeltcf.org) for more information.



# EXPLORE GREAT BEND REC



Great Bend  
Recreation Commission  
1214 Stone Street  
620.793.3755

Great Bend  
Activity Center  
2715 18th Street  
620.792.2604

facebook.com/greatbendrec



# GREAT BEND FARM & RANCH EXPO

## 6TH ANNUAL

GREAT BEND CO-OP KSN American  
HAT COMPANY, INC.

# April 5-7, 2017

[www.greatbendfarmandranchexpo.net](http://www.greatbendfarmandranchexpo.net)

April 5th 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
April 6th 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
April 7th 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Reserve your exhibitor  
space today!**



## Update from United Way of Central Kansas

United Way of Central Kansas was focusing on Childhood Literacy during the month of March, starting with Dr. Seuss Day. Board Members Dianne Call, Becca Maxwell, Tama Hanson, Bill Lowry, and Karen Van Brimmer read to area preschoolers in



Ellinwood, Great Bend, Hoisington and Larned along with donating books to them as well. Literacy Kits are also being delivered to local schools, starting with Hoisington and will continue through the month of April, with more than 400 Pre-K students receiving monkey bags full of learning materials thanks to OPI, Dillons, and Barton County Young Professionals. UWCK hosted a Chamber Coffee with USD 431 in Hoisington to introduce the community to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and talked to community members about the upcoming Read-A-Thon fundraiser that will be taking place in school districts across Barton and Pawnee Counties. This fundraiser encourages children to read for 30 minutes a day for 2 weeks with the opportunity to get sponsors, win prizes and raise funds to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to Hoisington, Great Bend, and Otis-Bison. If you would like to see more books in the hands of children, you can make a donation to UWCK to support literacy programs by mailing your donation to 1125 Williams, Great Bend, KS 67530. Learn more at [www.uwck.org](http://www.uwck.org).

## Julie Mazouch Joins Landmark National Bank

Landmark National Bank announces the addition of Julie Mazouch as Bank Manager. Mazouch joins Landmark's Great Bend location at 1623 Main Street.

Before joining Landmark, Mazouch managed the Education Solutions team at CUNA Mutual Retirement Solutions. As an Education Specialist, she was responsible for leading the team to improve retirement readiness for hard-working Americans by providing strategic and effective retirement plan education. She is a graduate of Kansas State University and is actively involved in the Barton County Young Professionals organization and is the Chairperson of 100 Who Care Barton County.



"We are excited to have Julie as part of our Landmark team," said Julie Baalman, Vice President/Retail Banking Manager. "We look forward to her leadership in the Great Bend bank."

Landmark Bancorp, Inc. is listed on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "LARK." Headquartered in Manhattan, Kansas, Landmark National Bank is a community banking organization dedicated to providing quality financial and banking services. Landmark National Bank has 30 locations in 23 communities across Kansas: Manhattan (2), Auburn, Dodge City (2), Fort Scott (3), Garden City, Great Bend (2), Hoisington, Iola, Junction City, Kincaid, LaCrosse, Lawrence (2), Lenexa, Louisburg, Mound City, Osage City, Osawatometie, Overland Park, Paola, Pittsburg, Topeka (2), Wamego, and Wellsville, Kansas. Visit [www.banklandmark.com](http://www.banklandmark.com) for more information.

## 2017 Membership Directories Arriving Soon

The 2017-2018 edition of the Great Bend Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Membership Directory will be arriving by mail very soon. Stay tuned!



## Register Now for “Work Comp 101” Roundtable

Are you a small business owner? Are you an HR Professional? Do you have employees? If your answer to any of these questions was yes... then the HR Roundtable may be a valuable resource for you!

Looking to provide interesting topics and relevant conversation for HR Professionals and Small Business Owners alike, future luncheons will include a revamped format to encourage conversation, questions and sharing of “best practices.” We hope you’ll take a look at future topics and make plans to join us!



### Tuesday, April 25th

Topic: Work Comp 101

Presenters: Doug Hamilton, Administrator & Mike Sullivan, Marketing Manager  
Kansas Builders Insurance Group, Topeka

### About the Topic:

This presentation will include an overview of Workers Compensation terms, coverage and claim processes as well as a “best practices” discussion open to all attendees. Join us to explore questions like... What is my exposure risk? Is my business protected, are my employees protected? What is mod rate (experience modifier) and how is it used to determine my work comp rates? How can I lower my mod or set a deductible to save my company money?

The Page Banquet Room

2920 10th Street in Great Bend, Kansas

11:30 a.m. Luncheon | 12:00 p.m. Presentation Begins

Registration: \$20.00 Per Person

Register Online: [www.greatbend.org](http://www.greatbend.org)

### Save the Dates for Future Roundtable Meetings:

- July 25, 2017 – Tentative, Wellness Programs, Work Fit Program
- October 31, 2017 – Tentative, Unemployment Law – How it Works!

## GBRC Now Forming Summer Sports Leagues

The Great Bend Recreation Commission is now forming Blast ball, T-ball, Rookie, Baseball and Softball Leagues for any interested boys and girls starting from 3 years old to 9th grade. Regular registration will be open till March 24th. Blast ball and T-ball with a fee of \$25.00. Other leagues will have a fee of \$40.00. Volunteer coaches are needed! Register your child at the GBRC office, located at 1214 Stone Street. Full scholarships available prior to the deadline. Late registration week is March 27th–March 31st with a higher fee.

For more information on these leagues contact the GBRC office at 793-3755 ext 2, check out our website [www.greatbendrec.net](http://www.greatbendrec.net) or Like the Great Bend Rec Facebook page.

## Chamber Radio Show Airs April 6th 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, April 6th at 11:35 a.m. You can also keep up with Chamber events and happenings at [www.greatbend.org](http://www.greatbend.org).



## Welcome to Our NEW Chamber Member

### HUTS & HOMES

811 Grant St.

Great Bend, KS 67530

620-617-7389

[didawson2823@gmail.com](mailto:didawson2823@gmail.com)

*Cleaning Services*

## Now is a Great Time to Schedule Your Next Chamber Event

The weather is getting warmer and the schedules are getting busier. If your business is interested in hosting a Chamber Coffee or After Hours event in the coming months, we invite you to contact our office so we can get your date on the books!

**Chamber Coffees** are weekly networking events hosted by a different business each week. Average attendance varies between 40 and 80 people, and gives you the opportunity to showcase your brand for a \$50 fee and the cost of refreshments and door prizes.

**Business After Hours** events are usually held on a Thursday evening from 5-7 p.m. with food and beverages provided along with giveaways. Average attendance varies between 75 and 150. A host fee includes extensive Chamber promotions, including a custom email invite and a waived insert fee.





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## CHAMBER COFFEE SCHEDULE

### Every Thursday at 9:30 AM

**April 6, 2017**

#### **NO COFFEE - 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!

**April 13, 2017**

#### **GREAT BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**1409 Williams Street**

The Great Bend Public Library is a place that is dedicated to the service of its community. Through various free programs and activities for all ages the library becomes a key learning, social, and friendly space that welcomes all.

**April 20, 2017**

#### **ACE HARDWARE**

**4903 W. 10th Street**

Pride Ag Ace Hardware is a growing hardware store. We continue to bring in new products and services for the community. Whether it is a large selection of plants or a good selection of faucets, we try to give the community great selection and great savings. We even have a supply program designed to help local businesses with products they need at competitive prices.

**April 27, 2017**

#### **NEX-TECH**

**3700 10th Street**

Join Nex-Tech on April 27th to learn how your business can benefit from the fiber-to-the-premise network in select areas of Great Bend. Plus, meet our special guest, Miss Barton County, Maddy Hayden!

**May 4, 2017**

#### **AFLAC - AJ CHREST**

**Spray-Holt Family Board Room at Chamber Office, 1125 Williams Street**

Aflac is a Fortune 500 company, providing financial protection to more than 50 million people worldwide. When a policyholder or insured gets sick or hurt, Aflac pays cash benefits fairly, promptly and directly to the insured. For nearly six decades, Aflac voluntary insurance policies have given policyholders the opportunity to focus on recovery, not financial stress.



3307 10th Street • Great Bend, KS 67530

**McDonald's**

is providing coffee for Chamber of Commerce coffees.